



CLINICAL AUDIT TOOL

Recipe Name: Identifying COPD patients who are not coded in the clinical software

Rationale: In recent years the presence of co-morbid conditions in patients with COPD has become a focus of research. These patients are at increased risk of Ischaemic Heart Disease (IHD), osteoporosis, depression, diabetes, glaucoma and sleep disorders. COPD itself has extra-pulmonary effects such as weight loss, nutritional abnormalities and skeletal muscle dysfunction, which may lead to co morbid conditions. COPD is generally under-coded in clinical software packages.

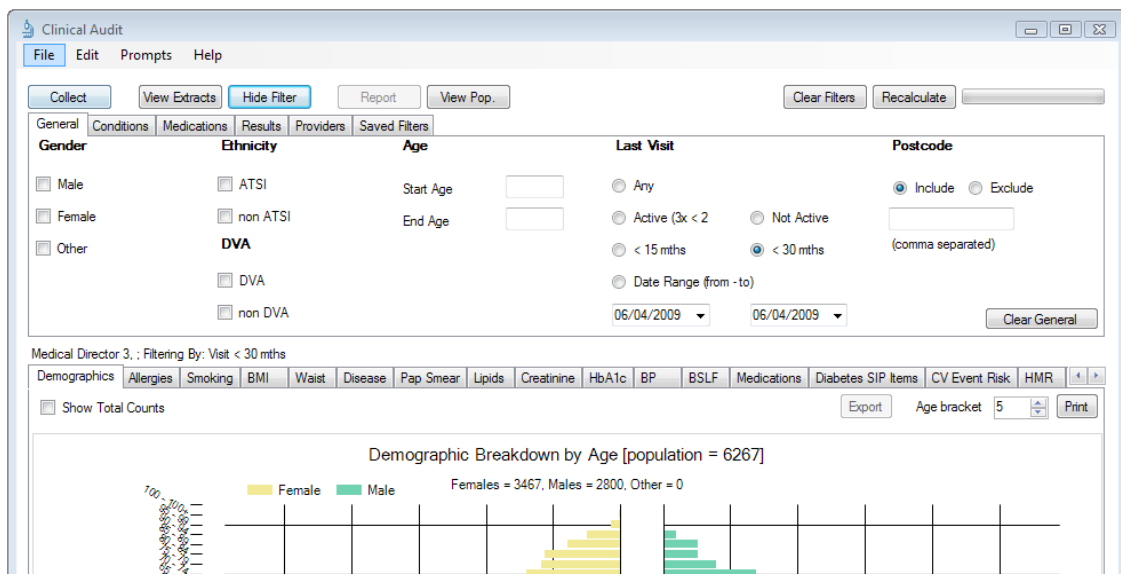
Target: Effectively identify patients suffering from COPD who have not been adequately coded in the clinical software.

This is done in two steps:

1. Find out those patients on COPD medication
2. Find out those patients on the COPD register.

Compare the lists and address the discrepancies if there are any.

- CAT Starting Point:**
1. CAT Open
 2. Population Extract Loaded and Extract Pane "Hidden"
 3. Filter Pane Open and, under the General Tab
 4. **OPTIONAL:** Active (3 visits < 2 years)



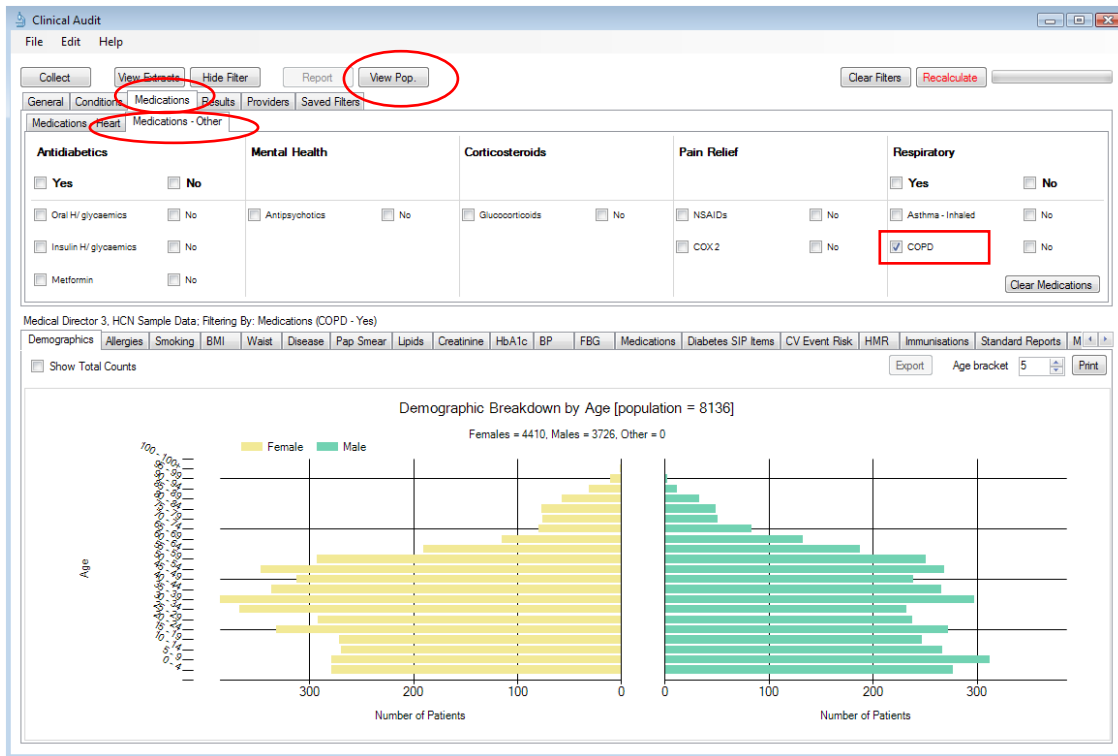


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RECIPE

Identify Patients:

1. In **“Medications”** Tab, click on **“Medications - Other”** and tick the **“COPD”** checkbox.
2. Click **“Recalculate”**
3. Click **“View Pop”**



The list displays all active patients currently on COPD medication.

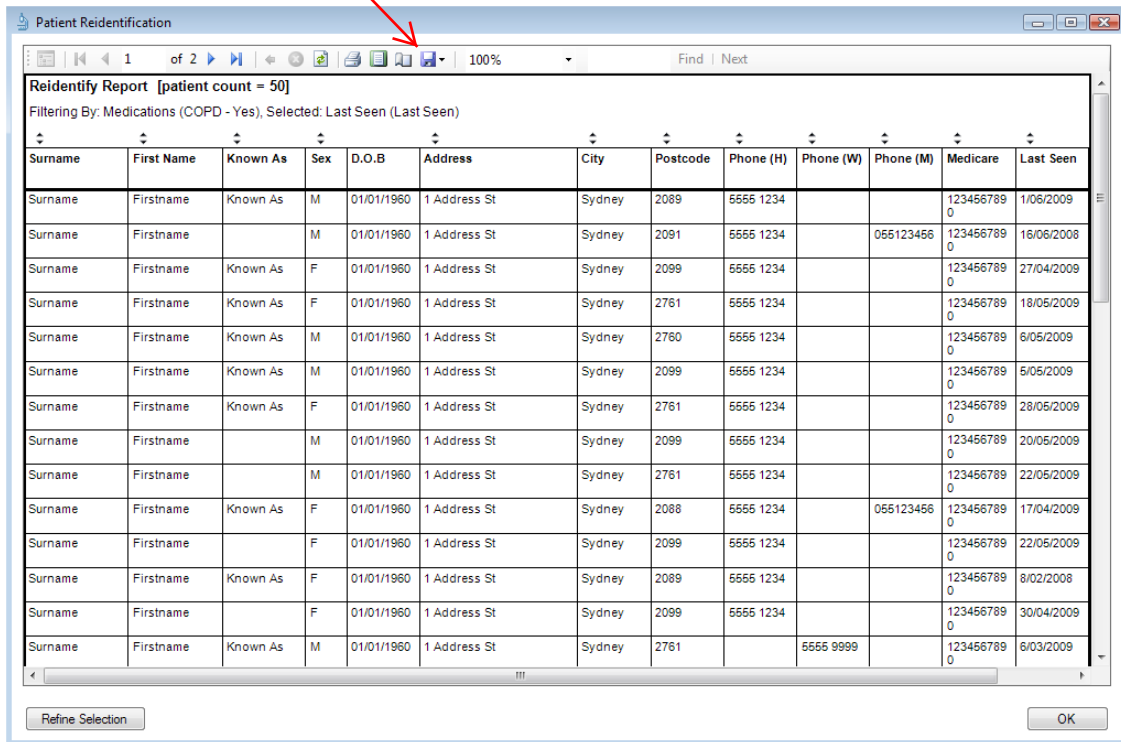




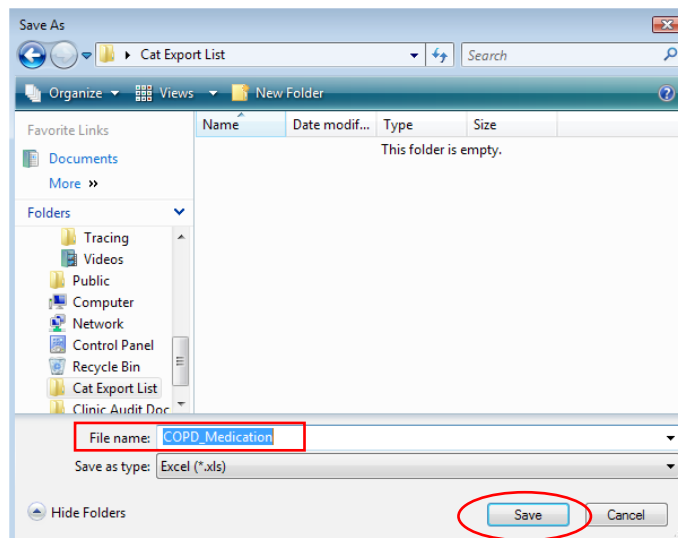
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To Export Patient List to Microsoft Excel:

1. Click on the **“Export Icon”** at the top of the Patient Re-identification window.
2. Click on **“Excel”**



3. Choose a file name (eg. COPD_Mediation.xls) and a location to save to (eg. Create a folder C:/ClinicalAudit/CAT Patient FollowUp)
4. Click **“Save”**



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The practice now has a list of patients with contact details in MS Excel which can then be used to:

1. Go back through the individual patient records in the GP Clinical Desktop System (CDS) and update known records
2. Phone or prepare Mail Merge to recall patients for follow up

This CAT Recipe was submitted by

Melbourne East GP Network
www.megpn.com.au



Case Study

COPD is historically under-coded in general practice.

A number of practices have used this feature of the PEN CAT as a quality improvement exercise. In most cases, the number of patients on COPD medication is larger than patients diagnosed with COPD in the clinical software. This presents an opportunity for practices to improve their coding.

Disclaimer

All CAT Recipes are suggestions only and may act as a guide. The ultimate decision to apply this CAT Recipe; or part thereof; and the relevance of this CAT Recipe; or part thereof; to a provider, clinician and / or practice representative rests with the provider, clinician and / or practice representative.

Further Information

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