Languages

The languages table contains information on the languages that patients speak and write, where known. There is one record per person per known language.

1. Overview

The languages table contains information on the languages that patients speak and write, where known. There is one record per person per known language.

The primary key of this table is (MRN, language).

2. Data Dictionary

Variable name	Type (Length)	Preferred Format	Description	Valid Values	Comments
MRN	char (varies)	n/a	An arbitrary identifier unique to an individual within a site.	Any, so long as they uniquely identify individual people.	Used to link people across files within a site. May or may not contain the official local indigenous person identifier (e.g., "medical record number"). **Regardless of whether it contains the official local identifier, this variable should never leave the site.** Projects needing to move individual-level data should create a study-specific person identifier and substitute it for MRN on any data that is to move (See, e.g., the %DeIDDset() standard macro.)
lang_iso	char(3)	n/a	A code signifying a particular language.	As defined in the ISO-639-2 specification, or 'unk', for unknown. Partial list: eng English spa Spanish	Clarity sites may find relevant data in the tables PAT_SPOKEN_LANG and PAT_WRITTEN_LANG.

Variable name ▲	Type (Length)	Preferred Format	Description	Valid Values		Comments
lang_usage	char(1)	n/a	How this person uses this language	S W B U	Spoken (or signed) Written Both spoken and written Unknown	
lang_primary	char(1)	n/a	For spoken languages, is this the person's *primary* spoken language?	Y N U	Yes No Unknown	

3. Notes

Note 1: Only include rows for people on whom you have some language information.

Don't include rows for people on whom no language information is known. You should not have any rows with the following combination of values, for instance:

language	use	primary
unk	U	U

4. Implementation Status By Site

This table was approved at the VIG mid-year meeting in November 2012. The target implementation date for the new person_languages file is found at the VIG Calendar page.

Site Data Managers: please update with the following statuses.

- Not started
- Started
- Verification program results submitted
- Addressing issues (uncovered by program)
- Completed

Feel free to add additional comments and clarifications.

Site	Status

		Date of last status update
EIRH	Complete	3/26/2013
Fallon	Complete	5/24/2013
Group Health	Completed	4/29/2013
Geisinger	Completed	4/9/2013
Henry Ford	Started	2/26/2013
HealthPartners	Completed	4/9/2013
Harvard Pilgrim	Not started. Will update during regular yearly VDW update	4/9/2013
KPCO	Complete	3/25/13
KPGA	Complete (per Roy, looking at QA)	4/29/2013
KPH	Completed	3/1/13
KPMA	Completed	4/29/2013
KPNC	Completed	7/9/13
KPNW	Completed	3/17/13
KPSC	Not started	4/11/13
Marshfield	Completed	4/11/13
SWH	Complete, but with issues (per Roy, looking at QA)	4/29/2013
PAMFRI	Completed	5/30/13

4. Future Plans

None at this time.

5. Contact Information

Please contact the VDW Enrollment and Demographics working group for questions and suggestions. Working group contact information can be found on the VDW Operations section of the CRN Portal.

Related content
    Change Proposal: change language var names so they are not RDBMS reserved keywords
    VIG Calendar

Comments (1)

Pardee, Roy Feb 13, 2013 03:32 PM
Implementations of this spec are slated for March 2013.