Considerations for an IIS Implementing National Drug Codes

Aaron Bieringer

MIIC Interoperability and Technical Lead

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Outline

- Background

- Our Objectives

- Options Reviewed and Selected

- Challenges

- Considerations for Others

Minnesota Immunization Information Connection (MIIC) Background

- Lifespan immunization information system (IIS) established in 2002

- Contains over 84 million immunizations for 8 million clients

- Most immunizing providers participate
  - Mandate only for pharmacists

- 12 file formats (4 HL7 versions)

- Roughly 400,000 updates and 1 million queries monthly

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What are National Drug Codes (NDC)?

- Unique 3-segment numbers that serve as universal product identifiers for drugs

- 10-digit codes of variable segment lengths

- Normalized to 11 digits

Labeler Package

49281-0386-15

Product

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Why use NDC codes?

- Meaningful Use Stage 3 requirement
- Very specifically define vaccine administered

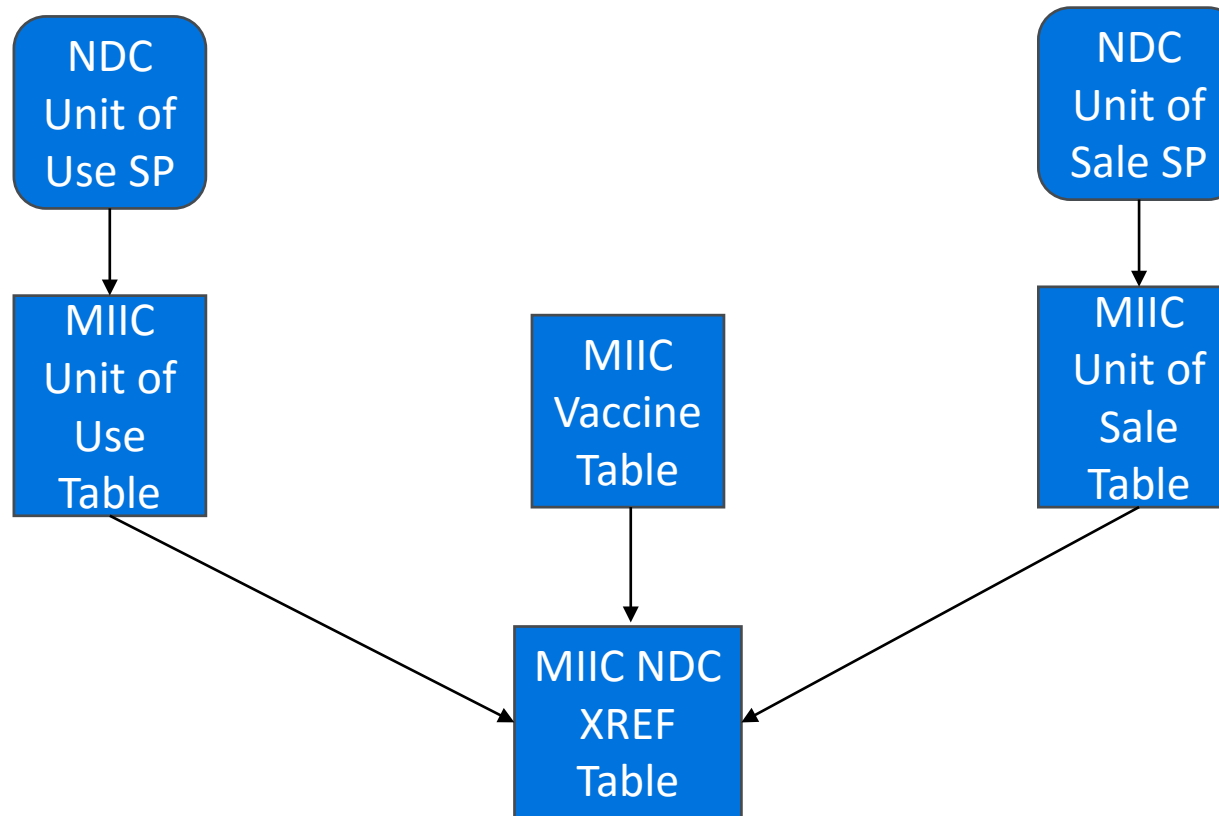| Vaccine	CPT	CVX	MVX	NDC 11
Fluzone 6-35 mo	90657	141	PMC	49281-0386-15
Fluzone 3+ yrs	90658	141	PMC	49281-0390-15
Imovax	90675	18	PMC	49281-0249-01
RabAvert	90675	175	PMC	63851-0501-02
Havrix	90632	52	SKB	58160-0826-43
VAQTA	90632	52	MSD	00006-4096-01

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Our Objectives

- Fewest possible changes to existing tables

- Easy to set up and maintain

- Easy data import method for future NDC updates

- Easy mapping method for future code sets

- Maintain full NDC specificity

- In place by 1/1/2017

Options Considered

- **Storing NDC code in place of Vaccine ID**
  - Pro: Maintains NDC specificity
  - Con: Requires replacing all instances of Vaccine ID with NDC (huge effort)

- **Mapping NDC to CVX**
  - Pro: Almost no change to existing processing logic or tables, quick and easy to do
  - Con: Loses significant NDC specificity

- **Mapping NDC to Vaccine ID**
  - Pro: Meets almost all of our objectives
  - Con: Slightly more complex set-up

Implementation

Next Steps

- Pilot sites

- Account for trade name

- Determine incoming code sets

- Send NDC back in query responses

Challenges

- Staff turnover

- Poor project management

- CVX/CPT/MVX/NDC code mapping

- Not many other IIS have implemented

- Time

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Considerations for Other IIS

- Communicate during development

- Dedicated staff

- Thorough regression testing

- Consider what you and your partners will want from NDC

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Contact Information

Aaron Bieringer

MIIC Interoperability and Technical Lead

Minnesota Department of Health

aaron.bieringer@state.mn.us

651-201-4071

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