

928 Revision on the use of terms in Combined version

Expert Group meeting 4.9.2024

Background

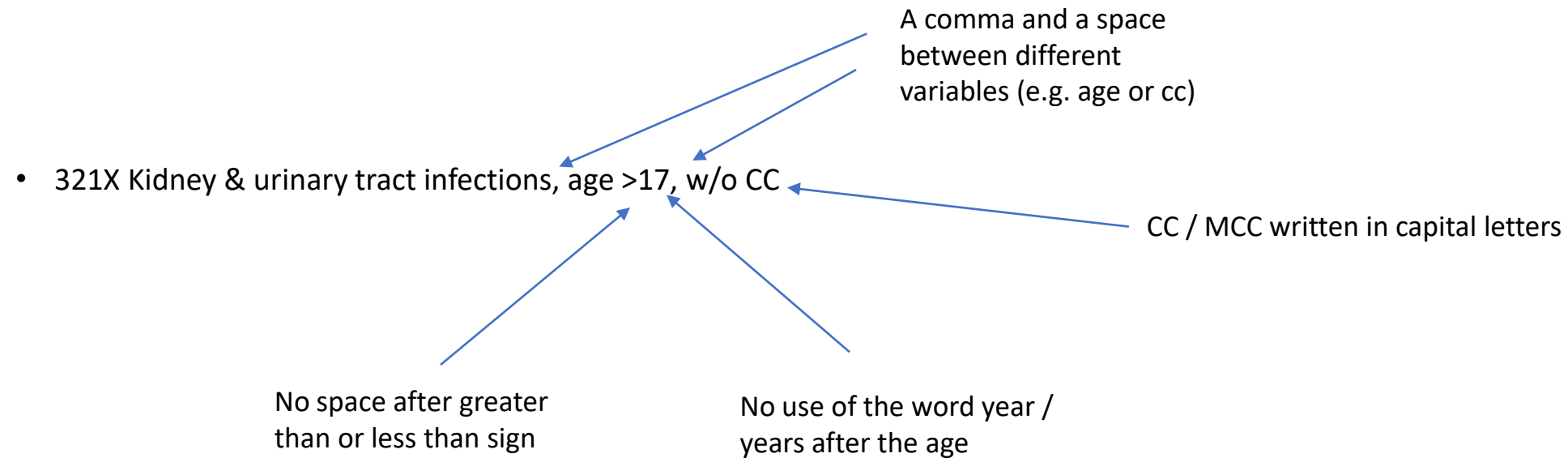
- While revising the *DRG* and *grouping property names* in the Combined version we discovered some irregularities in the use of terminology, which we wish to discuss in the Expert Group meeting
 - **The Combined version is used by all the countries**, so it needs to meet the needs of each country
- The aim is to agree on some common rules to be followed in the future

Combined version

- English version including all the rules of all the countries
 - The national versions (codes etc.) are mapped to Combined version
- DRG names table has both *drg_text_comb* and *drg_text_short_comb* columns
 - The short name is a shorter version of the regular name (originally has been the same only if the regular name itself is very short), e.g.:
 - 239N *Pathological fractures & musculoskeletal & connective tissue malignancy, w/o CC*, (short text *Pathological fractures & musculoskeletal & conn tiss malign, w/o CC*)
 - ➔ Where is the short name used?
 - ➔ Do we actually need it?
- Whenever a DRG is split into two or more new DRGs (E.g. w MCC/ w CC/ w/o CC), the main part of the name must be the same in each new DRG, e.g.:
 - 239M *Pathological fractures & musculoskeletal & connective tissue malignancy, w MCC / w CC / w/o CC*

What's already been done

1. Correction of obvious errors in spelling
2. Harmonizing the structure of DRG names, e.g.:



These changes don't affect grouping in any version!!!

1. The use of the words disease and disorder

- E.g.:
 - 048X Other **disorders** of the eye, age 0-17
 - 0450 Doctor visits for neurological eye **diseases**
 - 9020 Disease **or** disorder of the eye, short therapy w/o significant procedure
 - 9030 Disease **and** disorder of ear, nose, mouth and throat, short therapy w/o significant procedure
- drg_text_comb:
 - Disease(s) (n = 317)
 - Disorder(s) (n = 252)
 - Disease **or** disorder (n = 24)
 - Disease **and** disorder (n = 3)

Definitions

- <https://www.verywellhealth.com/>:
 - A **disease** is a pathological process that healthcare providers are able to see, touch, and measure. Diseases have particular signs and symptoms.
 - A **disorder** is characterized by functional impairment and a disruption to the body's normal function and structure. The symptoms make it clear that there is some kind of disorder, but *the cause may not be immediately obvious*.
 - ➔ A disease is distinct and measurable.
 - ➔ A disorder might indicate that a specific disease is possible but there is not enough clinical evidence for diagnosis.
- AI:
 - **Diseases** have *identifiable causes*, while **disorders** involve symptom patterns *without a specific known origin*.

Suggestion

- Leave the names as they are (at the moment)
 - More research on the subject may be needed
- Disease *and* disorder vs. disease *or* disorder:
 - ➔ Change all to disease **or** disorder

2. The use of words procedure, operation and intervention

- E.g.:
 - 004N Spinal **procedures**
 - 0600 **Operations** on tonsils or adenoids, short therapy
 - 001C **Intervention** of intracranial vascular abnormality or infarction
- drg_text_comb:
 - Procedure (n = 487)
 - OR procedure (= 106)
 - Operation (n = 16)
 - Intervention (n = 58)
- NOMESCO: Classification of Surgical Procedures
 - Procedure(s) (n = 492)
 - Operation(s) (n = 1333)

Definitions

- <https://www.verywellhealth.com/>
 - A medical **procedure** is generally used to describe a minimally or noninvasive medical intervention that is used to diagnose, treat, monitor, or examine various conditions and diseases. A procedure is "a series of steps followed in a regular definite order."
 - Procedures typically do not need a healthcare provider to cut into the skin, which is the key difference from surgery (= operation)
- <https://toolkit.ncats.nih.gov/glossary/intervention/>
 - An **intervention** refers to the process or activity under investigation in a clinical study that is believed to produce an effect, or that is intended to alter the course of a disease in a patient or population. Interventions include drugs, medical devices, procedures, vaccines, and other products that are either investigational or already available. Interventions can also include noninvasive approaches, such as education or modifying diet and exercise.
- AI:
 - An **operation** refers to a *major surgical intervention*. It involves invasive procedures that often require incisions and access to internal body parts.
 - Examples include open-heart surgery, appendectomy, or joint replacement.
 - A **procedure** is a broader term encompassing both surgical and non-surgical activities.
 - Procedures are generally *less invasive* and do not necessarily involve incisions.
 - Examples include physical examinations, endoscopies, and diagnostic studies (like X-rays or CT scans).
 - An **intervention** refers to any medical action taken to address a condition.
 - It can include both *procedures and other therapeutic measures*, such as counseling, medication, or lifestyle changes.

Suggestion:

- Leave the names as they are (at the moment)
 - More research on the subject may be needed

3. The use of singular or plural forms of words

- E.g.:
 - 5090 Other **procedure** for mammary gland diseases, short therapy
 - 075X Major chest **procedures**
- drg_text_comb:
 - Procedures_ (n = 327)
 - Procedure (n = 71)

Suggestion

- When a question of a group (of procedures), i.e. DRG, use of the plural form **procedures**

4. The use of the sign &

- E.g.:
 - 064X Ear, nose, mouth **&** throat malignancy
 - 285O Amputation of lower limb for endocrine, nutritional **&** metabolic diseases, short therapy
- Then again:
 - 049A Other major operations on head **and** neck
 - 769V Ear, nose **and** mouth biopsy, short therapy
- drg_text_comb:
 - Use of **&**-sign (n = 490)
 - Use of the word **and** in similar cases (n = 377)

Definitions

- <https://prowritingaid.com/and-symbol>
 - The and symbol, or ampersand, is used as a shorthand way to write the common word “and”
- <https://www.grammarbook.com/>
 - *In formal writing*, use of the ampersand to replace the word “and” is typically *not encouraged*
- <https://www.thesaurus.com/e/grammar/ampersand/>
 - An ampersand (&) is a typographical symbol that *is rarely used in formal writing*. It is read aloud as the word and, and is used as a substitute for that word in informal writing and in the names of products or businesses

Suggestion

- Replacing the &-signs with the word **and**

5. The use of the term of the vs. (just) of

- E.g.
 - 905FT Diagnostic procedure **of** lymphatic system, short therapy
 - 905FG Disorders **of the** circulatory system, special medical therapy
 - 802NP Major diagnostic intervention **of the** eye, short therapy
 - 903FA Disease and disorder **of** ear, nose, mouth and throat, radiation therapy, short therapy
 - 350C Inflammation **of the** male reproductive system, w CC
 - 367A Radiotherapy for malignancy **of** female reproductive system, w/o CC
- drg_text_comb:
 - of the (n = 51)
 - of (n = 156)

Suggestion

- Suggestion: Whenever it's a question of a certain known system (e.g. the male reproductive system) we use the phrase '**of the**'
- Otherwise (in case of a single organ or organism), we use (only) '**of**'

6. The use of abbreviations

- E.g.
 - 1750 Doctor visits for peptic ulcer and **GI** hemorrhage (*gastrointestinal*)
 - 363C **D&C**, conization & radio-implant, for malignancy, w CC (*dilation and curettage*)
 - 068X Otitis media & **uri**, age >17 w CC (*upper respiratory infection*)
- drg_text_comb:
 - GI (n = 7)
 - D&C (n = 15)
 - Uri (n = 5)

Suggestion

- Replacing the abbreviations with complete words
- E.g.:
 - 1750 Doctor visits for peptic ulcer and **gastrointestinal** hemorrhage
 - 363C **Dilation and curettage** , conization & radio-implant, for malignancy, w CC
 - 068X Otitis media *and* **upper respiratory infection**, age > 17 w CC

Finally

- The use of the word 'haemorrhage' vs. 'hemorrhage'
 - **Haemorrhage** in use in 4 DRG names and 59 proc plus codes
 - **Hemorrhage** in use in 3 DRG names
- ➔ Suggestion: use of 'hemorrhage'
 - 'leukemia', (not 'leukaemia') as reference
 - E.g. 4020 Lymphoma & non-acute **leukemia** with OR procedures, short therapy
- The use of the word '**allogenic**' vs. '**allogeneic**'
 - In use in 4 DRG names and in 11 proc plus codes
- ➔ Suggestion: use of 'allogeneic'
 - More widely used in academic literature