IHTSDO

OCTOBER 2014

SNOMED CT lessons for all

The SNOMED CT Implementation Showcase "Making health records make sense" offers an extensive tutorial program

Alongside an excellent collection of peer-reviewed presentations, the SNOMED CT Showcase will feature an extensive tutorial program.

Pre-conference introductory tutorials for those who are unfamiliar with SNOMED CT will be given in both English and Dutch starting at 8 am on Thursday.

Throughout the conference, other tutorials will enable attendees to study a range of key topics in more depth. The *SNOMED CT Implementation roadmap* tutorial, for example, will identify opportunities, obstacles and options for developing, deploying and delivering the benefits of SNOMED CT. Other implementation-focused tutorials will look at specific topics, including *Search and data entry, Subsets and refsets, Terminology binding,* and *Release formats, views and versioning.*

From a technical perspective there will also be tutorials on *IHTSDO Tooling* and *SNOMED CT Release and*

delivery services. Meanwhile, the IHTSDO content and mapping teams will provide a series of tutorials on *SNOMED CT Concept model, Request submissions, Authoring* and *Mapping.*

For more details of these tutorials, please take a look at the Showcase Program.

If you are already registered for the event, you may want to start working out your own personal program to get the best out of this event.

If you have not yet registered, now would be a great time to book your place.

We are sure that when you look at the program you will understand why this is key event in the year for anyone interested in the role of SNOMED CT in electronic health records. (http://ihtsdo.org/show_prog).

Hope to see you in Amsterdam.

IN THIS ISSUE

New visual identity
In the very near future the look of IHTSDO will change and the colorful logo is about to be phased out. The further details will be revealed during the business meeting in Amsterdam later this month, but we invite you to a sneak preview in this newsletter.

Experts to India
A small delegation of IHTSDO experts went to India in September to support India's kick off of the SNOMED CT implementation process.

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- Request for Proposal: SNOMED CT Terminology Server

- ICN and IHTSDO extend collaboration

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Keynote speakers
Presentation of the speakers at the SNOMED CT Implementation Showcase in Amsterdam October 30-31.

Facelift for future

IHTSDO is working on a range of initiatives at present – driving momentum and change across our organization. We have known for a while that our brand is not really up to the standard that we need. We require a world-class brand to communicate the global status of IHTSDO, and our market-leading product, SNOMED CT.

At the same time, our website has fallen behind our peers in how it presents information, or helps users to access the content that they need. New and potential members find it difficult to engage with the current site.

We have agreed upon new value propositions for both IHTSDO and SNOMED CT, which distil the purpose of our organization and of our key product in a form that can be understood and easily communicated. They include taglines that represent our brand promise.

We have worked on a new brand system to support IHTSDO moving forwards. This will help us communicate the expertise, commitment and global coverage of our organization.

We will continue to write IHTSDO in capital letters in all our presentations, emails and letters, so business as usual. But our new logotype is written in lower case, which is less formal than caps.

The brand system is designed to allow a flexible relationship between the two brands – either IHTSDO or SNOMED CT can "lead," depending on whether the context is a corporate or product communication. There are also combined brand marks that can be used where both brands are equally important to a communication.

In addition, we are planning a new website that will be used primarily for marketing purposes – presenting a reduced amount of content, but which is designed to engage our customers, and to prompt further contact.

During 2015, we will also be looking to provide services to allow IHTSDO, its Members and the wider community to collaborate more effectively, so we will be replacing the existing CollabNet site. The information will grow, and the tool will assume a knowledge management base over time.

Finally we have already been using FreshDesk to improve feedback with our customers so as to become more collaborative in the way that we work. This is already resulting in better performance, communication quality and customer satisfaction.

Our new visual identity will be implemented at the October Conference, but we invite you to get a sneak preview of our new look, so you will know that you arrived at the right place in Amsterdam.

IHTSDO welcomes the newest member

In August, IHTSDO was engaged in a kick-off meeting of IHTSDO's newest and most populous Member, India. A core group of Management Team members delivered a two-day program in New Delhi that included a SNOMED CT workshop and training session.

The SNOMED CT workshop attracted an audience of around 100 people from across the country, including health officials, vendors and CIOs of hospitals. It opened with a welcome note by Shri N. B. Dhal, Joint Secretary. He articulated the efforts being taken by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW) towards promoting EHR standards in the country. Shri R. K. Jain, Additional Secretary of the MoH&FW, delivered a keynote address, emphasizing the importance of standards in healthcare IT.

Shri Lov Verma, Hon. Secretary, MoH&FW, delivered an inaugural address, sharing the vision of the Government of India to capture meaningful healthcare records of individuals. Together the presenters outlined the efforts of India towards promotion of standards with views towards clinical record interoperability.

The SNOMED CT workshop was well received by the attendees and vendor community and generated interest and lively discussion with the audience. Detailed technical sessions were conducted by the IHTSDO experts. During an interactive open session, queries from the workshop attendees were addressed by IHTSDO representatives, Mr. Jitendra Arora, Director MoH&FW, and Mr. B. S. Bedi, Chairman EHR Sub-Committee on Standards. In concluding remarks, Mr. Gaur Sunder, Principal Technical Officer, C-DAC Pune, said that the workshop had helped to provide better understanding of SNOMED CT and its relevance.

On day-2 of the training, the IHTSDO team interacted with the staff of the interim National Release Center (iNRC) - the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC, Pune) and officials of MoH&FW. The iNRC shared with IHTSDO its work on a suite of four tools, including an API library with web service, custom web control, and a SNOMED CT browser that C-DAC developed to support the adoption of SNOMED CT by Indian vendors and users.

IHTSDO is committed to broadening the use of SNOMED CT within and across countries. The educational materials that IHTSDO developed will lay the foundation for future knowledge sharing with new Member countries.

IHTSDO at international conferences

IHTSDO's participation at the HIMSS AsiaPac 2014 conference in Singapore this year featured a keynote speech by CEO Don Sweete on SNOMED CT and a workshop on SNOMED CT implementation.

The SNOMED CT keynote session opened the program of the Big Data and Standards presentations and highlighted the importance of semantic interoperability to enable meaningful use of clinical data. The SNOMED CT workshop was attended to full capacity and included an audience from Singapore and other Asia Pacific countries.

The workshop provided an overview of SNOMED CT and a comprehensive overview of implementation approaches.

The conference also gave IHTSDO an insight into the use of SNOMED CT by vendors and health providers in Asia Pacific region and has opened a dialogue with a number of vendors in the region.

Similar to the HIMSS AsiaPac, IHTSDO's Don Sweete also held a well-attended keynote speak at the annual European medical informatics conference, MIE, in Istanbul in the beginning of September.

New staff

Nilesh Jain joins IHTSDO in October as the Executive Lead for Products and Services. Prior to this appointment, he worked for CSC as Functional Architect for LORENZO where he oversaw the implementation of SNOMED CT for use in recording different clinical statements. He also has experience of implementing Read Codes in various GP systems such as Synergy, System 6000, Premiere and System 5 through his time at AAH Meditel, Torex Health and iSOFT.

Nilesh has a doctoral degree in Computer Science and Medical Informatics from Washington University in St. Louis. Prior to moving to the UK in 1998, he was a faculty member with the Department of Medical Informatics at Columbia University as well as a Project Manager for Clinical Information Systems at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center. Since October 2012,

Nilesh has been a member of the IHTSDO Management Board. Additionally, he is Treasurer of the Primary Health Care Specialist Group (PHCSG) of the British Computer Society (BCS), a Member of the BCS, a Chartered Information Technology Practitioner, and a member of the UK Council for Health Informatics Professions (UKCHIP).

Shelley Lipon joins IHTSDO as Customer Lead for the America's after spending the last 10 years with Canada Health Infoway ("Infoway"). During her time at Infoway she was responsible for all client relations and investment projects for the mid-western region. She also led Infoway's Certification Service for the last 3 years. Prior to working for Infoway Shelley was the CEO of the Saskatchewan Health Information Network, the provincial agency responsible for the development and implementation of the electronic

health record across the Province. Shelley is a fellow chartered accountant and also recently completed her chartered board of directors accreditation.

Andrew Atkinson joined the IHTSDO Delivery Team as Release Manager in September 2014 after six years with BNP Paribas. During his time there he gained extensive experience in release management, service delivery and project management. He also further developed his passion for best practice processes, obtaining qualifications in ITIL and Agile methodologies. As Release Manager, Andrew will manage and execute releases of SNOMED CT, related products and applications. He will also be responsible for project managing the development and effective delivery of new IHTSDO artifacts.

Nilesh Jain, Executive Lead for Products and Services

Shelley Lipon, Customer Lead for the America's

Andrew Atkinson, Release Manager

Keynote speakers at SNOMED CT Implementation Showcase

The Dutch Minister of Health:

James Read Memorial Lecture:

From the EU Commission:

NT Cheung

On Friday morning Dr. Ngai Tseung Cheung, Chief Information Officer and Chief Medical Informatics Officer from the Hong Kong Hospital Authority will deliver the James Read Memorial Lecture. Dr. Cheung has played a key role in establishing computerized record systems of the Hospital Authority over the past twenty years.

He has been instrumental in delivering comprehensive, intelligent clinician-friendly systems that support the activities of frontline clinicians while also addressing the needs of the entire healthcare system and economy.

One component of the systems for which he is responsible in Hong Kong is SNOMED CT. In his lecture he will share his experience of introducing a scalable electronic health record system and the role of clinical terminology in that system. We also look forward to hearing his vision for future developments and advice on ways to realize the benefits of using SNOMED CT as part of an electronic health record solution.

Edith Schippers

The Dutch Health Minister, Mrs. Edith Ingeborg Schippers, is the keynote speaker on the first day of the 2014 SNOMED CT Implementation Showcase, on Thursday October 30.

Minister of Health since 2012, Schippers became a member of the House of Representatives in 2003 representing the People's Party for Freedom and Democracy (VDD). She was also the party's spokesperson on health and development cooperation and co-authored the VVD's policy document proposing improvements to the Dutch healthcare system. From 1994 to 1997 she was a policy officer for the VVD parliamentary party in the field of health, welfare and sport. Our keynote speaker will take the floor at the Showcase holding more than 20 years of experience with healthcare and health policy.

Edwin Maarseveen

Just after the James Read Memorial Lecture, Edwin Maarseveen, Policy Officer on eHealth & Health Technology Assessment at the European Commission's Directorate-General for Health and Consumers (DG SANCO) will talk about "Semantic strategy in EU and SNOMED CT."

Previously Mr. Maarseveen worked as a Senior Policy Advisor at the Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports, mainly on issues in healthcare financing and primary care. After receiving his master's degree in Health Economics, Policy & Law, he worked as an entrepreneur in the health IT sector before joining the Ministry in 2006.

From the IHTSDO Newsfeed…….

01.09.2014

ICN and IHTSDO extend collaboration to advance harmonization of health terminology

The International Council of Nurses (ICN) and the International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation (IHTSDO) announced on September 1 an updated collaboration agreement to advance terminology harmonization and foster interoperability in health information systems.

23.09.2014

HL7 and IHTSDO Strengthen Collaboration

(HL7) and IHTSDO announced a two-year agreement to support the adoption of working practices that facilitate the use of IHTSDO standards with HL7 standards. This new agreement expands our collaborative relationship that began in 2009 and aims to improve healthcare on a global scale by advancing interoperability efforts.

26.09.2014

Request for Proposals: IHTSDO Terminology Server

IHTSDO seeks proposals in order to purchase a terminology server software product that supports SNOMED CT.

It is to be deployed as a centralized repository to support SNOMED CT content browsing, content authoring, and the creation of derivative products. The deadline for proposal submission is October 30. For more information, please see the Request for Proposal at http://tinyurl.com/knco7oc or via the ihtsdo.org website news.

IHTSDO
Newsletter

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The IHTSDO Newsletter provides news and features from IHTSDO, delivering SNOMED CT. If you have comments on the editorial content, then please contact the editor, Charlotte Schwarz-Rosman, at csr@ihtsdo.org