**FHIR SDOHCC Ballot Issues**

**Goal Resource**

**Goal.description**

The Goal Resource does not have elements that can modify the meaning of a code selected for Goal.description. Thus, a goal description cannot be postcoordinated (e.g., the goal of “Condition = known absent”). Instead, if a code is used for Goal.description, it must be precoordinated.

This may prove challenging since goals are generally positive health states (e.g., normal blood pressure, remission of cancer, no headache, etc.) whereas disorder/finding codes in code systems tend to focus heavily on health concerns (e.g. hypertension, cancer, obesity, headache, etc.). Therefore, using a single code for a goal description may require that code systems add many, highly precoordintated codes (often with explicit context). This approach may be detrimental to the general objective of reducing excessive precoordination of code system codes by shifting context to the information model.

Examples:

SNOMED CT already has the following Clinical Finding codes:1) Food insecurity, 2) Housing unsatisfactory, and 3) Transportation barrier impedes ability to use community resources.

In the absence of a way to add context to Goal.description, the goal of resolving any of these conditions might require that SNOMED CT add the following new codes for Goal.description:

* Food security (since there is no way to use: Food insecurity = known absent)
* Satisfactory housing (since there is no way to use: Housing unsatisfactory = known absent)
* No transportation barrier impeding ability to use community resources (since there is now way to use: Transportation barrier impedes ability to use community resources = known absent)

**Additional rules**

To improve data integrity, the following rules should be applied to this profile:

1. If Goal.description and/or Goal.target are changed, a new Goal instance MUST be created.

This rule is not specific to this food insecurity goal. For any goal, a change to these elements essentially results in a different goal.

1. Goal.statusDate MUST be updated if and ONLY if Goal.achievementStatus is updated.

The Goal resource does not clearly specify whether Goal.statusDate applies to Goal.achievementStatus or to Goal.lifecycleStatus. To unambiguously establish when a goal has been achieved, Goal.statusDate MUST be synchronized with Goal.achievementStatus.

1. An update to Goal.achievementStatus MUST be supported by an update to Goal.outcomeReference.

This rule is not specific to this food insecurity goal. Any goal should be required to update Goal.outcomeReference as evidence for a change in Goal.achievementStatus.

**Value set constraint issues**

An example of this issue for the Observation resource is illustrated below. However, this issue is not restricted to Observations.

**Observation.dataAbsentReason**

This element references the FHIR DataAbsentReason value set. Although the referenced FHIR value set contains more codes than the three below, only the codes listed below should be used for this profile.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Code | Display |
| [unknown](http://hl7.org/fhir/R4/codesystem-data-absent-reason.html#data-absent-reason-unknown) | Unknown |
| [asked-unknown](http://hl7.org/fhir/R4/codesystem-data-absent-reason.html#data-absent-reason-asked-unknown) | Asked But Unknown |
| [asked-declined](http://hl7.org/fhir/R4/codesystem-data-absent-reason.html#data-absent-reason-asked-declined) | Asked But Declined |

For this example, it is not clear whether a subset of the existing FHIR value set should be enforced via FHIRpath rules or by merely creating the smaller value set. How is a smaller value set of an existing HL7 value set created? Is HL7 the code system for the codes (unknown, asked-unknown and asked-declined)? Are they in VSAC?