

CODING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (CTC) AGENDA
AWCBC ALL COMMITTEES MEETING
Virtual – May 11 & 12, 2021

CTC MEMBERS

Co-chairs: Diane Baker (NB) and Veronica Marshall (AB)

Sean Swenarchuk (MB)

Doug Roberts (NS)

Aviaja Kunuk (NWT/NU)

Analiza Gabriel (ON)

Natalia Kalnina (ON)

Laura Lee MacEwen (PE)

Lynn Bourgeois (SK)

Non-voting member: Samantha Greene (NL) *becomes voting member in September 2021*

CTC TERMS OF REFERENCE

- Review every year

2020 CODING EXERCISE RESULTS

- Did all jurisdictions participate?
- Jurisdictional scores
- National scores by variable
- Scenarios with the most errors
- “Years of NWISP coding experience” Is it working this year?
- Any feedback regarding jurisdictions being able to collaborate for the first time? How did it go?
- Any questions from jurisdictions regarding errors/answer key?
- Any changes required to coding manual? (additional wording, examples, etc.)

2021 CODING EXERCISE

Continue to request 5 sample coding scenarios from each jurisdiction.

- Request sample cases by: September 30, 2021
- Start date: December 1, 2021
- Completion date: March 31, 2022
- Evaluation report distributed by: April 29, 2022

PSYCHOLOGICAL INJURY CODING EXERCISE - HISTORY

- New codes were created in January 2019
- Decision was made to prepare a psychological injury coding exercise for a few years

2020 PSYCHOLOGICAL INJURY CODING EXERCISE - SUMMARY

- This exercise wasn't graded
- It contained six scenarios (taken from samples submitted for the national coding exercise)
- Jurisdictions were given one month to complete the exercise
- Did all jurisdictions participate?
- CTC recommended updates the Coding Psychological Injuries how-to guide and the Coding Manual
- Any questions from jurisdictions regarding errors/answer key?

2021 PSYCHOLOGICAL INJURY CODING EXERCISE?

- Should the CTC prepare a psychological injury coding exercise for 2021? **or**
- Should psychological injury scenarios become part of the national coding exercise again?

ONGOING REVIEW OF RESOLVED ISSUES TO DETERMINE VALIDITY OF DATA

- 95 issues reviewed by CTC chair in 2020.
- 21 issues are flagged for CTC review for possible updates

AOC SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS (UPDATE)

AOC Issues:

- Resolved issues currently open at the Resolution tab, so coders wouldn't mistake draft/question documents under the Issue tab as being final documents.
- In 2019, it was questioned whether the issue's description could be added to the Resolution tab, so all information is together, like on the "Resolved" automated emails.
- On the 2020 CTC Minutes, it was questioned if an easier fix is to set the issues to open at the Issue tab again, since we rarely see documents added when an issue is created.
- Jilal advised there is still an IT backlog. This is on hold. Non-urgent.

NEW EVENT CODES (UPDATE)

- On the 2020 CTC Minutes, it was noted new codes were being considered for violence/patient handling/contact with person
- The following new codes were created effective January 1, 2021:
 - 29002 Bodily reaction and exertion involving physical contact with another person in sporting event or physical training
 - 29003 Bodily reaction and exertion while handling person who is resistant/noncompliant
 - 61910 Physical contact with another person when restraining, subduing
 - 61920 Bullying
- Includes, excludes and descriptions for new codes have also been added to the Coding Manual

MORE CODING EXERCISES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR?

- During the 2020 CTC Meeting, it was questioned whether specific coding exercises based on problem areas should be done throughout the year
- The CTC put this on hold, to discuss again in 2021
- Is this still something we want to do? Does it fit into jurisdictional workloads?
(At the present time, the CTC is having trouble keeping to the two-week turnaround time for recommending resolutions for new issues due to workloads, etc.)
- Things to consider if we create more coding exercises during the year:
 - The CTC will select cases, prepare answer keys, review errors
 - How do we know what the problem areas are in the jurisdictions?
 - How many scenarios on these coding exercises?
 - How many extra coding exercises per year?
 - When will these coding exercises take place?
 - How long do they have to complete the exercises?
 - Non-graded?

AOC CODER TRAINING TOOL MAINTENANCE

- In 2019, updates were made to the online coder training modules. No new content added.
- Suggestions for new training material? (Psych injury + physical injury, etc.)
- Would have to verify with Jilal if new content can be added/may require IT hours.
- Also, adding the rationale would be so helpful for coders, if that is possible.
(If it is possible to add rationale, this may be ongoing for some time, since there are eight modules)

ISSUES IN PROGRESS TO DISCUSS?

TOP 3 FOR CTC

- 1) National Coding Exercise
- 2) Psychological Injury Coding Exercise – if preparing one in 2021
- 3) New issues

(The CTC worked on 24 new issues in 2020)

CTC WORKPLAN (Processes and Timelines) see next page

1) **NATIONAL CODING EXERCISE:**

(Sample cases are required by September 30, 2021)

- Mid-July: (Diane) Request samples from jurisdictions
- Beginning and near the end of September: (Diane) Send reminders
- Beginning of October: (Diane) Ask CTC to select possible cases
- End of October: (Diane/CTC) Conference call to choose the 12 cases
- November: (Diane/CTC) Conference call(s) to discuss wording of scenarios and start the Answer Key discussion

(Coding Exercise Start Date December 1, 2021)

- January 2022: (Diane/CTC) Conference call(s) if required (continue answer key)
- Target Date: Beginning of February 2022: (Diane) Prepare draft Answer Key and Rationale document for CTC review
- Target date: End of February 2022: (Diane) Enter the Answer Key and Rationale onto the AOC before end date
- Beginning of February and mid-March: (Diane) Send reminder regarding end date

(Coding Exercise End Date March 31, 2022)

- By April 30, 2022: (Diane) Distribute the evaluation reports/scores
- By early May: (Diane/CTC) Review errors and make recommendations for Coding Manual

2) **PSYCHOLOGICAL INJURY CODING EXERCISE:**

Will there be a psychological injury coding exercise in 2021? If so:

(Sample cases chosen by beginning of October 2021)

- Beginning of October: (Diane/CTC) Chose psychological scenarios from the samples submitted for the national coding exercise
- Beginning/Mid October: (Diane/CTC) Conference call(s) to discuss wording of scenarios and start the Answer Key discussion
- Mid-October: (Diane) Send to AWCBC for branding.

(Psychological Injury Coding Exercise Start Date November 1, 2021)

- November 1, 2021: Start Date
- In November: (Diane/CTC) Continue working on answer key
- Near end of November 2021: (Diane) Send reminder to jurisdictions

(Psychological Injury Coding Exercise End Date November 30, 2021)

- November 30, 2021: Completion date
- Beginning of December: (Diane/CTC) Conference call to review answers received, decide recommendations for coding manual based on errors
- Beginning/Mid December: (Diane) Distribute Answer Key

3) **NEW ISSUES**

- Continue striving for a two-week turnaround for a recommended resolution.