

# A User Guide for Creating a Stroke Data Reliability Process



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## Overview

Ensuring data reliability of a hospital's stroke abstracts is essential to its credibility and value. As stroke abstractors range from novice to expert, the need for a process to determine reliability of data entry that will demonstrate knowledge deficits and learning opportunities is essential. This user guide will provide step-by-step directions on how to prepare for, create, and analyze stroke data for reliability. This guide is relevant for hospitals entering into the Get With the Guidelines® (GWTGs) - Stroke Registry.

## Acknowledgements

Contributors to the content and production of this user guide include:

- Dot Bluma, BSN, RN, CPHQ Stroke Project Specialist, MetaStar, Inc.
- Jessica Link, MPH, MCHES®, Coverdell Program Director, Wisconsin Department of Health Services
- Renee Sednew, MPH, Senior Director, Quality & Systems Improvement, American Heart Association
- Susan Abelt, MS, Director, Quality & Systems Improvement, American Heart Association

## Preparing

The first steps to perform in creating a reliability process are to:

1. Determine who your re-abstractor is. This is someone different than the abstractor.
2. Contact your local American Heart Association (AHA) to notify them of the need for a free GWTGs re-abstractation site. Your local AHA contact is found on the GWTGs Community Page.

Next, determine the data you would like to analyze for agreement between two abstractors. The Wisconsin Coverdell Stroke Program analyzes five records and 30 data elements quarterly. It is important to analyze performance measures consistent with your stroke certification level to ensure abstractors' understanding of the data elements and identify learning opportunities. For ease of demonstrating the process, this user guide will look at three GWTGs data elements:

- Was patient screened for dysphagia prior to any oral intake, including water or medications?
- Was antithrombotic therapy administered by the end of hospital day 2?
- Were cholesterol reducing treatment instructions or medication provided at discharge?

The final step in preparing for your reliability process is to determine your random sample. The Joint Commission does not recommend a methodology to monitor data reliability, but does suggest five abstracts be reviewed per quarter. A simple random sampling method may be utilized. With this method, each abstract is equally likely to be chosen, removing potential bias. Simply assign each abstract a number starting with one, then write each number on a separate piece of paper. Fold each piece of paper and put them in a box, then draw five of these numbers. This is your random selection!



This user guide will demonstrate the creation of data downloads and analyzing for reliability five randomly selected cases: 1903, 1907, 1910, 1915, and 1917.

# Creating





Log into your GWTGs abstraction site and click on the Run Reports icon.

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**Get Started!**  
Stroke N/A N/A   


**Trainings**  
**Advanced Reporting:** Learn more about using measures interface features such as filters, display options, and exporting your reports to PDF and Excel.  
**Downloading:** Learn how to quickly access your data in a spreadsheet format  
**HF:** An introduction to the HF tool, including navigating the system, entering data, and running reports  
**Report Writer:** Create customized reports on your data  
**Stroke:** An introduction to the Stroke tool, including navigating the system, entering data, and running reports  
**Uploader 2.0:** Step-by-step instructions on the file creation and upload processes  
**Resuscitation:** An introduction to the Resuscitation tool, including navigating the system, entering data, and running reports

**LEGEND:**  
 New Patient  
 All Patients  
 Reports  
 Resources  
  
*This system and all materials herein are confidential and are the property of Quintiles or the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association, as separately agreed between them.*

**My Hospital**  

	Start Date	AHA Baseline Date
Stroke	0	N/A
TOTAL	0	

**Snapshot**  

	# of Hospitals:	# of Records:
AtrialFib	197	59177
CAD	470	117128
Heart Failure	1204	1678500
Resuscitation - Patients	889	952230
Resuscitation - CPA		429714
Resuscitation - ARC		62440
Resuscitation - MET		661310
Resuscitation - PCAC		2029
Stroke	2970	5156059

Click on Download.

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**Reports User Manual**

**Site-Level Reports**

**Configurable Measure Reports**  
Build your own Quality Measure Reports


**Pre-Defined Measure Reports**  
Select from the Most Common Measure Reports or run your previously saved report types.

**Stroke InSights Data Quality Report**

**Stroke Mortality Report**

**Data Quality Review**

**Submission Error Report**  
Submission Errors identified by QualityNet and The Joint Commission.



Select Stroke in the Select Forms section.

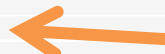
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Current Users: Dot Plums, CBR, JUDON, Microsoft, Div of Public Health, CBR, TD: 73137

[Data Download Tool Help](#)

**Choose Fields and Time Period for Download**

Select Forms	<div>All Forms Stroke Stroke Post Discharge Follow Up Form</div> 
Complete records	
Date range	From: 2019 Jan To: 2019 Jan <input type="checkbox"/> Include Patients without Core Dates
Format Download File	Coded fields format: <input type="radio"/> As Descriptives <input checked="" type="radio"/> As Codes ( <a href="#">Help</a> ) Multiselect fields format: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Split Fields <input type="radio"/> Single Field ( <a href="#">Help</a> )

[Generate Download File](#)

Please be patient after making your selection, as it may take the server a few minutes to compile your data.

The following DDT requests were completed within the past 24 hours and are available for download.

Go to the Select Individual Fields and left click on the desired data elements you want to analyze. The data elements are listed in the same order as the Patient Management Tool (PMT). Remember to hold the ctrl key down when selecting multiple data measures.

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Select a Set of Fields

☐ Coverdell ☐ Michigan

☐ MaRISS

☐ JC STK Clinical XML

☐ JC STK Population XML

☐ CMS Outpatient Population XML

☐ CMS STK Clinical XML

☐ CMS STK Population XML

☐ JC CSTK Clinical XML

☐ JC CSTK Population XML

☐ JC CSTK-MRS Clinical XML

Select Individual Fields

(Hold down the "Ctrl" key to select multiple fields.  
Click on a single entry to de-select all but that entry.)

Reason for Oral Factor Xa Inhibitor

Other Therapeutic Anticoagulation

Was DVT or PE documented?

Was antithrombotic therapy administered by the end of hospital

Antithrombotic day 2 type

Reason for Not Administering Antithrombotic Therapy by End of

Was patient treated for a urinary tract infection (UTI) during this

If patient was treated for a UTI, did the patient have a Foley cath

Total Cholesterol:

Triglycerides:

Save the Set of Fields (optional):

Save

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Current User: Dot Bluma Site: WIDPH - Wisconsin Div of Public Health Site ID: 73127

Select a Set of Fields

☐ Coverdell ☐ Michigan

☐ MaRISS

☐ JC STK Clinical XML

☐ JC STK Population XML

☐ CMS Outpatient Population XML

☐ CMS STK Clinical XML

☐ CMS STK Population XML

☐ JC CSTK Clinical XML

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Total Cholesterol:

Triglycerides:

Save the Set of Fields (optional):

Save

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Select a Set of Fields

☐ Coverdell ☐ Michigan

☐ MaRISS

☐ JC STK Clinical XML

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☐ CMS Outpatient Population XML

☐ CMS STK Clinical XML

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☐ JC CSTK Clinical XML

☐ JC CSTK Population XML

☐ JC CSTK-MRS Clinical XML

Select Individual Fields

(Hold down the "Ctrl" key to select multiple fields.  
Click on a single entry to de-select all but that entry.)

Other Antithrombotic(s) Med 2

Other Antithrombotic(s) Dose 2

Other Antithrombotic(s) Freq 2

Persistent or Paroxysmal Atrial Fibrillation/Flutter:

If atrial fibrillation or history of PAF documented, was patient disc

If NO, documented reasons for no anticoagulation:

Anti-hypertensive Tx:

Cholesterol Reducing Tx:

Statin Medication

Statin Dose

Reason for Not Prescribing Statin Medication at Discharge:

Save the Set of Fields (optional):

Save

Save your download if you will be using it again. All saved downloads can be found in the Saved Sets.

Continue formatting your download by selecting the timeframe desired. Format the download file by selecting As Descriptives and Single Field. Then click Generate Download File.

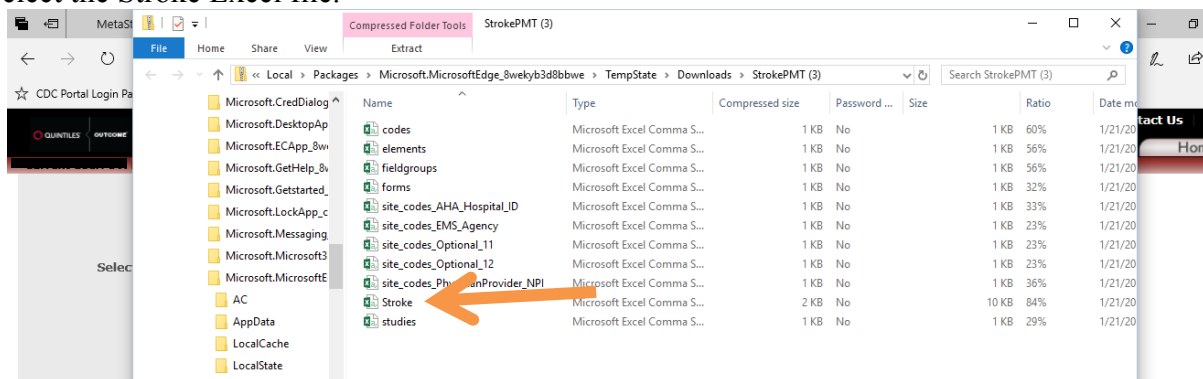
Upon selecting Generate Download File, this screen will appear. In a few moments, you will be sent an email notifying you when your download is complete. Upon this email notification, click on Back to Data Download Tool.

Click on Download completed DDT request.

Open the download.

The screenshot shows the QINTEL website interface. On the left, there's a 'Select Individual Fields' section with a list of fields including 'Stroke Form Type Bitmap', 'ASR Form Group Present', 'Gender', 'Date of Birth', 'Age', 'Homeless Stroke', 'Zip Code Stroke', 'Zip Code Ext Stroke', 'Health Insurance Status', and 'Payment Source - Medicare'. Below this is a 'Complete records' section with a checkbox for 'Include Complete Records Only'. The 'Date range' section shows 'From: 1009' and 'To: 2019' with month dropdowns. The 'Format Download File' section has radio buttons for 'As Descriptives' and 'As Codes (Help)', and 'Multiselect fields format' with radio buttons for 'Split Fields' and 'Single Field (Help)'. At the bottom, there's a 'Generate Download File' button. A dialog box is open asking 'What do you want to do with StrokePMT.zip (4.3 KB)?' with 'Open', 'Save', and 'Cancel' buttons. An orange arrow points to the 'Open' button.

Select the Stroke Excel file.



Our download of abstractions has 19 cases. To look at only the five random cases selected, you can delete columns C-E and I-V, and rows 13, 5-7, 9-10, 12-15, 17, and 19-20.

The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet titled 'Reliability - Excel'. The table contains 20 rows of data. The columns are: A (site\_id), B (patient\_id), C (study\_id), D (procstep), E (formdata), F (gs\_dysphgs), G (gs\_antiplgs), H (gs\_cholre), I (status), J (created\_dt), K (created\_by), L (updated\_dt), M (updated\_by), N (version), O (dyn\_strok), and P (dyn\_coveid). Rows 13, 5-7, 9-10, 12-15, 17, and 19-20 are highlighted with a yellow background.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
1	site_id	patient_id	study_id	procstep	formdata	gs_dysphgs	gs_antiplgs	gs_cholre	status	created_dt	created_by	updated_dt	updated_by	version	dyn_strok	dyn_coveid
2	12345	1901	1388	1457	1 Yes	Yes	Statin	Complete	1/4/2019 15:31	Abby Abtractor (aabtractor)				800	1	1
3	12345	1902	1388	1457	1 Yes	Yes	None - coi	Complete	1/4/2019 16:19	Abby Abtractor (aabtractor)				800	1	1
4	12345	1903	1388	1457	2 Yes	NC	Statin	Complete	1/6/2019 7:42	Abby Abtractor (aabtractor)				800	1	1
5	12345	1904	1388	1457	1 Yes	Yes	None - coi	Complete	1/6/2019 8:41	Abby Abtractor (aabtractor)				800	1	1
6	12345	1905	1388	1457	1 Yes	Yes	Statin	Complete	1/7/2019 11:28	Abby Abtractor (aabtractor)				800	1	1
7	12345	1906	1388	1457	1 Yes	No/ND	None pre	Complete	1/7/2019 12:57	Abby Abtractor (aabtractor)				800	1	1
8	12345	1907	1388	1457	1 Yes	Yes	Statin	Complete	1/7/2019 13:01	Abby Abtractor (aabtractor)				800	1	1
9	12345	1908	1388	1457	1 Yes	Yes	Statin	Complete	1/7/2019 13:01	Abby Abtractor (aabtractor)				800	1	1
10	12345	1909	1388	1457	1 No/ND	Yes	Statin	Complete	1/8/2019 17:35	Abby Abtractor (aabtractor)				800	1	1
11	12345	1910	1388	1457	1 Yes	NC	Statin:Fibi	Complete	1/9/2019 11:23	Abby Abtractor (aabtractor)				800	1	1
12	12345	1911	1388	1457	1 Yes	Yes	Statin	Complete	1/10/2019 15:16	Abby Abtractor (aabtractor)				800	1	1
13	12345	1912	1388	1457	1 NC		None - coi	Complete	1/10/2019 15:54	Abby Abtractor (aabtractor)				800	1	1
14	12345	1913	1388	1457	1 Yes	Yes	Other mei	Complete	1/10/2019 16:32	Abby Abtractor (aabtractor)				800	1	1
15	12345	1914	1388	1457	1 Yes	NC	Statin	Complete	1/10/2019 16:57	Abby Abtractor (aabtractor)				800	1	1
16	12345	1915	1388	1457	1 Yes	Yes	Statin	Complete	1/10/2019 17:55	Abby Abtractor (aabtractor)				800	1	1
17	12345	1916	1388	1457	1 Yes	Yes	None pre	Complete	1/10/2019 18:40	Abby Abtractor (aabtractor)				800	1	1
18	12345	1917	1388	1457	1 Yes	Yes	Statin	Complete	1/14/2019 7:56	Abby Abtractor (aabtractor)				800	1	1
19	12345	1918	1388	1457	1 No/ND	Yes	Statin	Complete	1/14/2019 14:37	Abby Abtractor (aabtractor)				800	1	1
20	12345	1919	1388	1457	1 Yes	Yes	Statin	Complete	1/14/2019 19:56	Abby Abtractor (aabtractor)				800	1	1



You are left with a much easier data set to analyze. The hospital abstraction identification number is 12345 in column A. The five abstractions chosen randomly for selection are in Column B. The desired data measures are seen in:

- Column C: Was patient screened for dysphagia prior to any oral intake, including water or medications?
- Column D: Was antithrombotic therapy administered by the end of hospital day 2?
- Column E: Were Cholesterol Reducing Treatment instructions or medication provided at discharge?

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
1	site_os_id	patient_os_id	gs_dysphagia	gs_antiplatetadm	gs_cholredtx													
2	12345	1903	Yes	NC	Statin													
3	12345	1907	Yes	Yes	Statin													
4	12345	1910	Yes	NC	Statin:Fibrate													
5	12345	1915	Yes	Yes	Statin													
6	12345	1917	Yes	Yes	Statin													

Notify your re-abtractor of the randomly selected cases chosen. Decide on a timeline for completion. They will then re-abtract the random selection into your hospital's re-abstraction site using the same identification number. Once the cases have been re-abtracted, create a download in your re-abstraction site identical to the one just detailed in your abstraction site.

Once you have downloaded the re-abstractions, delete columns C-E and I-V, and rows 1–3, 5–7, 9–10, 12–15, 17, and 19–20. You are left with the same rows and columns as from the abstraction download with the exception of column A. Your hospital re-abstraction identification number is 67891.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
1	site_os_id	patient_os_id	gs_dysphagia	gs_antiplatetadm	gs_cholredtx													
2	67891	1903	NC	NC	Statin													
3	67891	1907	Yes	Yes	Statin													
4	67891	1910	Yes	No/ND	None - contraindicated													
5	67891	1915	No/ND	Yes	Statin													
6	67891	1917	Yes	Yes	Statin													

## Analyzing

To analyze your data, copy and paste in Excel your five abstractions above your re-abstractions. We have labeled abstractions in row one and re-abstractions in row nine. Changing the text to red easily identifies a mismatch in responses. For example, in Column C for dysphagia screen, we see for case 1903 the abstractor selected “Yes” and the re-abtractor answered “NC.” This is a mismatch between the abstractor and the re-abtractor. Continue analyzing for mismatches and identifying them in red text or the color of your choice.

To determine the agreement rate, divide the numerator by the denominator for each data element. For example, the dysphagia measure has a denominator of five and a numerator of three. Three out of five times the abstractor and re-abstractor agreed for the dysphagia measure, which equals 60%. The overall agreement rate is determined by the total number of opportunities or data elements analyzed and the total number of agreements. In this example there are 15 opportunities for agreement: there are three data measures with five cases each, so  $3 \times 5 = 15$ . The abstractor and re-abstractor did not agree four times, thus there are 11 agreements. Eleven divided by 15 gives us a 73% agreement rate. A respectable goal for agreement rates between two abstractors is 90%.

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It is imperative for the abstractor and re-abstractor to meet and determine learning opportunities based on the disagreements that occurred. The correct answer for each data measure must be identified. Developing a source of truth document is highly recommended. The source of truth document identifies the place in the electronic health record from which to abstract each data element. Also, a review of the coding instructions where mismatches occurred is essential to ensure both abstractors are interpreting them similarly. These quarterly reviews will help the abstractor and re-abstractor in discovering learning opportunities and will ensure the most reliable data is abstracted, reported on in team meetings, and submitted to your certification body.

## References

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