

Welcome to the eighth issue of PITUS Update. The Project will provide regular updates on the progress of the Pathology Information Terminology and Units Standardisation (PITUS) project through this newsletter.

## PITUS 18 - 20

The inaugural PITUS 18 - 20 Project Steering Committee meeting was held via teleconference on 30 August; many thanks to all veteran and new members for their time and contributions. The PITUS 18 - 20 Project will continue to focus on three pathology aspects, namely: Information structures, Common terminology, and Common understanding; also, in this round, the Project will begin looking at Behavioural alignment.

Five working groups have been established and the Project welcomes interest for additional participants at any time. The working groups are:

Working Group	Chair	Working Group Focus
<b>Wg1</b> Evaluation & Promotion	Ken Sikaris <a href="mailto:ken.sikaris@mps.com.au">ken.sikaris@mps.com.au</a>	* Audit SPIA conformance in reports * Educate and promote SPIA uptake
<b>Wg2</b> Terminology Development	Lawrie Bott <a href="mailto:lawrie.bott@sonichealthcare.com.au">lawrie.bott@sonichealthcare.com.au</a>	* Maintain and expand pathology terminology reference sets * Provide advice to the National Clinical Terminology Service (NCTS) on pathology reference sets
<b>Wg3</b> Systems Design & Compliance	Michael Legg <a href="mailto:michael.legg@mlanda.com.au">michael.legg@mlanda.com.au</a>	* Specify systems for maintenance and publication of SPIA artefacts by NCTS * Develop FHIR extensions to record terminology related knowledge from SPIA * Devise a system for linkage of terminology to knowledge in Manual and Labtests On-line
<b>Wg4</b> SPRC Infostructure & Conformance	David Ellis <a href="mailto:dellis@clinpath.com.au">dellis@clinpath.com.au</a>	* Develop model and terminology for four protocols * Undertake Informatics External Quality Assurance (IEQA) trial for one protocol
<b>Wg5</b> Report Standardisation	Graham Jones <a href="mailto:Graham.jones@svha.org.au">Graham.jones@svha.org.au</a>	* Develop policy for results flagging * Develop policy for grouping tests in reports

## Stakeholders

The main stakeholders in the Project are listed below:

<b>RCPA Members</b>	* RCPA Board * Fellows	* Trainees * Other associates & members
<b>RCPA</b>	* PITUS steering committee & working groups * RCPA staff	* Other advisory committee members * Other volunteers & contractors * RCPA informatics committee
<b>Partners</b>	* RCPAQAP * HL7.au * ADHA * Consumers	* RACGP and other Colleges * Cancer Australia and Cancer Institute NSW * PAC member organisations
<b>Standards Development Organisations</b>	* NPAAC * HL7.au * ISO	* SNOMED International, Regenstrief * ADHA
<b>Regulators &amp; Funders</b>	* Government Departments * NATA * TGA	* Australian Information Commissioner * Human Research Ethics Committees

## Standards, information models and terminology reference sets

The Standards for Pathology Informatics in Australia (SPIA) v3.0 and associated information models and terminology reference sets were officially endorsed by the RCPA Board of Directors as policy in January 2017 following internal and public review and endorsement from all main stakeholders. The Standards for Pathology Informatics in Australia (SPIA) v3.0 and several discipline-specific terminology and information models are available on the [RCPA website](#). The RCPA pathology information models and terminology reference sets are also available from the Australian Digital Health Agency's [NCTS website](#) in a convenient zip file.

Please note, to access or download the RCPA information models and terminology reference sets you will need to [register](#) as an individual or organisation on the NCTS website and accept the [Registration Terms of Use](#). Further work will continue in each of these areas throughout this Project.

## Standards for electronic pathology messaging

A new HL7.au V2 Pathology Messaging Localisation has been approved by the HL7 Australia Board covering laboratory/diagnostics result reporting, laboratory/radiology ordering specification and referral messaging. This document and the specifications within supersede those in AS 4700.2-2012 - Implementation of Health Level Seven (HL7) Version 2.4 - Pathology and diagnostic imaging (diagnostics) and HB 262 (Rev)-2012 - Guidelines for messaging between diagnostic providers and health service providers, and AS 4700.6-2006 Implementation of Health Level Seven (HL7) Version 2.4 Part 6: Referral, discharge and health record messaging. [HL7AUSD-STD-OO-ADRM-2018.1 Australian Diagnostics and Referral Messaging – Localisation of HL7 Version 2.4](#)

## Structured Pathology Reporting of Cancer

The Structured Pathology Reporting of Cancer (SPRC) Project works originated at the RCPA but has expanded and is now incorporated within the International Collaboration on Cancer Reporting (ICCR). It is currently at Reporting Level 4 (electronic reporting tools); PITUS 18 – 20 will continue with Reporting Level 5 (standardised structured dataset with discrete data fields) and Level 6 (terminology binding e.g. ICD-O, LOINC, SNOMED-CT). Currently, Cancer reports are output in HL7 V2.4 messages, which may be displayed in PDF and HL7 FHIR XML formats. Large EMR vendors have now all agreed to use FHIR. Published Datasets may be found on the [ICCR website](#).

## Events

The RCPA Pathology Informatics Seminar will be held at the College in Sydney on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2018. Further information is available on the RCPA website [RCPA Pathology Informatics Seminar 2018](#).

## Thank you

As you may be aware, Donna Moore has contributed significantly to the outcomes and overall success of the PITUS projects to date. Donna has recently taken on a new challenge with Cirdan where her expertise and experience in pathology will be greatly appreciated without doubt. We wish you all the best with your new venture, Donna.

Vanessa Cameron will be taking on the PITUS project officer role and welcomes any queries you may have. Please feel free to contact Vanessa via the generic PITUS email [pitus@rcpa.edu.au](mailto:pitus@rcpa.edu.au) or [vanessac@rcpa.edu.au](mailto:vanessac@rcpa.edu.au).