

## DICOM Correction Proposal

STATUS	Final Text
Date of Last Update	2012/11/04
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Submission Date	2012/02/10

Correction Number	CP-1221
Log Summary: Add note on VR conflict in data dictionary	
Name of Standard PS 3.6 2011	
<p>Rationale for Correction:</p> <p>There is a conflict regarding the VR of attribute (0040,A170) in the DICOM standard and the Frozen Draft version of Supplement 23 “Structured Reporting” (from November 20, 1997). In the DICOM standard, this tag is used for Purpose of Reference Code Sequence, which has a VR of “SQ” (Sequence of Items), while it was used for Observation Class with a VR of “CS” (Code String) in the old draft Supplement.</p> <p>Since parsing SQ elements differs from parsing CS elements and since there are systems that actually produce the old SR objects (e.g. SR Detail Storage), implementers of the standard should be warned in a note about this issue. This is a special case, since the same tag has been used for incompatible VRs. Of course, this mainly affects SR objects that are encoded with Implicit VR Little Endian transfer syntax.</p>	
Correction Wording:	

*Change PS 3.6 Section 5*

“RET” is used to indicate that the corresponding Data Element, SOP Class, or Transfer Syntax has been retired. Retired items are shown italicized. When the name of a retired Data Element has been reused, the retired element has the qualifier “(Retired)” added, or “(Trial)” in the cases in which the Data Element was used in a Draft For Trial Implementation but not standardized.

Note: The use of retired items is supported in this version of DICOM. However, new implementations are strongly encouraged to implement alternative Data Elements, SOP Classes or Transfer Syntaxes.

**“Note n” is used to indicate that further information is provided at the end of the corresponding table. The “n” is the consecutive number of the note. This information is not inserted directly into the tables in order to preserve their simple structure, e.g. for automatic processing of the contents.**

*Change PS 3.6 Section 6*

Tag	Name	Keyword	VR	VM
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[...]

(0040,A170)	Purpose of Reference Code Sequence	PurposeOfReferenceCodeS equence	SQ	1	<b><u>Note 1</u></b>
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[...]

**Notes: 1. Tag (0040,A170) was defined as Observation Class with a VR of "CS" in the Frozen Draft version of Supplement 23 "Structured Reporting" (from November 20, 1997). Implementers of the standard should be warned that old objects of the associated SOP Classes exist and that they use this VR instead of "SQ". In particular, when reading objects with Implicit VR Little Endian transfer syntax, this inconsistency might result in parsing errors if not handled appropriately.**