Request for Standardized LOINC Term for Laboratory Internal Workflow Items or Result Report Items

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Situation

• Clinical laboratories have workflow needs that necessitate behind-the-scene build of “tests” or “result fields”

• Some of these items are part of result reports transmitted to downstream systems (eg, EHR), but do not need LOINC assignment

• Downstream systems do not recognize locally assigned LOINC terms (eg, X0000-0) that are not standardized (ie, not official LOINC terms)
Examples

1. Histopathology stains: Procedures only for billing purposes; results are part of separate comprehensive pathology reports

2. Nucleic acid extraction: Procedure only for billing purposes; results are reported from downstream tests

3. Placeholder “result”: To report comments / instructions to EHR users to look for scanned reports

4. Chain of custody: No actual result; comment as part of report
Recommendation

Create a universal, official LOINC term that can be used for these laboratory workflow or result report items, so that downstream data systems can recognize (when compared to official, updated LOINC database)