**Title of Your OHDSI Symposium Brief Report Submission**

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**Background**

The digitization of medical records and the adoption of Electronic Medical Records (EMRs) have revolutionized healthcare, enabling more efficient patient care and facilitating advanced research. However, the potential of EMRs to contribute meaningfully to healthcare outcomes hinges on the ability to extract accurate and relevant information. This process is complicated by the diversity of terminologies and vocabularies used across different healthcare systems and the need for precise grouping of vocabulary elements to define clinical concepts. For instance, determining whether a patient has undergone an HIV test, received a COVID vaccination, or is pregnant requires not just access to raw data but the ability to interpret this data accurately within its clinical context.

Value sets are carefully selected lists of codes and terms from various health care terminologies that represent specific clinical concepts, thereby standardizing the way data is captured, shared, and analyzed. For example, a value set for "COVID-19 vaccination" would include all codes that represent receiving any of the COVID-19 vaccines approved by regulatory bodies. The Value Set Authority Center (VSAC), sponsored by the National Library of Medicine (NLM), plays a critical role in this ecosystem. It offers a comprehensive framework for the curation, validation, refinement, and publication of quality value sets.

The efficacy of VSAC and its value sets in improving research quality and healthcare outcomes can be seen in several key areas. In clinical research, value sets enable the precise identification of patient cohorts for epidemiological studies, such as tracking the effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines across different populations. In public health, they support the monitoring of vaccination rates and the prevalence of conditions like HIV, informing public health strategies. In clinical practice, they enhance the quality of care by ensuring that health information systems can accurately identify and act on key patient information, such as vaccination status or pregnancy, leading to better patient management and outcomes.

Despite these advances, challenges remain. The creation and maintenance of value sets require ongoing collaboration between clinicians, terminologists, and IT professionals to ensure they remain current with medical practice and terminology. Additionally, the integration of these value sets into EMRs across different healthcare settings poses technical and interoperability challenges.

The role of VSAC in addressing these challenges is invaluable. By providing a standardized, authoritative source for value sets, VSAC enables the consistent interpretation of EMRs, thereby enhancing the reliability of clinical research, the effectiveness of public health monitoring, and the quality of patient care.

**Methods**

**Results**

**Figure 1. Points scored by team and period**

**Conclusion**

**References**