Creating a Community Standard and Promoting Artificial Intelligence Research in Multiple Sclerosis: A Pre- and Post-Intervention Assessment of the Frequency of Common Data Elements (CDE) Reporting

Andrew S Kuhn, MD; Mike Lee, MD; Ajay Malhotra, MD, MMM; Vahe M Zohrabian, MD; Robert K Fulbright, MD; Ichiro Ikuta, MD, MMedSc

Yale University School of Medicine
Department of Radiology & Biomedical Imaging

Radiological Society of North America 2019 Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, USA
Thursday, December 5, 2019, 12:45 - 13:15, Room QR Community, Learning Center
WHAT’S A CDE AND WHY DOES IT MATTER?

• A CDE is a standardized reporting term to enhance data quality.

• It is not a template, but can be within one. A template is more general and includes non-disease specific findings.

• A CDE reports granular, disease-specific concepts.

Multiple Benefits of CDE’s:

1) Decreased risk of omitting key findings due to a checklist

2) Increased reader clarity due to consistency

3) Improved Data Mining for Artificial Intelligence Algorithms
METHODS

• Inclusion criteria: Spine MRI evaluating MS and/or Demyelinating Disease in the indication

• Exclusion criteria: Degenerative Spine Disease, Osteomyelitis, Metastatic Disease

• Before and after the introduction of CDE templates to the neuroradiology department on 1/1/2019, the PACS was queried for MRI Spine exams
METHODS

• The primary outcome was the change in reporting of CDE fields before and after the formal introduction of the CDE template, along with the percentage of the 11 CDE fields explicitly reported in each report.

• The secondary outcome was the adoption rate of CDE templates (these templates do not automatically populate for each report, and must be inserted when indicated).

- **ASNR-ACR-RSNA Common Data Elements (CDE) Multiple Sclerosis Spine**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lesion Number</th>
<th>Lesion Span</th>
<th>Cord Edema</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lesion Location</td>
<td>Cross-Sectional Extent</td>
<td>Cord Expansion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Largest Lesion Identified</td>
<td>T1-Appearance</td>
<td>Cord Expansion Span</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Largest Lesion Size</td>
<td>Enhancement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RESULTS

• From the pre-intervention period, the most frequently reported CDE were: cervical or thoracic location (95.9%), enhancement (93.8%), and lesion span (22.4%).
  • Meanwhile, the least consistently reported CDE were: lesion number (0%), T1-appearance (0%), and cord edema (0%).

• From the post-intervention period, the most frequently reported CDE were: enhancement (96%), cervical or thoracic location (92%), and largest lesion identified (76%).

• Reporting of all of the Common Data Elements increased across all fields following the intervention of introducing formal CDE templates, except in the case of location (96% pre-intervention and 92% post-intervention).
Reporting of all of the Common Data Elements increased across all fields following the intervention of introducing formal CDE templates, except in the case of location (96% pre-intervention and 92% post-intervention).
The case-by-case breakdown in overall percentage of CDE reporting between the pre-intervention and post-intervention cases, showing a demonstrable increase in the percentage of CDE each case reported following intervention.
CONCLUSION

• While the overall core concepts of normal anatomy may be conveyed in reports, major concepts in multiple sclerosis evaluation may not be explicitly reported.

• In addition to hindering quality assurance checks, the use of natural language processing and machine learning is also hindered by the use of broad general statements.

• The RSNA-ASNR-ACR CDE reporting templates provide a starting point for best-practice reporting. Based on the results of this study, a formal introduction of CDE templates into a neuroradiology section leads to a dramatic increase in the frequency by which these disease-specific common data elements are reported.
CONCLUSION

• CDE implementation has a beneficial impact on patient care by increasing the clarity of the reports, decreasing the risk of omitting findings, and leading to improved data curation for research purposes including deep learning algorithms.

• CDE templates also guide trainees' review of pertinent positives/negatives for specific disease entities, holding a great potential educational value.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REFERENCES

Thanks to the RSNA, ASNR, ACR, and Yale Radiology & Biomedical Imaging

References:


