

# AGNIS Certification



Retrieval Role

## Training Objectives

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- Introduce the process for AGNIS Certification
- Provide an overview of the training and documentation available
- Provide a high level view of the transplant center effort
- Identify additional resources available
- Next steps

This introduction will help a transplant center to understand what is involved in using AGNIS in the Retrieval Role to retrieve forms data from FormsNet 2. In older documentation this was called the Subscriber Role we've changed terminology to be more clear.

It will provide a very quick look at the training and technical resources available as you get started, and what the transplant center effort to retrieve data from AGNIS will likely entail.

Finally this presentation will identify additional resources available and suggest next steps.

## AGNIS Certification Retrieval Role

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- Transplant Center Data Management approval
- Development effort for TC technical staff
- Coordination with AGNIS staff
  - Access to AGNIS environments
  - AGNIS staff monitor progress
- Demonstrate success
  - Formal criteria to be developed
- Grant AGNIS Production Security Certificate

The AGNIS certification process is intended to help guide a transplant center interested in using AGNIS. In order to retrieve form data from FormsNet 2 through AGNIS in the Retrieval Role, a transplant center would first need the approval of their data management group to proceed.

A center is expected to demonstrate success by retrieving test forms from the AGNIS test environment in the course of their development effort prior to data retrieval from the AGNIS production environment. While there currently isn't formal criteria defined, we expect to work closely with transplant centers during this phase of their development.

The intent is that when a center has completed their development and testing effort they will be granted access to the AGNIS production environment and will be authorized to retrieve FormsNet 2 form data through AGNIS.

If access to AGNIS is through a third party tool, testing and certification will have been done by the vendor.

It is important to overall system security that AGNIS take steps to ensure requests for data are truly coming from a transplant center. The process to obtain a production security certificate includes steps to verify the identity of the requestor. A representative from the data management group at a transplant center should inform AGNIS of their intent to request production access, this should identify the IT contact at the transplant center who will submit the request for a production security certificate. Once the identity has been verified the IT contact can send the request to AGNIS.

# AGNIS Training

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- Introduction to AGNIS
  - High level overview
  - AGNIS Roles
- Introduction to caDSR (Cancer Data Standards Registry and Repository)
  - Common Data Elements (CDEs)
  - Form Builder (CDEs on Forms)
  - How data is represented through CDEs

As a transplant center gets started with AGNIS, start with The Introduction to AGNIS presentation. This is available on [www.CIBMTR.org](http://www.CIBMTR.org) > Data Management > Training and References > AGNIS > Training page. This gives an overview of AGNIS and introduces the Retrieval Role that is used to retrieve FormsNet 2 data through AGNIS.

AGNIS uses NCI Cancer Data standards and defines forms in a way that adheres to these standards. The following training is available to help you understand these data standards and how form data will be returned via AGNIS:

## Introduction to CaDSR

High-level overview of caCore and Cancer Data Standards Registry and Repository (CaDSR)

CaDSR terminology

Overview of meta data and Common Data Elements (CDEs)

Introduction to Form Builder which shows the mapping of Common Data elements to Forms

and explains how various data structures are reflected as CDEs

These presentation are available on [AGNIS.Net](http://AGNIS.Net).

## AGNIS Technical Resources

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- AGNIS Data Submission Procedures
  - Identifies general submission rules
  - Detail about data patterns used
- Quick Start Document
  - Software and tools
  - Information about Security
- Data Dictionary
  - Database schema
  - XML Schema

In addition to the presentations just mentioned there are technical resources that should be read and understood as AGNIS data retrieval begins. These are all available on AGNIS.net on the Documentation tab.

The AGNIS Data Submission Procedures document describes patterns that are applied as forms are defined. While primarily describing how form data is submitted to AGNIS, the same patterns apply to data retrieved from AGNIS and how AGNIS processes data in the defined patterns. Pay close attention to the descriptions of the types of modules.

The Quick Start Document gives direction as to tools that can be used, how security is maintained, and how connectivity can be established.

The AGNIS Data Dictionary describes the format of the AGNIS DataBase and provides schema for defining a local version. The AGNIS Client will retrieve forms to this database structure.

As mentioned all of these documents are available on AGNIS.net

## Transplant Center Development

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- Proof of Concept
  - Test messaging
  - Understand Security
- Understand CDE's
- TC Development Project
  - Enter test forms in External SysTest
  - Parse XML messages containing CDE's
  - Quality Assurance
  - AGNIS External SysTest

What would a transplant center AGNIS development effort entail?

Any development effort at a transplant center should follow local development standards and methodologies, the steps shown here are an example.

You may want to start with a proof of concept, this could be as little as ensuring that you can establish connectivity between your system and AGNIS and that messages can be successfully retrieved from AGNIS. It may include a more thorough investigation of the security used by AGNIS to ensure the safety of data retrieved.

Part of the transplant center work will be to understand the use of common data elements returned by AGNIS messages and to determine how they will be used once retrieved from AGNIS.

In order to have form data to retrieve during development and testing a test copy of FormsNet 2 is available for form entry. Data entered in this environment can be retrieved via the external AGNIS System Test environment as it is tied to this version of FormsNet 2.

The development effort may include parsing the XML messages returned by AGNIS with transplant center data, and storing that data into local data structures. There should be a quality assurance effort, this should include retrieving test messages from the external AGNIS System Test environment and verifying that the retrieved data matches what was entered in FormsNet2.

## Resources Available

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- AGNIS email address
  - [agnis@nmdp.org](mailto:agnis@nmdp.org)
- AGNIS News Group (Google group)
  - Post questions and comments
  - AGNIS development updates
  - Announcements
- AGNIS Weekly meetings
  - Raise question or issues
  - Presentations of topics of interest
  - Share with other transplant centers and AGNIS development staff

In addition to the training and guides available at AGNIS.Net these resources are also available:

Send us a message, using the AGNIS email address you have direct access to the AGNIS team at NMDP.

The AGNIS News Group (a Google group) allows you to submit questions, read about AGNIS development updates, and find announcements about AGNIS. There is documentation on [www.cibmtr.org](http://www.cibmtr.org) with instruction on how to request access.

This AGNIS News group is generally available but we ask that you identify yourself by name and location either by entering a nickname or by updating your profile on Google.

There are weekly meetings for Transplant centers that are actively working on AGNIS implementation, during this weekly conference call you can ask questions of the AGNIS team, or other centers working with AGNIS. There are scheduled presentations about various aspects of AGNIS, and at times transplant centers working with AGNIS may share their work. Send a message to the AGNIS group at the mail address shown above to receive an invitation.

## Next Steps

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- Take advantage of resources available
  - [CIBMTR.org Data Management training and reference](#)
  - [National Cancer Institute Data Standards Registry and Repository](#)
  - [National Cancer Institute CDE Browser](#)
  - [AGNIS documentation and downloads](#)
  - Join the AGNIS news group
    - See the link on [www.AGNIS.net](http://www.AGNIS.net)
    - See instructions on [CIBMTR.org](http://CIBMTR.org)
- Contact us
  - [Agnis@nmdp.org](mailto:Agnis@nmdp.org)