PATIENT SAFETY AND SYSTEMIC HARMONIZATION AND INTEROPERABILITY ENHANCEMENT FOR LAB DATA (SHIELD)

Gregory Pappas MD PhD
SHIELD Team Leader
FDA/CBER Associate Director

This presentation does not reflect official FDA policy. The views are those of the author.
In Memoriam Mike Waters (1973-2020)

This body of work remembers Michael Steven Waters (1973-2020) who died working fighting the COVID-19 pandemic. Public health workers are at the front line fighting the pandemic both risking infection with SARS-CoV-2 and in a national wave of suicides. Mike worked at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), was a national thought-leader in microbiology and in vitro diagnostics and understood how hampered we are with our obsolete data systems.
Overview

• Real-world evidence (RWE) and Interoperability
• Lab as the long hanging fruit
• SHIELD
• SHIELD Strategic Planning
Lack of interoperability explains the unrealized promise of RWE in health care

• The narrative that has been used...
  • Wealth of data -- electronic medical records, medical imaging, mobile apps, and more recently low-cost gene sequencing and wearable devices, unlocked using artificial intelligence, cloud computing and blockchain – for better diagnostics, personalized treatments, and early disease prevention for millions.
  • A comprehensive interoperability -- a “plug and play” environment -- may help medicine in the way it has made possible international banking on a cell phone, the “internet of things,” and shopping over the internet.
  • The vision of a national interoperable health information system has been elusive, however, because of clinical care in isolated databases, silos of incompatible systems, proprietary software, and data bases that are difficult to exchange, analyze, and interpret.
  • These observations have been underscored the US response to the pandemic has reveals the weakness of our data systems
A lot of innovation is being held back by problem with the data

- Patient safety
  - Colleges at College of American Pathologists emphasize that coding errors can lead to loss of life.
- Clinical Decision Support (CDS)
- Epidemiology/outbreak monitoring
- Healthcare research and innovation
- Public health reporting
- Regulatory decisions
- Signal detection
Interoperability

Semantic  Syntactic  Institutional
Interoperability challenges in health care data; a range of current uses and barriers.

- Currently used routinely → Medical claims (but still require curation)
- “Low hanging fruit” → Labs
- Near Future → Remote monitoring measurements
- Major barriers → Psychiatric care – DSM3 does not render current practice, institutional and semantic issues
Why focus on lab data?

- Can’t boil the ocean; interoperability of lab data will provide very useful data so is an appealing place to start.
- Labs have been digitalized for decades.
- CLIA reference labs began in 1988 regulates laboratories that test human specimens and ensures laboratories produce safe and effective patient test results.
- Standards exist (LOINC, SNOMED, and others).
- Remaining problem is harmonization of application of laboratory data; labs apply codes in an idiosyncratic way. There has been no authoritative source to guide coding.

- Mistake #1: Not having standardized test definitions
- Mistake #2: Having unsynchronized test catalogs
- Mistake #3: Not uniquely identifying test names using LOINC
- Mistake #4: Assuming that it will be easy to establish a secure electronic connection
- Mistake #5: Not having a thorough testing plan
- Mistake #6: Failing to recognize that validation of the EHR result display is an important responsibility
- Mistake #7: Not recognizing challenges and pitfalls associated with patient identifiers
- Mistake #8: Not considering all results delivery situations
- Mistake #9: Not anticipating that results may be passed through multiple EHRs
- Mistake #10: Assuming that EHRs can properly display complex reports

Pathologists have embraced interoperability first to improve patient safety.
More than a clinical necessity: potential efficiencies are real!

Current practice is manual curation -- expensive time consuming.

- Usual a team of nurses
- Some of the information need to render data interoperable requires access to other data sets or speaking with people; it’s a lot like archeology.
  - E.g., what machine or processes are used in the lab
- Duke cath lab saved the work of two full time nurses when they automated.
- Find Dr. Jimmy Tcheng at Duke to learn about that effort in engineering data collection as part of the workflow.
Learn more about SHIELD
5 years in the making
on websites of MDIC and MDEpiNet

“describing the same test, the same way, every time.”
SHIELD emerged out of multi-agency workshops held in 2015 and 2016.

- The 2016 workshop included the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the National Library of Medicine (NLM) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC), and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Titled the "CDC/FDA/NLM/ONC/CMS Workshop on Promoting Semantic Interoperability of Laboratory Data" the meeting received and discussed input from stakeholders regarding proposed approaches to facilitate the adoption and implementation of interoperability standards in a manner that enables consistent, accurate, and harmonized descriptions of in vitro diagnostic tests (IVD) and results.
  - https://wayback.archive-it.org/7993/20170111193824/http:/www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/NewsEvents/WorkshopsConferences/ucm453897.htm Accessed October 17, 2020

FDA Data Standards Advisory Board (DSAB)

- Clinical Laboratory Interoperability Consortium (CLIC) Working Group (WG)
- Under its charter the CLIC WG coordinates the FDA activities with SHIELD

Funding received

- Medical Counter Measures
- Office of the Assistant for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE)
  - Part of the PCORTF portfolio
  - The Office of the Secretary (OS) of HHS receives 4% annually (2011-2019) of the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Trust Fund (PCORTF) to build data capacity
  - With a major emphasis on RWE
The ecosystem: SHIELD provides an authoritative source for coding by working with over 70 stakeholders including:

**Government**
- FDA (CDRH, CDER, CBER), CDC, NIH, ONC, CMS, VA

**Private Sector**
- IVD Manufacturers, commercial and laboratory laboratories, Association of Public Health Labs (APHL), EHR vendors, PEW Charitable Trusts, NEST/MDIC, MDEpiNet, Academia, College of American Pathologists, IICC (IVD Industry Connectivity Consortium), AACC (American Association for Clinical Chemistry), LOGICA

**Coding organizations**
- LOINC, SNOMED, UCUM, UDI, LAW and LIVD and FHIR.
Workflow and data collection

Each IVD asks a ‘question’ of a specimen to get an ‘answer’.

1) Collect and prepare a specimen (nasopharyngeal swab).

2) Ask Question:
   Does the nasopharyngeal swab contain:
   - Influenza A antigens?
     - LOINC Code: 43874-7
   - Influenza B antigens?
     - LOINC Code: 43695-2

3) Provide Answer:
   - Influenza A antigens: Detected;
     - SNOMED-CT: 260373001
   - Influenza B antigens: Not detected
     - SNOMED-CT: 260415000

Device Identifier: 00382902560715
Value chain: where action is needed
Public Law 116-136, § 18115(a), the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, requires “every laboratory that performs or analyzes a test that is intended to detect SARS-CoV-2 or to diagnose a possible case of COVID-19” to report the results from each such test to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

In addition, the statute authorizes the Secretary to prescribe the form and manner, and timing and frequency, of such reporting. A policy was issued in June 2020 that outlines the requirements for data submission to HHS as authorized under this law.

A new requirement, which went into effect Aug. 1, 2020 will help provide crucial information needed to monitor and fight the pandemic nationally.


Related news reports


https://www.cnbc.com/2020/06/04/us-needs-to-ensure-underserved-minorities-have-equitable-access-to-coronavirus-testing-testing-chief-says.html

An example of bottom-up development followed by a top-down authorization.
Historic moment for interoperability

• Can we build on the response to the pandemic to promote interoperability beyond COVID-19 testing?
“Plans are worthless, but planning is essential.” Dwight D. Eisenhower

- SHIELD has taken an important step
  - White Paper calling for a Strategic Plan
  - Initiation of full-scale strategic plan for the Stakeholder.

https://quoteinvestigator.com/2017/11/18/planning/
SHIELD Strategy Planning Process

Launched May 4th, 2021
CHAIR OF SHIELD STRATEGIC PLANNING

• Micky Tripathi, PhD
• Coordinator
• ONC/HHS
What the Planning Process Will Deliver

A clearly articulated STRATEGY ...

... with a BUSINESS CASE that outlines the IMPACT of the strategy ...

and a ROADMAP of supporting activities
Five-year strategic plan
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THANK YOU!