

Implementation of SNOMED CT in Hospital Italiano of Buenos Aires

A practical approach with a clinical focus

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Hospital Italiano - HIBA

- Founded in the 1800's by the Italian community in Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Non for profit organization
- 800 beds in 2 hospitals
- 200,000 patients HMO
- 16 Ambulatory clinics
- University hospital



Requirements

- The project started in 2001, during a big economic crisis in Argentina
- First hospital wide experience introducing computers in the clinical setting
- No national requirements for clinical information coding
- Internal requirements for coding to support management and research use cases

Requirements

 In house development of a Hospital Information System

 "Data entry should not be one more obstacle for adoption!"

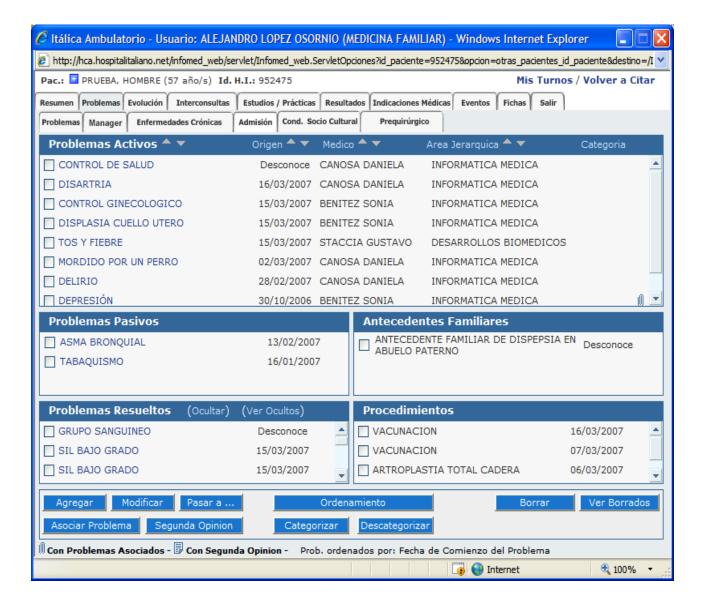
Usability!

Requirements

- Free text and secondary coding should be supported in the initial phases
- The project should slowly evolve to a primary coding implementation, with full local language variants support.

Vocabularies in 2001

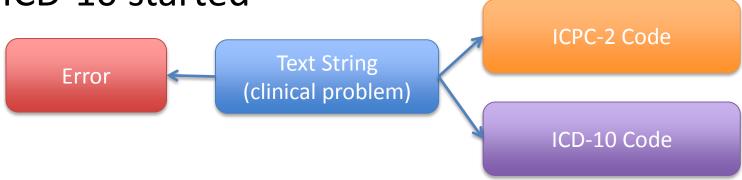




"Text is our gold standard"

- Operative definition as the basic principle of the extension
- Text as entered by HIBA users should be preserved and the meaning can be inferred from it by clinical specialists, considering context

- The free text problems list tracked individual text phrases (255 characters long)
- The clinical repository includes references to these strings by id
- A secondary coding process using ICPC-2 and ICD-10 started



- 2004 Adoption of SNOMED CT
- A simple map is not enough
- Strings that represent the same concept would be grouped as synonyms
- A set of relationships would be added to define the concept
- Only leaf concepts would be added initially

Managed Content Additions

- A central team of terminology editors was created
 - 1 clinical terminologist
 - 1 administrative supervisor
 - 12 part-time medical students
 - 1 Lead Software Analyst and Developer (75% time)
 and a second for 20% of his time
 - Medical Informatics Department Advisory Board

Managed Content Additions

- After 18 months:
 - 1 million free text entries processed
 - Grouped by a normalization process, and filtered with a frequency cut-off (>10)
 - 110,000 candidates for descriptions
 - 25,000 concepts
 - 9,000 equivalences
 - 16,000 new definitions

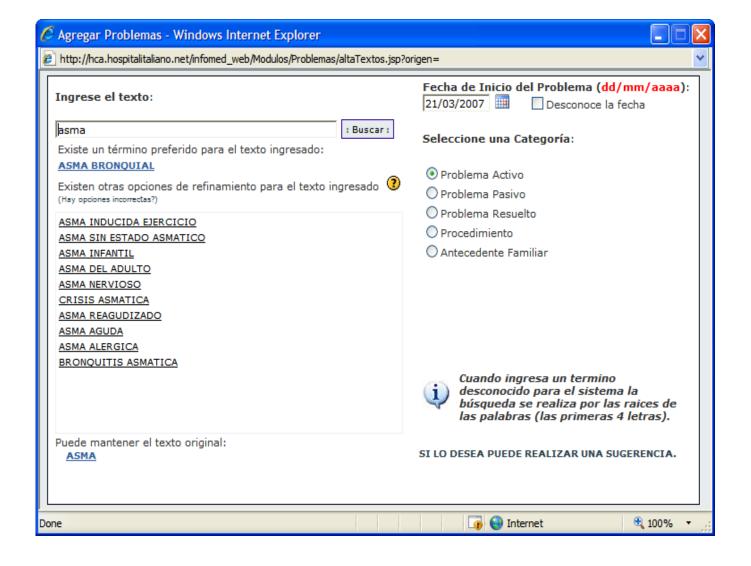
Managed Content Additions

- Some of the main reasons for new definitions:
 - Specified finding site:
 - Laterality, body structures
 - "Osteoarthritis of the left knee"
 - "Nevus on external region of leg"
 - Severity, course and occurrences
 - "Severe asthma"
 - "Intermittent headache"
 - Pre-coordinated causes
 - Allergies, adverse effects, traumatisms, etc.

2006, Phase 2

- Feedback added to the Free-text entry
- Automatically accept known terms
- Reject known errors (non-clinical content)
- Propose alternatives for unknown terms
- Propose alternatives for ambiguous or too general terms
- Allow users to maintain new terms subject to secondary revision

Phase 2 UI



Results

- 95% of problem list entries were coded automatically in SNOMED CT from the local extension
- Users were not aware that codification was happening on the background, most haven't ever heard about SNOMED CT.
- Remaining 5% were handled manually based on a frequency based queue

Terminology evolution

- Drugs vocabulary mapped to SNOMED CT
- Procedures added to the extension
- Cross-maps to ICPC-2, ICD-9-CM, ICD-10
- Implementation of data entry in other sections of the HIS:
 - Structured forms
 - Inpatient daily and discharge notes
 - Emergency room encounters
 - etc.

Periodic updates

- When a new version of SNOMED CT is adopted:
 - A report identifies all references to inactive concepts
 - The terminology team focus efforts on updating concept definitions
 - Effort: usually resolved in 1 week.

Quality Assurance

- Both real-time and batch rules support the terminology editors work
- Concept definitions can be updated without affecting the information in the clinical record
- Descriptions can be moved from one concept to other, or to a new concept
- Classification to detect equivalences

Data extraction based on subsets

- The user that requires to extract information sits with a terminology editor
- They create a subset specification
- Data is exported and delivered
- Users can subscribe to subset definitions and receive periodic updates

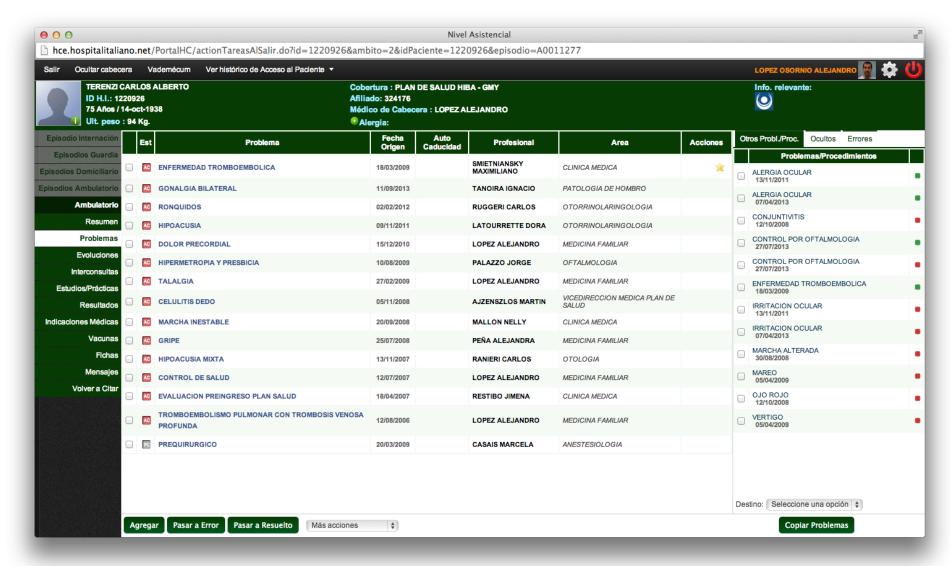
Terminology services

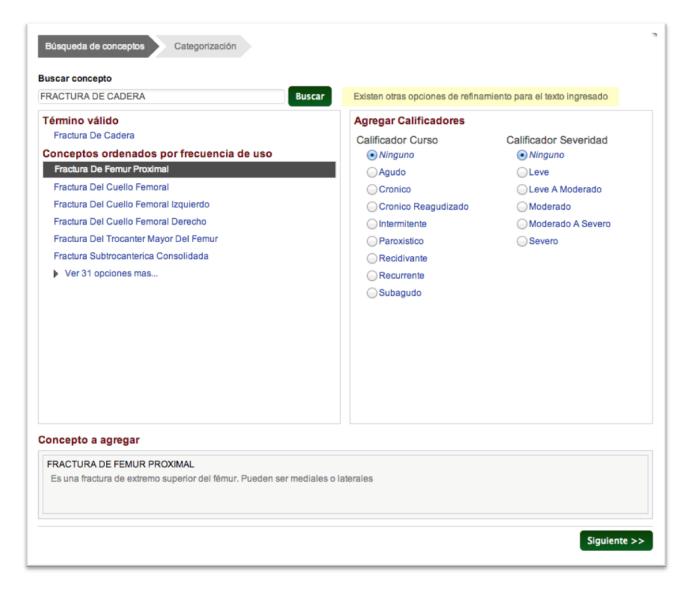
- A services layer was added to the terminology repository
- Internal applications consume these services
- Provision of terminology services to external clients:
 - Argentina
 - Chile
 - Uruguay

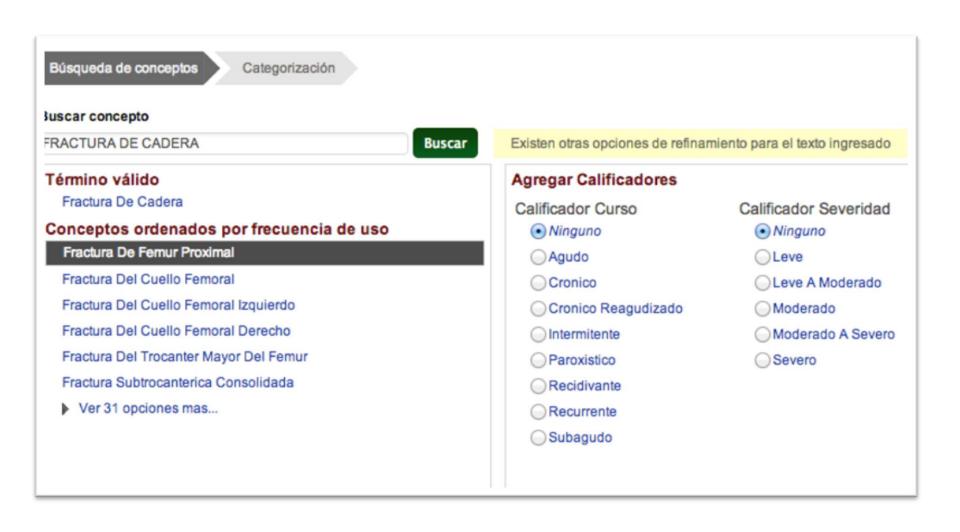
Addition of post-coordination

- First for structured cases, i.e.:
 - Family history
 - associated finding
 - subject relationship record
 - temporal modifier
 - etc
- Secondly, for refinements:
 - Propose qualifiers for any finding

Current UI







Buscar concepto

Buscar CANCER DE COLON Término válido Cancer De Colon Conceptos ordenados por frecuencia de uso Adenocarcinoma Metastasico Colon Metastasis Colorrectal Metastasis Hepaticas Y Colorectales Cancer De Celulas En Anillo De Sello Del Colon Sigmoides Cancer De Colon Derecho Oclusivo Ver 30 opciones mas... Clasificaciones POR ESTADIO Cancer De Colon Estadio 0 Cancer De Colon Estadio 1 Cancer De Colon Estadio 2 Cancer De Colon Estadio 3 Cancer De Colon Estadio 4 Cancer De Colon Estadio 2a Cancer De Colon Estadio 2b

Existen otras opciones de refinamiento para el texto ingresado

Por el momento no hay calificadores para este término

Concepto a agregar

FRACTURA DE FEMUR PROXIMAL

Es una fractura de extremo superior del fémur. Pueden ser mediales o laterales

Siguiente >>

Concepto a agregar

CANCER DE COLON

Es una neoplasia maligna que comienza en el intestino grueso o en el recto

Siguiente >>

Concepto a agregar CANCER DE COLON Fecha inicio 03/10/2013 8 Se desconoce cuándo inició. Estado del problema Problema Activo Problema Pasivo Problema Resuelto Antecedente Familiar ABUELA MATERNA ABUELA PATERNA ABUELO MATERNO ABUELO PATERNO HERMANA BIOLOGICA HERMANA GEMELA HERMANA MELLIZA DICIGOTICA HERMANO BIOLOGICO HERMANO GEMELO HERMANO MELLIZO DICIGOTICO HIJA BIOLOGICA HIJO BIOLOGICO MADRE BIOLOGICA Volver al buscador

- Is a: Family history with explicit context
- Finding context: Known present
- Temporal context: Current or past
- Associated finding: {{User selection}}
- Subject Relationship context: : {{User selection}}



Thanks!!

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