



Quality Assurance Committee Report to the General Assembly – April 2010

The 2010 work plan, linking to the IHTSDO 2010 work plan, for the Quality Assurance Committee has been progressing well. Revised Committee Terms of Reference were approved, a number of projects were completed and changes were made to project group reporting as a result of the establishment of the Innovation and Implementation Committee. Highlighted below is a summary of the Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) work over the last six months, supported by the Chief Quality Officer, and in support of IHTSDO's objective to enhance the quality of its products and processes.

Implementation of the Quality Assurance Framework.

The Quality Assurance Framework has been well received by the project groups and staff that have been involved in the trial implementation period. Input from these users was captured and analysed and a revised version of the Framework has been shared for review. The final Quality Assurance Framework document will be published after the Copenhagen meeting (May 2010).

Starting in 2010 the framework will be used to identify quality metrics for all new projects now that it has been incorporated into the IHTSDO project template.

SNOMED CT Content Work Related to Quality

A report entitled *A Review and Options Appraisal for the Development of Quality Improvement Metrics related to SNOMED CT Content* was commissioned by the QAC. The report, which summarized findings obtained from interviews and literature review, included a number of recommendations for quality metrics. These recommendations will be analysed in detail and quality metrics will be established. In addition, this report will be used as the basis for the development of corporate quality metrics as per the IHTSDO strategic objectives to 2012. Work on the corporate metrics will be done in conjunction with the Content Committee. To this end, a joint meeting of the QAC and Content Committee will take place at the April 2010 IHTSDO meeting in Copenhagen.

In addition the QAC continues to work with CAP STS to make short term changes and changes that will be incorporated into the Workbench.

Survey of IHTSDO Request Submission Users

Results of the survey of 50+ individuals who have used the request submission process over the last 2 years have been analysed and report findings have been distributed to survey respondents. A communication strategy has also been developed to facilitate distribution of report findings. Based on feedback received, the survey has been revised and plans are underway to repeat the survey and to extend it to at least one National Release Centre.

Work of Project Groups

The creation of the Innovation and Implementation (I&I) Committee resulted in a number of reporting changes at the project group level. The Education group has moved from the QAC umbrella to the I&I Committee while the Translation group,



and its affiliates, now report through the QAC. In addition the QAC will oversee the activity of the newly established Collaborative Editing Project Group, which will have its inaugural meeting in Copenhagen in April.

Development of a Quality Plan

The Quality Assurance Committee is developing a Quality Plan which takes forward the quality aspects of the Strategic Direction document. This document, which will articulate all of the quality initiatives currently underway and planned, will be a useful reference document for the IHTSDO.