



Advancing Excellence

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CAP electronic Cancer Checklists (CAP eCC)

SNOMED Terminology Solutions™

Expert Advice.
Expert Implementation.
Expert Education.

The College of American Pathologists (CAP) is a medical society serving more than 17,000 physician members and the laboratory community throughout the world. It is the world's largest association composed exclusively of board-certified pathologists and is widely considered the leader in laboratory quality assurance. The CAP is committed to the realization of global standards and interoperability in the service of quality patient care and public health across health care specialties and systems.

The Diagnostic Intelligence and Health Information Technology (DIHIT), a department within CAP's SNOMED Terminology Solutions (STS) division, is committed to advancing health IT standards, practices, and tools, such as the CAP Diagnostic Work Station initiative and standardized electronic reporting, including the CAP electronic Cancer Checklists (CAP eCC). DIHIT is committed to advancing pathology informatics, standards, and interoperability tools to improve patient care through collaborative work with leading systems designers, providers, and standards organizations.

CAP STS is the leading organization in pursuing semantic interoperability for electronic health records (EHRs) by offering customized best-practice terminology implementation and education services. Our goal is to ultimately improve patient care through supporting the pathologist's role as chief diagnostician/clinical care advisor and advancing interoperable EHRs.

The College of American Pathologists (CAP) Cancer Checklists (included in the CAP Cancer Protocols) are recognized as a "gold standard" in cancer case summary reporting worldwide. These guidelines, developed by the CAP Cancer Committee in collaboration with cancer experts such as oncologists, surgeons, and other health care professionals, aid pathologists in cancer reporting. The synoptic, or standardized, checklist format provides consistent and meaningful information that enable health care professionals to manage and study clinical data necessary to help improve patient care.

CAP electronic Cancer Checklists (CAP eCC)

The CAP eCC is the electronic version of the more than 70 checklists in an XML (Extensible Markup Language) format. The XML format (broadly adopted by health IT standards) can be integrated easily into existing pathology and cancer registry systems, enabling interoperability among disparate information systems that share cancer data and reports.

The amount of information pathologists provide in their reports on cancer specimens has increased in recent years, due to the expansion of scientific knowledge about cancer and continued advances in health care, such as molecular diagnostics and personalized medicine.

The CAP eCC format allows for the collection of discrete data elements and aid in the retrieval, sharing, and analysis of data for the improvement of patient care. In addition, content is also partially encoded with SNOMED Clinical Terms® (SNOMED CT®)—a globally recognized controlled medical vocabulary. This supports the goal of semantic interoperability by allowing multiple interdisciplinary providers to accurately communicate and share patient information within electronic health record (EHR) systems.

The CAP eCC have been developed in collaboration with many other organizations, including Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC), Collaborative Staging initiative (CS), and the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries (NAACCR). In July 2009, the Canadian Association of Pathologists endorsed the use of the CAP Cancer Checklists, which support compliance with Cancer Care Ontario's (CCO) reporting requirements.

CAP eCC Features

Goals

- XML format broadly adopted by health information technology (HIT) and endorsed by international standards organizations such as HL7, IHE, IHTSDO, etc.
- Content includes elements from *AJCC Cancer Staging Manual 7th Edition*
- Regularly scheduled content releases and updates

Usability

- Mappings encoded with SNOMED Clinical Terms (SNOMED CT)
- Ease of integration into existing pathology and cancer registry systems
- Customizable for individual lab practices



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CAP electronic Cancer Checklists (CAP eCC)

Professional Services

- Clinical and Diagnostic Informatics
- Clinical Information
- Clinical Terminology
- Education
- Health Exchange Initiatives
- Health IT Strategy and Planning
- Quality and Performance Improvement
- Reporting and Quality Metrics
- Research Data Management
- Semantic Interoperability
- Synoptic Reporting

DIHIT Initiatives

- CAP eCC
- CAP Diagnostic Work Station
- CAP Virtual Informatics College

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CAP eCC Uses

Goals

- Support and aid the pathologist in the diagnostic process
- Standardize pathology collection data to improve cancer reporting and research initiatives
- Advance the pathologist's role as chief diagnostician
- Improve information sharing and support interoperability and data exchange to foster a more efficient cancer reporting process
- Promote worldwide adoption and utilization of structured pathology reporting

Usability

- Cancer research
- Cancer surveillance
- Clinical practice
- Data mining
- Epidemiological reporting
- Public health
- Quality improvement
- Reimbursement
- Tissue banking

CAP eCC Content Update

The December 2009 CAP eCC release contains elements from the *AJCC Cancer Staging Manual 7th Edition* and the new and updated content posted in October 2009 on the CAP website at www.cap.org/cancerprotocols. Additional CAP cancer checklists are expected to be released and posted later in 2010. Future releases of the CAP eCC will then be distributed to licensees to reflect new content.

CAP eCC Licensing

The CAP eCC downloadable file set is available with a CAP eCC license. The CAP customizes licensing to meet the needs of individual customers and their operational environments. Vendor integration licensing options are also available.

CAP eCC Implementation

The CAP offers a wide spectrum of technical, consultative, and education services for the optimal implementation, customization, and integration of the CAP eCC into your workflow. Our consultants can also provide guidance on how standardized reporting and XML technology can be used for other health care applications such as cardiology, radiology, and tissue banking. For a demonstration of the CAP eCC, contact us at 847-832-7700 or capecc@cap.org.

Contact Us

For more information about the CAP eCC or to request a demonstration, call 847-832-7700, email capecc@cap.org, or visit www.cap.org/DIHIT.