Society of Thoracic Surgeons

Congenital Heart Surgery Database
New Data Manager Webinar

August 27, 2020
Agenda

• Welcome and Introductions
• Introduction to STS and the Databases
• The Role of the Data Manager
• How to read the Data Collection Form (DCF)
• What variables are required
• Intro to Data and Software Specs
• Intro to the Training Manual
• Submitting a Clinical Question
• Keys to abstracting data
• Building a relationship with your surgeon
• Ensuring Clean Data
• Data Submission Deadlines
• Additional STS Resources
Introduction to STS and the Databases

- Society founded in 1964
  “To enhance the ability of cardiothoracic surgeons to provide the highest quality care through education, research, and advocacy”
- Today has more than 7500 members in 99 countries
- More than 65 employees in Chicago and D.C.
- The first database was started in 1989
  - Response to HHS/HCFA (now CMS)
  - Malpractice lawsuits related to a misperception of the risk associated with surgery
  - JCAHO’s requirement of all healthsystems to have a QA program used for surgeon recredentialing
  - Threats to reimbursement
Introduction to STS and the Databases

• Accomplishments of the databases
  • Improved Patient Outcomes/Patient Safety
  • Developed Clinical Practice Guidelines
    • Blood Conservation
    • Antibiotic Usage
  • Voluntary Public Reporting
    • Sites who publicly report have better outcomes
Introduction to STS and the Databases

- Congenital Heart Surgery Database (CHSD) started in 2003
- CHSD currently has 121 total sites
  - 118 North American
  - 3 International
  - 67 Anesthesia Participants
- 405 Surgeons participating
- 660 Anesthesiologists
- Contains more than 540,000 procedures for more than 330,000 patients
- 88.1% of the CHSD Participants participate in STS Public Reporting
The Data Abstractor/Data Manager
(Polling Question)

• You Are
  • Smart
  • Creative
  • Meticulous
  • Organized
  • Passionate (in a good way)
• Most of you are nurses
• Some of you are health management specialists or hold other roles
• All of you are making a difference!
The Data Abstractor/Data Manager Role

• Your Role
  • Abstract Data
  • Submit Data
  • Clean Data
  • Quality Improvement Projects
  • Charting
  • Best Practices
  • Improve Workflow on Units
  • Improve Team Work
  • Quality Assurance Meetings with Surgeons and Supporting Departments
  • Administration Reporting on Star Ratings
Reading the Data Collection Form (DCF)
Which Variables are Required?

- Per STS all variables are important
  - Parent/child relationships help reduce the number of missing data in the feedback reports
- Do not omit the fields included in the main sections of the feedback report:
  - Mortality analysis
  - Case mix models
  - Benchmark operations
  - Lesion specific section
- Complete all fields consistently so they are meaningful internally and over time
Data and Software Specifications

- The database is updated every 3 years
- The data and software specifications are key tools in this process
- It is important to understand how to read them
  - Definitions
  - Allowable values
  - Field type
  - Parent/Child Relationships
  - Specify vendor requirements
The Training Manual

• Guidance on abstracting variables
• Intent/Clarification provided to further explain definitions
• Update monthly with new FAQ’s
• Refer to this to ensure you are abstracting correctly
• Check here first!
Allowable Values

- Below 8.00 will show a warning, verify data
- Above 16.00 will show a warning, verify data

For values outside of the allowable value zone then you will code the highest or lowest ALLOWABLE value

Long Name: Last Hemoglobin Level
Short Name: HemoglobinLst
Section Name: Pre-Operative Evaluation
DBTableName: Operations
Definition: Indicate the hemoglobin level closest management (induction area or operat
LowValue: 3.00 UsualRangeLow: 8.00
HighValue: 50.00 UsualRangeHigh: 16.00
Parent Long Name: Hemoglobin Level Measured
ParentShortName: HemoglobinMeasured
ParentValue: = "Yes"
ParentHarvestCodes: 1
Need assistance with coding a case?

If you have a question about submitting a case that is clinical in nature, then please submit it to the FAQ Mailbox.

• Refer to your Training Manual
  • Has your question already been answered or clarified?

• If not, you will need
  • Participant Identification (PID)
    • This is a 5-digit number starting with a 5
  • Shortname and Sequence Number
    • Can be found on the annotated DCF or TM
  • As much information you can provide to help us answer your question
    • We can only answer based off the information you provide
FAQ Review Process

- Core Group Review
  - Meets monthly
  - We may ask you for more information
    - Can take up to 30 days for a response
  - Participant will receive an emailed response
- CHSD Training Manual Updated
Keys to Abstraction

• Organization is key
• Be consistent in where you obtain information but...
  • Pay attention to source documentation
    • Use data that meets the listed requirements
      • Timeframe
      • Mode of testing
  • If you can’t find it, ask your surgeon
• Do not guess. No data is better than bad data.
  • If you can’t find it, ask
  • This is different than out of range high/low value
Working with your Surgeons

- Surgeons are busy, be patient but persistent
- Be clear and concise
- Know what you are going to ask before you ask it
- Do your homework and know the facts
- Get involved with Quality Meetings and Department Meetings where the data is being discussed
- Ask to observe a case
- Offer to review data with the surgeon
- Offer tips on how documentation can be improved
  - Build EHR templates
  - Use Surgeon Worksheets
- Work with Nursing and OR staff – they can help you
Clean Data

• Your vendor will allow you to run internal QA checks on your data prior to submission

• IQVIA, the data warehouse provides you with
  • Data Quality Report
  • Missing Variable Report
  • Harvest Summary Report
  • Critical Error Report

• Next upgrade will have ‘on-save’ consistency checks built into your vendors software that will prevent you from saving your data if certain errors are present
Data Submission Deadlines

• Harvest submission deadlines occur twice a year for the Congenital Heart Surgery Database
  • Spring and Fall
    • Each report will include a composite rating
  • Voluntary Public Reporting
    Results are based on the Spring Harvest
Additional STS Resources

• Monthly Didactic Webinar
• Monthly User Group Calls
• Quarterly New Data Manager Webinars
• Advances in Quality and Outcomes: A Data Managers Meeting
  • Virtual with live and pre-recorded content
  • CEU’s available
Advances in Quality and Outcomes: A Data Managers Meeting (AQO)
Open Discussion

Please use the Q&A Function.

We will answer as many questions as possible.

We encourage your feedback and want to hear from you!
Thank you for joining!