Summary of Core Recommendations: General CDEs

Start-up Resource –NINDS General CDE Recommendations

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) and other Federal agencies and international organizations have the common mission of developing data standards for clinical research. The development of the first set of General Common Data Elements (CDEs) began in 2006. The General CDEs were not developed by a Working Group like the disease-specific CDEs. Rather the NINDS CDE Team developed the General CDEs by first identifying those data elements that were common across neurological diseases and then harmonizing these common data elements with other relevant clinical data standards (refer to the Project Overview for more information). The NINDS CDE Steering Committee initially reviewed and continues to oversee all revisions and additions to the General CDEs. The Core data elements to be used by an investigator when beginning a research study in all NINDS related studies are listed in this resource document.

Each CDE or instrument could be classified according to the definitions below:

**General Core:** A data element that is required for all NINDS funded studies.

**Disease Core:** A data element that collects essential information applicable to any disease-specific study, including all therapeutic areas. The NINDS and its appointed working groups assign the disease “Core” classification based on the current clinical research best practices. In each case, the disease Core CDEs are a small subset of the available CDEs, where it is anticipated that investigators will need to collect the disease Core CDEs on any type of study. These are required for all disease-specific studies.

**Disease Supplemental - Highly Recommended:** A data element which is essential based on certain conditions or study types in clinical research studies. In most cases, these have been used and validated in the disease area. These data elements are strongly recommended for the specified disease condition, study type or design.

**Disease Supplemental:** A data element which is commonly collected in clinical research studies. Use depends upon the study design, protocol or type of research involved. These are recommended, but not required, for studies.

**Disease Exploratory:** A data element that requires further validation, but may fill current gaps in the CDEs and/or substitute for an existing CDE once validation is complete. Such data elements show great promise, but require further validation before they are ready for prime-time use in clinical research studies. They are reasonable to use with the understanding that it has limited validation in the target group.
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National Institute of Health (NIH) Resources:
The NINDS also strongly encourages researchers to use these NIH developed materials for NINDS-sponsored research, when appropriate. Utilization of these resources will enable greater consistency for NINDS-sponsored research studies. These tools are free of charge.

- NIH Toolbox
- Quality of Life in Neurological Disorders (Neuro-QOL)
- Patient-Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System (PROMIS)

Core CDEs for all NINDS Studies:

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For the complete list of NINDS CDE recommendations, please see the [NINDS CDE website](https://www.ninds.nih.gov/resources/core-decision-elements).

General Core for all Studies:

Investigators should review the FDA’s "Guidance for Industry: Suicidal Ideation and Behavior: Prospective Assessment of Occurrence in Clinical Trials" for the most up-to-date information about suicidal ideation and behavior. One scale that FDA suggests is the Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale (C-SSRS) (available at [Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale Website](https://www.columbiasuicidalscreening.org)).

Note: Education year count C00015 is no longer a general Core CDE

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