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| V 2.9 HL7 Access Proposal |
| *Change Request ID:* | *859* |
| *File Name:* | *OBX\_DataAbsentReason.doc* |
| *Description:* | Add a field to OBX to indicate data absent reason  |
| *Status:* |  |
| *Sponsoring Person* | *Riki Merrick* |
| *Sponsoring Business Unit* | *Vernetzt, LLC* |
| *Date Originated:* | *January 25, 2018* |
| *Date HL7 approved:* |  |
| *Backward Compatible:* |  |
| *Forward Compatible:* |  |
| *HL7 Status & Date* |  |

# Justification Detail:

Often a procedure or lab test is ordered, but or whatever reason it is not completed or results cannot be obtained. It may be important to communicate why that is the case, however lumping those reasons in with the results is not ideal for several reasons:

* they are not results, but other observations related to the procedure / test
* the scale may be different – for example for normally numeric results now words need to be sent, or they are not really ordinal in nature

This problem has been resolved in other HL7products (CDA and FHIR) by designating an element to describe these exceptions, we like to do the same in v2 messages.

# Open Issues:

none

# Change Request Impact:

Add a field to OBX called data absent reason that

Usage TBD: conditional with the CP: If OBX-5 is not valued / or If OBX-11 is valued “X” or “I” OR optional

Datatype CWE

Vocabulary binding – Make a user defined table

For values see suggestions in FHIR = <http://hl7.org/fhir/valueset-observation-valueabsentreason.html> => Harmonization proposal for next cycle in March 2018

# Documentation Changes:

### 7.4.2 OBX ‑ Observation/Result Segment

The OBX segment is used to transmit a single observation or observation fragment. It represents the smallest indivisible unit of a report. The OBX segment can also contain encapsulated data, e.g., a CDA document or a DICOM image.

Its principal mission is to carry information about observations in report messages. But the OBX can also be part of an observation order (see Chapter 4, section 4.4, "General Trigger Events & Message Definitions"). In this case, the OBX carries clinical information needed by the filler to interpret the observation the filler makes. For example, an OBX is needed to report the inspired oxygen on an order for a blood oxygen to a blood gas lab, or to report the menstrual phase information which should be included on an order for a pap smear to a cytology lab. Appendix 7A includes codes for identifying many of pieces of information needed by observation producing services to properly interpret a test result. OBX is also found in other HL7 messages that need to include patient clinical information.

HL7 Attribute Table – OBX – Observation/Result

| SEQ | LEN | C.LEN | DT | OPT | RP/# | TBL# | ITEM# | ELEMENT NAME |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 1..4 |  | SI | O |  |  | 00569 | Set ID – OBX |
| 2 | 2..3 |  | ID | C |  | [0125](file:///D%3A%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Outlook%5C8CXE3V7V%5CV282_CH02C_CodeTables.doc#HL70125) | 00570 | Value Type |
| 3 |  |  | CWE | R |  | 9999 | 00571 | Observation Identifier |
| 4 |  | 20= | OG | C |  |  | 00572 | Observation Sub-ID |
| 5 |  |  | varies | C | Y |  | 00573 | Observation Value |
| 6 |  |  | CWE | O |  | 9999 | 00574 | Units |
| 7 |  | 60= | ST | O |  |  | 00575 | Reference Range |
| 8 |  |  | CWE | O | Y | [0078](file:///D%3A%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Outlook%5C8CXE3V7V%5CV282_CH02C_CodeTables.doc#HL70078) | 00576 | Interpretation Codes |
| 9 |  | 5# | NM | O |  |  | 00577 | Probability |
| 10 | 1..2 |  | ID | O | Y | [0080](file:///D%3A%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Outlook%5C8CXE3V7V%5CV282_CH02C_CodeTables.doc#HL70080) | 00578 | Nature of Abnormal Test |
| 11 | 1..1 |  | ID | R |  | [0085](file:///D%3A%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Outlook%5C8CXE3V7V%5CV282_CH02C_CodeTables.doc#HL70085) | 00579 | Observation Result Status |
| 12 |  |  | DTM | O |  |  | 00580 | Effective Date of Reference Range |
| 13 |  | 20= | ST | O |  |  | 00581 | User Defined Access Checks |
| 14 |  |  | DTM | O |  |  | 00582 | Date/Time of the Observation |
| 15 |  |  | CWE | B |  | 9999 | 00583 | Producer's ID |
| 16 |  |  | XCN | B | Y |  | 00584 | Responsible Observer |
| 17 |  |  | CWE | O | Y | 9999 | 00936 | Observation Method |
| 18 |  |  | EI | B | Y |  | 01479 | Equipment Instance Identifier |
| 19 |  |  | DTM | O |  |  | 01480 | Date/Time of the Analysis |
| 20 |  |  | CWE | O | Y | [0163](file:///D%3A%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Outlook%5C8CXE3V7V%5CV282_CH02C_CodeTables.doc#HL70163) | 02179 | Observation Site |
| 21 |  |  | EI | O |  |  | 02180 | Observation Instance Identifier |
| 22 |  |  | CNE | C |  | [0725](file:///D%3A%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Outlook%5C8CXE3V7V%5CV282_CH02C_CodeTables.doc#HL70725) | 02182 | Mood Code |
| 23 |  |  | XON | B | N |  | 02283 | Performing Organization Name |
| 24 |  |  | XAD | B | N |  | 02284 | Performing Organization Address |
| 25 |  |  | XCN | B | N |  | 02285 | Performing Organization Medical Director |
| 26 | 1..10 |  | ID | O | N | [0909](file:///D%3A%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Outlook%5C8CXE3V7V%5CV282_CH02C_CodeTables.doc#HL70909) | 02313 | Patient Results Release Category |
| 27 |  |  | CWE | O |  | [0914](file:///D%3A%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Outlook%5C8CXE3V7V%5CV282_CH02C_CodeTables.doc#HL70914) | 03308 | Root Cause |
| 28 |  |  | CWE | O | Y | [0915](file:///D%3A%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Outlook%5C8CXE3V7V%5CV282_CH02C_CodeTables.doc#HL70915) | 03309 | Local Process Control |
| 29 |  |  | ID | O | N | [0936](file:///D%3A%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Outlook%5C8CXE3V7V%5CV282_CH02C_CodeTables.doc#HL70936) | 03432 | Observation Type |
| 30 |  |  | ID | O | N | 0937 | 03475 | Observation Sub-Type |
| 31 | 2..2 |  | ID | O |  | 0206 | 00816 | Action Code |
| nn |  |  | CWE | O | Y | NEW | NEW | Data Absent Reason |

#### 7.4.2.nn OBX-nn Data Absent Reason (CWE) nnnnn

Definition: This field reports the reason(s) why there is no value reported in the Observation Value (OBX-5) field.

This field can be used when OBX-5-Observation Value is empty.

See [HL7 Table 0nnn – Data Absent Reason](file:///D%3A%5C%5CAppData%5C%5CLocal%5C%5CMicrosoft%5C%5CWindows%5C%5CINetCache%5C%5CContent.Outlook%5C%5C8CXE3V7V%5C%5CV282_CH02C_CodeTables.doc%22%20%5Cl%20%22HL70125) for valid values.

User Defined: Use FHIR list as starting point for examples.