

DI Is Ready For Your 2010 NTDB Call For Data

The American College of Surgeons (ACS) will be commencing its 2010 Call For Data within the next 2 weeks. The call for data will run from early March until May 14th, 2010. We anticipate most hospitals will submit their final data submissions in April 2010 to allow ample time to close out of 2009 admissions, complete final data validation processes and apply the NTDB software updates.

Digital Innovation (DI) has developed an implementation plan to support this timeline. The details of this plan are outlined in this document. In short, this implementation plan will allow all DI clients to perform their NTDB data submission by the required deadline using the latest ACS NTDS Validator.

Important Note Regarding 2009 Validator Update

In December 2009, the ACS released an updated data dictionary for 2010. In conjunction, the ACS also revised the 2009 data validation requirements to enforce some of the 2010 edit checks. For this reason, a new Validator is required and should be run on all 2009 admissions. This new Validator is included in the NTDS Module update. Fortunately, DI's NTDS Module contains a batch validation capability that will allow this to be done across all your patients in a single process!

Since the 2009 Validator will enforce the 2010 data quality standards, there may be some additional data cleanup that will be required. To assist in this regard, DI's development staff has been preparing additional updates to the NTDS Module. These include auto mapping capabilities that can help streamline or minimize this cleanup if needed, as well as support for the 2010 Call For Data submission and data validation standards.

The NTDS Module update will be provided to DI clients according to the timeline below.

Timeline For Submitting Data to the NTDB

We recommend the following approach for preparing and submitting data to the NTDB:

- **Now – Mid / Late March**
 - Visit the NTDB data center web site to verify correct login information, that all agreements are in place, and that hospital survey information is correct to confirm readiness for the 2010 Call for Data.
 - <http://www.ntdbdatacenter.com/>
 - Review 2010 NTDS Data Dictionary and/or change log
 - Dictionary:
<http://www.ntdsdictionary.org/documents/NationalTraumaDataStandardDictionary2010.pdf>
 - Change log:
<http://www.ntdsdictionary.org/documents/CHANGELOG2010.pdf>

- **Mid / Late March – Early April**
 - Receive and install your new NTDS Module update provided by DI.
 - Once you receive your update, schedule time with DI Support for assistance in performing the installation if desired.
 - Note there may be a 1-2 week variance for users of certain customized systems due to the diversity of the NTDS user base.
 - Perform an initial validation of data in your registry to assess data quality and readiness to submit to the NTDB using the newly revised 2009 Validator.
 - Build a plan for any needed data cleanup. Additional assistance with this is available from DI Staff upon request.

- **Late March – Late April**
 - Perform data cleanup plans.
 - Run the Validator report to monitor progress in aligning to NTDS standards.

- **April – Early May**
 - Upload final submission to the NTDB and then approve your submission.

DI Staff will be with you every step of the way!

Further “how-to” information is also available within the NTDS Module User Guide written for your registry and we also offer a pre-recorded video tutorial companion for the User Guide.

If you have any questions at this time, the following contacts are available for email and phone assistance and we will be happy to help you find the answers you need.

- NTDB web site assistance: ntdbsubmit@dicorp.com / 800-344-3668 ext. 227
- DI NTDS Module support: support@dicorp.com / 800-344-3668 opt. 4
- ACS clinical and NTDS / NTDB questions: jmcmurray@facs.org / 312-202-5538 / <http://www.facs.org/trauma/ntdb/index.html>