Moving From Lab Data Items to Clinical Elements

Before the availability of Clinical Elements, Practice Partner users had to save reusable data as lab data. They would create a lab name for each item they wanted to save or follow, and could put these items in a lab table or even flow sheet. Typical saved data would include Smoking Status, Last Menstrual Period, Handedness, Warfarin Dose, Lightheadedness, etc.

When Clinical Elements were introduced, a conversion utility to convert Lab Data to Clinical Element Data was sorely needed, but was never developed. Consequently, many users simply kept using Lab Data in their templates, since the data were there, and the templates worked.

Now that we have Meaningful Use issues, and a mandate to provide patients with a Visit Summary that includes lab results, migrating these data into Clinical Elements becomes more important. Patients would prefer not to see personal data like Erectile Dysfunction or Incontinence listed in a lab table, and these data seem inappropriate to be displayed in lab tables viewed in Web View.

I have slowly been converting my templates and quick texts to Clinical Elements the last couple of years, and thought it might be helpful to show how the process works.

Let's start with a quick text I use for the subjective data for following patients with hyperprolactinemia. Here is the original quick text, which I haven't modified in 6 or 7 years:

```
HYPERPROLACTINEMIA                    SUBJECTIVE:  «*NewOnset»«*Follow*Up»

||IF LAB<HighProlactinDate> <> "" {LAB<HighProlactinDate>} ELSE {<BR>.L:
HighProlactinDate:«*» }||

||LAB<SellaImageDate>||

.L: SellaImageDate: «DEL»

||LAB<*Endocrinologist>||

.L: *Endocrinologist: «DEL»

The patient «*CompUf»«*denies» «*theFollow» side effects from his medications: «*» .

The patient currently has the following symptoms:

||LAB<Decreased Libido> ||

.L: Decreased Libido: «del» «*never» «*Rare» «*Often» «*always»  «*Mild» «*Moderate»
«*Severe»

||LAB<Erectile Dysfunct> ||

.L: Erectile Dysfunct: «del» «*never» «*Rare» «*Often» «*always»  «*Mild» «*Moderate»
«*Severe»<BR>

Recent Lab:

||LAB<PROLACTIN>[-Date]||

||LAB<TESTOSTERONE>[-Date]||
```

I am not at all proud of the above, but it worked for me for many years. In converting to Clinical Elements, the first step is to decide what you will name the Clinical Elements, and to create them. In revising the template, I added the following Clinical Element Names: HighProlactinDate, SellaImageDate, Hyperprolactin Cause, Consultant-Endo, DA Agonist Side Effects, Decreased Libido, Galactorrhea, Erectile Dysfunction, and Amenorrhea.

The next step was to set up a process to show me the old Lab Data values when I went through the conversion. This conditional logic statement shows how I do this:

```
||IF CE<HighProlactinDate> = "" {«** LAB<HighProlactinDate> **» <BR>.CE:
HighProlactinDate: «*» } ELSE {Date of first elevated prolactin:
CE<HighProlactinDate> «*Edit_HighProlactinDate»}||
```

The lable `«** LAB<HighProlactinDate> **»` brings in the most recent lab data value for this, is delineated as a "comment" by the two asterisks at the beginning and end of the lable, and, like all lables, disappears when the note is saved. The logic statement tests to see if there is a value for the Clinical Element HighProlactinDate, and if there is no value, then it shows what the Lab Data Value for it was, starts a new line, and provides the dot code for putting in the visible Lab Data Value into the Clinical Element with the same name. If there is already a value present for CE<HighProlactinDate>, the previous Lab Data Value is not shown, and instead the phrase "Date of first elevated prolactin:" is displayed, followed by the value of CE<HighProlactinDate>. The final quick text, `«*Edit_HighProlactinDate»` , simply deletes the line, and provides a way to edit the CE.

The rest of the revised quick text, shown below, brings in the etiology of the hyperprolactinemia, the name of the patient's endocrinologist, if he has one, the most recent dopamine agonist side effects, if any, and the most recent symptoms of hyperprolactinemia for men and women, with provisions for editing all of the above. Finally, the most recent prolactin level and testosterone level (if any) is brought in.

Most recent revision of subjective hyperprolactinemia quick text:

```
HYPERPROLACTINEMIA                          SUBJECTIVE:  «*NewOnset»«*Follow*Up»

||IF CE<HighProlactinDate> = "" {«** LAB<HighProlactinDate> **» <BR>.CE:
HighProlactinDate: «*» } ELSE {Date of first elevated prolactin: CE<HighProlactinDate>
«*Edit_HighProlactinDate»}||

||IF CE<SellaImageDate> = "" {«** LAB<SellaImageDate> **» <BR>.CE: SellaImageDate: «*» }
ELSE {Date of most recent sella image: CE<SellaImageDate> «*Edit_SellaImageDate»}||

Hyperprolactin Etiology:«del» ||CE<Hyperprolactin Cause>||«*EditHyperprolactinCause»

||IF CE<Consultant-Endo> = "" {«** LAB<*Endocrinologist> **» «BR».CE: Consultant-Endo:
«*»} ELSE {Endocrinologist: CE<Consultant-Endo> «*EditEndocrinologist»}||

Dopamine agonist side effects: «del»||CE<DA Agonist Side Effects|| «*Edit_DA_SE»

The patient currently has the following symptoms of elevated prolactin:

||IF CE<Decreased Libido> = "" {LAB<Decreased Libido> «BR».CE: Decreased Libido:
«DEL»«*never»«*Rare»«*Often»«*always» «*Mild»«*Moderate»«*Severe» } ELSE {Decreased
libido: CE<Decreased Libido> «*EditDecrLibido»}||

Galactorrhea:  ||CE<Galactorrhea>|| «*Edit_Galactorrhea»

||IF PAT_SEX = "male" {Erectile Dysfunction: CE<Erectile Dysfunction>
«*EditErectileDysfunction»} ELSE {Amenorrhea: CE<Amenorrhea> «*Edit_Amenorrhea»}||

Recent Lab:

||LAB<PROLACTIN>[-Date]||

||LAB<TESTOSTERONE>[-Date]||
```

I hope this is helpful to those of you who need to convert lab values to clinical elements.