Improvements for the OHDSI Vocabularies Support Process

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Vocabulary Management Process
OHDSI Vocabulary Management processes

Demand

1. New Vocab. Request
2. Prioritization & Funding
3. Development Process
4. Publish into ATHENA

Support & Maintenance

refresh process

1. Obtain New Data Feed
2. Update Mappings
3. Perform Testing
4. Publish into ATHENA

fixing a bug

1. Raise Issue in GitHub
2. Fix Mappings
3. Perform Testing
4. Publish into ATHENA

User / Requestor  OHDSI Vocabulary Team
Maintenance Process
Raising New Vocab. Request (Step 1)

Describe the problem on forums, if discussion is needed (recommended), for example

Raising New Vocab. Request (Step 2)

Step 2: Create a new issue on GitHub, for example:

https://github.com/OHDSI/Vocabulary-v5.0/issues/195
Raising a vocabulary bug (Step 1)

Describe the problem on forums, if discussion is needed (recommended), for example

http://forums.ohdsi.org/t/missing-icd-9-10-codes/4508
Raising a vocabulary bug (Step 2)

Step 2: Create a new issue on GitHub, for example:

https://github.com/OHDSI/Vocabulary-v5.0/issues/274
Possible improvements
Proposed Adjustments for Support

- Provide dedicated forum category for defect handling and new requests?
- Vocabulary team monitors and responds to as a priority
- Try to avoid posting requests in various places
- Vocabulary team monitors and responds to github issues
Enhanced Transparency

• Improve github issue reflection into Forum post

• Publish status for pending requests and refresh schedule for existing vocabularies

• Future Improvement idea: Create extension to ATHENA to provide access to vocabulary metadata (readme, release notes)
  
• Continuous improvement in consolidating documentation and related artifacts
Take home message

• New vocabulary demand
  – Find convincing arguments & get allies at the Forum
  – Present the demand to OHDSI decision making

• Suspected vocabulary defect
  – Start a discussion at the Forum
  – high probability of a defect > github issue
Decision for new demand

• CDM Working Group reviews requests*
  
  – Every 1st Tuesday of the month
  – Meeting notes reflect decision steps

* “OMOP CDM and Vocabulary Development” or “CDM and THEMIS”