NIOSH SVAP Comments for 2024

Work is a social determinant of health, and occupation and industry are key terms used together to describe a person's work. The Occupational Data for Health (ODH) code system includes occupation and industry value sets derived from the federal standard classification systems and was included in the HTI-1 EHR certification rule for representing "occupation" and "occupation industry" (job occupation and job industry in interoperability standards). The current ODH code system includes incomplete and outdated occupation and industry value sets based on federal classification systems from 2012 and 2010, respectively. These classification systems do not necessarily maintain code continuity over time.

NIOSH is updating the ODH code system for occupation and industry, using up-to-date concepts with non-semantic codes cross-walked to the federal classification systems. The new, versionable code system will be complete by late 2024, and will support clinical care, population health and public health uses.

NIOSH requests the ONC consider the inclusion of a new standard version of the ODH vocabulary in the SVAP once the vocabulary update is complete.