

NARS Activity XML File Specification

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INTRODUCTION

XML stands for eXtensible Markup Language. It is a computer language designed to structure and transmit data over the Internet. The Nursing and Activity Reporting System (NARS) includes a data upload tool that accepts XML files formatted to conform with the Medical Education Metrics (MEMS) XML standard created by the MedBiquitous Consortium. This tool will enable NARS to collect information in a manner that is consistent with the data communications standards being adopted by medical education content providers. Accredited providers whose CNE activity tracking systems can export data to XML files may wish to explore this option for transmitting records to NARS.

The purpose of this document is to describe the ANCC's adaptation of MEMS. These instructions are intended for an audience that is familiar with XML, specifically, the information technology staff who support CNE departments. It is beyond the scope of these instructions to describe how to create or edit XML files in general, or how to export data from specific CNE tracking systems.

The batch upload function in NARS offers providers the ability to add or update multiple activity records from a single file containing data that has been exported from another tracking system. In order to successfully upload data, it is critical that providers properly "map" the necessary data from their system into the file format described in this document. Technical understanding of creating XML-formatted files is assumed.

The NARS XML Activity File Specification is an adaptation of the MEMS standard that has been created by the MedBiquitous Consortium. MEMS in turn incorporates another XML specification, the Healthcare Learning Object Model (Healthcare LOM), which is also published by MedBiquitous. Further information on these specifications can be found at http://www.medbiq.org/std_specs/standards/index.html, and it is recommended that implementers review this material in detail.


This document does not define or describe MEMS; rather, it explains how ANCC has extended MEMS and how it will interpret the data fields in a MEMS-conformant data record.

Below is a discussion of several key concepts about the way NARS manages activity records. Understanding these concepts will be helpful throughout your work with the system.

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Open and Closed activity records: In NARS, the record for an activity can be in one of two states: Open or Closed. Certain fields are required to “Open” an activity, or establish it as a record in the database. An activity record will remain Open until all the required data for that activity is input. Once all required data is input, the record’s status will change to “Closed”. *Note that an activity that has the status of “Closed” does not necessarily have to have taken place; it is possible, for providers to fill in data for all required fields in an activity prior to it occurring.* The *Appendix 2.1* shows the fields required for each status.

Adding or Updating activity records: During the upload process, NARS will check each record in the file to determine whether it relates to a new activity or to an existing activity record (see *Appendix 2.2* for a description of the logic used to match records). In order to add a new activity record, a minimal set of fields must contain data (see *Appendix 2.1* for the fields required to Open an activity record). If the record being uploaded matches an existing activity record, it is treated as an update to the record, and the data in the new record will overwrite the data in the existing activity record.

Program Summary:  The ANCC requires that providers complete an annual Program Summary, which summarizes programmatic income for the year. The Program Summary cannot be completed via the upload function, and must be manually completed via the NARS Program Summary Web site form.

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1 XML File Specification Details

This document is a guide for those who wish to upload activities to NARS using XML-formatted data. This document explains ANCC's usage and customization of the **Medbiquitous MEMS** and **Healthcare LOM** standards and specific ANCC business rules and requirements.

Some key points:

1. ANCC did not change the format or structure of the Medbiquitous MEMS, except for 1) the addition of a new super root element called ANCCActivities, 2) the ANCC customization of the XtensibleInfo element to capture in-kind support and competencies information, and 3) the uniqueElementName attribute is necessary for healthcaremetadata.
2. Any rules specified in the **ANCC Business Rules** column will be validated by NARS during the XML file upload process. These rules will not be enforced through the use of the Medbiquitous XSD templates.
3. This specification only includes the data elements that will be captured and uploaded by ANCC into NARS. For complete documentation on all data elements that are supported by the Medbiquitous standard, please refer to the Medbiquitous website http://www.medbiq.org/std_specs/standards/index.html.
4. Any data elements present in the XML file that are not used by ANCC must still conform to the structure and rules specified in the Medbiquitous XSD template. However, ANCC will not capture and upload this data into NARS.
5. For Boolean types, only lowercase "true" and "false" are accepted as validly formatted.

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1.1 ANCC Activities

ANCCActivities is a new super root element for the MedicalEducationMetrics element. This super root element was created by ANCC to allow more than 1 MedicalEducationMetrics element to be contained within a single XML file.

No	Element Name	Description	Min Occurs	Max Occurs	Type	Enumeration	ANCC Business Rules
1	ANCCActivities	Super root element that contains 1 or more instances of MedicalEducationMetrics.	1	1	complex	-	-
2	MedicalEducationMetrics	Medbiquitous-defined container element for each activity. ANCC allows more than one to occur within the ANCCActivities container. Refer to medicalEducationMetrics for sub-elements within this container.	1	Unbounded	MedicalEducationMetricstype	-	-

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1.2 MedicalEducationMetrics

ANCC did not change the XSD template for this element. Any special ANCC data rules will be enforced by the ANCC Program and Activity Reporting System file upload process, not via the XSD template.

No	Element Name	Description	ANCC Business Rules
1	Medical Education Metrics	Container element for each activity. ANCC allows more than one to occur within the ANCCMedicalEducationMetrics container.	-
1.1	ReportDescription	Container element	-
1.1.1	ReportingStartDate	First day of the reporting period for the metrics described for the activity. For ANCC, this is expected to be January 1st of the activity reporting year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -ANCC will ignore the date portion of <i>ReportingStartDate</i>; the ANCC system will only import the Year portion -The Year portion of <i>ReportingStartDate</i> must be the same year as the Year portion of the <i>ReportingEndDate</i>. This is because activity financial and participation information is reported to ANCC on a yearly basis. -Activities cannot be added or updated if the reporting year has been attested -Existing activities cannot be updated to a reporting year that differs from their current reporting year in NARS. -Activities cannot be added or updated for a Reporting Year that is more than one year after the current year.
1.1.2	ReportingEndDate	Last day of the reporting period for the metrics described for the activity. For ANCC, this is expected to be December 31st of the activity reporting year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -ANCC will ignore the date portion of <i>ReportingEndDate</i>; -ANCC will ignore the date portion of

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No	Element Name	Description	ANCC Business Rules
			<p><i>ReportingStartDate</i>; the ANCC system will only import the Year portion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The Year portion of <i>ReportingEndDate</i> must be the same year as the Year portion of the <i>ReportingStartDate</i>. This is because activity financial and participation information is reported to ANCC on a yearly basis -Activities cannot be added or updated if the reporting year has been attested. -Existing activities cannot be updated to a reporting year that differs from their current reporting year in NARS. -Activities cannot be added or updated for a Reporting Year that is more than one year after the current year.
1.2	ActivityDescription	Container element. Refer to ActivityDescription for sub-elements within this container	-
1.2.1	Lom	Container element. Refer to lom for sub-elements within this container	-
1.2.1.1	healthcareMetadata	Container element Healthcare Learning Object Metadata Standard.	-
1.2.1.1.1	healthcareEducation	Container element. Refer to healthcareEducation for sub-elements within this container.	-
1.3	ParticipationMetrics	Container element. Refer to participationMetrics for sub-elements within this container.	-

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No	Element Name	Description	ANCC Business Rules
1.4	XtensibleInfo	Container element that contains ANCC-specific data elements. Refer to XtensibleInfo for sub-elements within this container.	-

1.3 ActivityDescription

ANCC did not change the XSD template for this element. Any special ANCC data rules will be enforced by the ANCC Program and Activity Reporting System file upload process, not via the XSD template.

No	Element Name	Description	ANCC Business Rules
1.2	ActivityDescription	Container element	-
1.2.1	Lom	Container element. Refer to lom for sub-elements within this container	-
1.2.2	designedToChangeCompetence	Designed to Change Competence	-
1.2.3	changesInCompetenceMeasured	Changes in Competence Evaluated	-
1.2.4	designedToChangePerformance	Designed to Change Performance	-
1.2.5	changesInPerformanceMeasured	Changes in Performance Evaluated	-
1.2.6	designedToChangePatientOutcomes	Designed to Change Patient Outcomes	-
1.2.7	changesInPatientOutcomesMeasured	Changes in Patient Outcomes Evaluated	-
1.2.8	commercialSupportAmount	Indicates the amount of commercial support received from a single source. This	ANCC is interested in commercial support amounts in USD currency only. All other income specified in non-

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No	Element Name	Description	ANCC Business Rules
		<p>amount must be a whole number (no decimal values allowed). This sub-element has the following attributes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>currency</i> - Currency of the amount indicated. <i>supportSource</i>- Organization that is the source of commercial support. 	<p>USD currencies will be ignored. ANCC expects a USD currency amount ≥ 0.</p>

1.4 Lom

ANCC did not change the XSD template for this element. Any special ANCC data rules will be enforced by NARS file upload process, not via the XSD template.

No	Element Name	Description	ANCC Business Rules
1.2.1	Lom	Container element. This element is from the IEEE Learning Object Model (LOM) standard.	-
1.2.1.1	healthcareMetadata	Container element Healthcare Learning Object Metadata Standard.	-
1.2.1.2.1	identifier	Container element.	<p>-ANCC requires 1 <i>identifier</i> element per activity with a catalog value of either “ANCC Activity ID” or “Provider Activity ID” -<i>identifier</i> element instances that contain a <i>catalog</i> value other than “ANCC Activity ID” or “Provider Activity ID” will be IGNORED and the entire activity record will NOT be processed by NARS. - ANCC Activity ID is assigned by NARS. “Provider</p>

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No	Element Name	Description	ANCC Business Rules
			Activity ID” should be used when adding a new activity record. Either “Provider Activity ID” or “ANCC Activity ID” can be used when updating an existing activity record.
1.2.1.2.1.1	Catalog	Type of unique identifier.	-
1.2.1.2.1.2	Entry	Unique identifier for the activity	If catalog = “ANCC Activity ID”, it is assumed that <i>entry</i> is unique in the entire system. If catalog = “Provider Activity ID”, it is assumed that <i>entry</i> is unique within the provider organization.
1.2.1.2.2	title	Name of the learning activity.	-
1.2.1.2.3	description	Description of the content of the activity	Maximum characters allowed is 2500
1.2.1.3	educational	Container element.	-
1.2.1.3.1	typicallearningtime	Container for hours of instruction.	-
1.2.1.3.2	duration	Hours of instruction. Example: <lom:duration>PT2H0M</lom:duration>	-Definition: Total hours of educational instruction provided. Ex: If a one-day course lasts 8 hours, then hours of instruction equals 8.

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1.5 HealthcareEducation

ANCC did not change the XSD template for this element. Any special ANCC data rules will be enforced by the ANCC Program and Activity Reporting System file upload process, not via the XSD template.

No	Element Name	Description	ANCC Business Rules
1.2.1.1.1	healthcareEducation	Contains healthcare specific metadata for educational offerings.	-
1.2.1.1.1.1	credits	Container element.	- ANCC will only import <i>credits</i> element instances that have an <i>activityCertification</i> value of “1 contact hour = 1 hour of CE credit”. All other <i>activityCertification</i> values will be ignored. -System will only capture the first occurrence of this element that has a “1 contact hour = 1 hour of CE credit” <i>activity certification type</i> . The system will ignore all successive occurrences.
1.2.1.1.1.1.1	nonAccreditedProvider	The educational provider for this activity that is not the accredited provider. Jointly provided activities may have an accredited or non-accredited provider.	-If an activity is jointly provided (has an <i>activitySponsorship</i> value of “joint”), ANCC optionally allows one or more nonAccreditedProvider elements to be defined that indicates the joint provider’s name for the activity.
1.2.1.1.1.1.2	activityCertification	Identifies the category of credit awarded for the activity by the accredited provider organization.	-
1.2.1.1.1.1.3	numberOfCredits	Number of continuing education credits associated with the activity	-
1.2.1.1.1.2	activityLocation	Indicates geographical location where an in-person activity takes place	-
1.2.1.1.1.2.1	city	Indicates city where in-person activity takes place	-Check that city is present depending on the

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No	Element Name	Description	ANCC Business Rules
			<i>activityFormat</i> value
1.2.1.1.1.2.2	stateorprovince	Indicates state where in-person activity takes place.	-Check that stateorprovince is present depending on the <i>activityFormat</i> value -If <i>country</i> is the USA, check that state is a valid two-letter state
1.2.1.1.1.2.3	country	Indicates country where in-person activity takes place.	-The country should be a valid 3-letter country code. See Appendix 2.6 for a list of country codes.
1.2.1.1.1.3	startDateTime	Indicates the date and time an activity begins.	-ANCC will ignore the time portion of <i>startDateTime</i> , <i>Note: startDateTime</i> value must include BOTH the date and time components even though the ANCC upload process ignores the time portion of the value. Example: 2010-05-30T00:00:00
1.2.1.1.1.4	activitySponsorship	Providership. Valid values are “direct” or “joint”	-Definition: A directly provided (formerly known as “sponsored”) activity is planned, implemented and evaluated by the accredited provider. Include jointly-provided activities (provided by two accredited providers) in this category if you are the accredited provider awarding the credit.
1.2.1.1.1.5	activityFormat	Indicates the type of learning activity. There can be more than one activityFormat defined for an activity. ANCC expects that the activityFormat value used is one of the recognized ANCC activity types.	- <i>activityFormat</i> instances where the activity type value is NOT one of the recognized ANCC types will be IGNORED and the entire activity record will NOT be processed by NARS. -The system will check for a valid combination of recognized ANCC activity types : a. Synchronous b. Asynchronous c. Blended d. Course

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No	Element Name	Description	ANCC Business Rules
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e. Regularly Scheduled Series f. Internet Live Course g. Enduring Material (Homestudy) h. Internet Activity Enduring Material i. Journal-based CNE j. Manuscript Review k. Test Item Writing l. Committee Learning m. Performance Improvement n. Internet Searching and Learning o. Learning from Teaching
1.2.1.1.1.6	commercialSupport	Indicates the existence of commercial support from a manufacturer of a commercial product. NOTE: Use the activityDescription:commercialSupportAmount sub-element to specify commercial support source and amount for an activity	The system will capture <i>commercialSupport</i> as "yes" even if the element has been defined as "no" if 1 or more of the following elements have been specified in the file: -activityDescription: commercialSupportAmount -Xtensible:numberCommercialSupporters -Xtensible:totalMonetaryAmountReceived -Xtensible:inKindSupportReceived
1.2.1.1.1.7	targetAudience	Container element for listing the healthcare practice specialties for which the activity content is relevant.	The <i>targetAudience</i> element and at least one Profession sub-element.
1.2.1.1.1.7.1	Profession	Indicates the profession for which the activity content is relevant and/or being offered to.	Valid Professions are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Nurse b. Physician c. Pharmacist d. Pharmacy Technician e. Other

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1.6 ParticipationMetrics

ANCC did not change the XSD template for this element. Any special ANCC data rules will be enforced by the ANCC Program and Activity Reporting System file upload process, not via the XSD template.

No	Element Name	Description	ANCC Business Rules
1.3	participationMetrics	Container element.	-
1.3.1	participantsByCategory	<p>Defines the number of participants by category. The XSD file allows 0 or more participantsByCategory elements. This sub-element has the following attributes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>category</i>-Indicates the participant category described. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -System will ignore any <i>participantsByCategory</i> instances that have a category that is not “physician” or “nurse” or “pharmacist”, “pharmacy technician” or “other”. -System will only capture the first occurrences of this element for the “physician”, “nurse”, “pharmacist”, “pharmacy technician” or “other” categories. The system will ignore all successive occurrences of “physician” and “non-physician” categories. -The “physician” category definition: The number MDs and DOs that participated in the activity. -The “nurse” category definition: The number Nurses that participated in the activity -The “pharmacist” category definition: The number Pharmacists that participated in the activity -The “pharmacy technician” category definition: The number Pharmacy Technicians that participated in the activity -The “other” category definition: Other Learners are attendees other than MDs or DOs, Nurses, Pharmacists, and Pharmacy Technicians. Example - Physician Assistants, and other health professionals

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1.7 XtensibleInfo

ANCC extended the XtensibleInfo element to include fields for data that ANCC wants to capture, but are not part of the Medbiquitous standard.

No	Element Name	Description	Min Occurs	Max Occurs	Type	Enumeration/ Valid Value	ANCC Business Rules
1.4	XtensibleInfo	Container element.	0	1	Container	-	-
1.4.9	InKindSupports	Container element for in kind support data.	0	1	Container	-	-
1.4.9.1	InKindSupport	Container element. This sub-element has the following attributes: 1. <i>Source</i> - Source of commercial support.	1	unbounded	Container	-	-
1.4.9.1.1	dinKindSupportReceived	Source-level: Indicates if in-kind support in any form was received from a commercial product manufacturer.	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.5	ABMSACGME	Container element for ABMS/ACGME competencies data.	0	1	Container	-	-
1.5.1	patientCareAndProceduralSkills	Indicates if activity addressed Patient Care and Procedural Skills	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-

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No	Element Name	Description	Min Occurs	Max Occurs	Type	Enumeration/ Valid Value	ANCC Business Rules
1.5.2	medicalKnowledge	Indicates if activity addressed Medical Knowledge	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.5.3	practiceBasedLearningAnd Improvement	Indicates if activity addressed Practice-based Learning and Improvement	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.5.4	interpersonalAnd CommunicationSkills	Indicates if activity addressed Interpersonal and Communication Skills	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.5.5	professionalism	Indicates if activity addressed Professionalism	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.5.6	systemsBasedPractice	Indicates if activity addressed Systems-based Practice	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.6	InstituteofMedicine	Container element for Institute of Medicine competencies data.	0	1	Container	-	-
1.6.1	providePatientCenteredCare	Indicates if activity addressed Provide patient-centered care	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.6.2	workInInterdisciplinaryTea ms	Indicates if activity addressed Work in interdisciplinary teams	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-

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No	Element Name	Description	Min Occurs	Max Occurs	Type	Enumeration/ Valid Value	ANCC Business Rules
1.6.3	employEvidenceBasedPractice	Indicates if activity addressed Employ evidence-based practice	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.6.4	applyQualityImprovement	Indicates if activity addressed Apply quality improvement	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.6.5	utilizeInformatics	Indicates if activity addressed Utilize informatics	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.7	InterprofessionalEducationCollaborative	Container element for Interprofessional Education Collaborative competencies data	0	1	Container	-	-
1.7.1	valuesEthicsForInterprofessionalPractice	Indicates if activity addressed Values/Ethics for Interprofessional Practice	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.7.2	rolesResponsibilities	Indicates if activity addressed Roles/Responsibilities	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.7.3	interprofessionalCommunication	Indicates if activity addressed Interprofessional Communication	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.7.4	teamsAndTeamwork	Indicates if activity addressed Teams and Teamwork	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-

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No	Element Name	Description	Min Occurs	Max Occurs	Type	Enumeration/ Valid Value	ANCC Business Rules
1.8	CAPE	Container element for CAPE competencies data.	0	1	Container	-	-
1.8.1	learner	Indicates if activity addressed Learner	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.8.2	patientCenteredCare	Indicates if activity addressed Patient Centered Care	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.8.3	medicationUseSystemsManagement	Indicates if activity addressed Medication Use System Management	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.8.4	healthAndWellness	Indicates if activity addressed Health and Wellness	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.8.5	populationBasedCare	Indicates if activity addressed Population Based Care	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.8.6	problemSolving	Indicates if activity addressed Problem Solving	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.8.7	educator	Indicates if activity addressed Educator	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.8.8	patientAdvocacy	Indicates if activity addressed Patient Advocacy	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-

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No	Element Name	Description	Min Occurs	Max Occurs	Type	Enumeration/ Valid Value	ANCC Business Rules
1.8.9	interprofessionalCollaboration	Indicates if activity addressed Inter-professional Collaboration	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.8.10	culturalSensitivity	Indicates if activity addressed Cultural Sensitivity	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.8.11	communication	Indicates if activity addressed Communication	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.8.12	selfAwareness	Indicates if activity addressed Self Awareness	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.8.13	leadership	Indicates if activity addressed Leadership	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.8.14	innovationAndEntrepreneurship	Indicates if activity addressed Innovation and Entrepreneurship	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.8.15	professionalism	Indicates if activity addressed Professionalism	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.9	PTCB	Container element for PTCB competencies data.	0	1	Container	-	-
1.9.1	pharmacologyForTechnicians	Indicates if activity addressed Pharmacology For Technicians	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-

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No	Element Name	Description	Min Occurs	Max Occurs	Type	Enumeration/ Valid Value	ANCC Business Rules
1.9.2	pharmacyLawAndRegulations	Indicates if activity addressed Pharmacy Law and Regulations	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.9.3	sterileAndNonSterileCompounding	Indicates if activity addressed Sterile and Non-Sterile Compounding	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.9.4	medicationSafety	Indicates if activity addressed Medication Safety	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.9.5	pharmacyQualityAssurance	Indicates if activity addressed Pharmacy Quality Assurance	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.9.6	medicationOrderEntryAndFillProcess	Indicates if activity addressed Medication Order entry and Fill Process	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.9.7	pharmacyInventoryManagement	Indicates if activity addressed Pharmacy Inventory Management	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.9.8	pharmacyBillingAndReimbursement	Indicates if activity addressed Pharmacy Billing and Reimbursement	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.9.9	pharmacyInformationSystemsUsageAndApplication	Indicates if activity addressed Pharmacy Information Systems Usage and Application	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-

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No	Element Name	Description	Min Occurs	Max Occurs	Type	Enumeration/ Valid Value	ANCC Business Rules
1.10	OtherCompetencies	Container element for Other Competencies data.	0	1	Container	-	-
1.10.1	otherCompetenciesAddressed	Indicates if activity addressed Other Competencies	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-
1.11	NoCompetencies	Container element for No Competencies data.	0	1	Container	-	-
1.11.1	noCompetenciesAddressed	Indicates if activity addressed No Competencies	0	1	Boolean	true, false	-

2 APPENDICES

2.1 Open and Closed Activities

The below chart provides details on the data the NARS System requires for opening and closing an Activity:

Field Name	Data is Required in Field:	
	To Open Activity Record	To Close Activity Record
ReportingStartDate	Yes	Yes
ReportingEndDate	Yes <i>Note: This field is required by the MedicalEducationMetrics specification, but it</i>	Yes <i>Note: This field is required by the MedicalEducationMetrics specification, but it will</i>

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Field Name	Data is Required in Field:	
	To Open Activity Record	To Close Activity Record
	<i>will not be displayed on the NARS system.</i>	<i>not be displayed on the NARS system</i>
identifier	Yes	Yes
title	Yes	Yes
description	No	No
duration	No	No
credits	No	Yes
nonAccreditedProvider	No	If the activitySponsorship field is “joint”, then this field is required. If the activitySponsorship field is “direct” or not entered, then no data should be entered in this field.
targetAudience	Yes – at least 1 – “Nurse”	Yes – at least 1 – “Nurse”

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Field Name	Data is Required in Field:	
	To Open Activity Record	To Close Activity Record
city	Required if the ActivityFormat is one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course • Regularly Scheduled Series For other ActivityFormats data should not be entered	Required if the ActivityFormat is one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course • Regularly Scheduled Series For other ActivityFormats data should not be entered
stateorprovince	Required if the ActivityFormat is one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course • Regularly Scheduled Series For other ActivityFormats data should not be entered	Required if the ActivityFormat is one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course • Regularly Scheduled Series For other ActivityFormats data should not be entered
country	Required if the ActivityFormat is one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course • Regularly Scheduled Series For other ActivityFormats data should not be entered	Required if the ActivityFormat is one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course • Regularly Scheduled Series For other ActivityFormats data should not be entered
startDateTime	Yes	Yes
endDateTime	Yes	Yes

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Field Name	Data is Required in Field:	
	To Open Activity Record	To Close Activity Record
activitySponsorship	No	Yes <i>(Note: "sponsorship" is now displayed on the NARS system as "providership")</i>
activityFormat	Yes	Yes
commercialSupport	No	No
commercialSupportAmount	No	No
designedToChangeCompetence	No	No
changesInCompetenceMeasured	No	No
designedToChangePerformance	No	No
changesInPerformanceMeasured	No	No
designedToChangePatientOutcomes	No	No

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Field Name	Data is Required in Field:	
	To Open Activity Record	To Close Activity Record
changesInPatientOutcomesMeasured	No	No
participantsByCategory	No	Yes, the system requires data for one category of "nurse"
inKindSupportReceived	No	No
patientCareAndProceduralSkills	No	No
medicalKnowledge	No	No
practiceBasedLearningAndImprovement	No	No
interpersonalAndCommunicationSkills	No	No
professionalism	No	No
systemsBasedPractice	No	No
providePatientCenteredCare	No	No

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Field Name	Data is Required in Field:	
	To Open Activity Record	To Close Activity Record
workInInterdisciplinaryTeams	No	No
employEvidenceBasedPractice	No	No
applyQualityImprovement	No	No
utilizeInformatics	No	No
valuesEthicsForInterprofessional Practice	No	No
rolesResponsibilities	No	No
interprofessionalCommunication	No	No
teamsAndTeamwork	No	No
learner	No	No
patientCenteredCare	No	No

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Field Name	Data is Required in Field:	
	To Open Activity Record	To Close Activity Record
medicationUseSystemsManagement	No	No
healthAndWellness	No	No
populationBasedCare	No	No
problemSolving	No	No
educator	No	No
patientAdvocacy	No	No
interprofessionalCollaboration	No	No
culturalSensitivity	No	No
communication	No	No
selfAwareness	No	No

NARS Activity XML File Specification

Field Name	Data is Required in Field:	
	To Open Activity Record	To Close Activity Record
leadership	No	No
innovationAndEntrepreneurship	No	No
professionalism	No	No
pharmacologyForTechnicians	No	No
pharmacyLawAndRegulations	No	No
sterileAndNonSterileCompounding	No	No
medicationSafety	No	No
pharmacyQualityAssurance	No	No
medicationOrderEntryAndFillProcess	No	No
pharmacyInventoryManagement	No	No

NARS Activity XML File Specification

Field Name	Data is Required in Field:	
	To Open Activity Record	To Close Activity Record
pharmacyBillingAndReimbursement	No	No
pharmacyInformationSystemsUsageAndApplication	No	No
otherCompetenciesAddressed	No	No
noCompetenciesAddressed	No	No

NARS Activity XML File Specification

2.2 Activity Updates and Additions

1. Updating an Existing Activity

An existing activity is updated if a matching activity is found. Matching activities can be found by:

- a. Lom:entry where lom:catalog = “ANCC Activity ID”;

OR

- b. The combination of the following fields:
 - i. Lom:entry where lom:catalog = “Provider Activity ID”; AND
 - ii. ReportingStartDate*; AND
 - iii. ActivityFormat; AND
 - iv. StartDateTime

* *ReportingStartDate*: The year of the ReportingStartDate does NOT need to match the year of the startDateTime. The ReportingStartDate year should correspond to the year the activity’s financial and participation data is being reported.

If a matching activity is found, then the existing activity is updated based on the information within the file.

2. Adding a New Activity

If no matching activity is found (see previous section), the system will add a new activity.

NARS Activity XML File Specification

2.3 List of Country Codes

Below is a list of the three-letter country codes for the Country element.

Note: Please see the US Territories/Regions section for information regarding US territory/region processing.

Country	Code
Afghanistan	AFG
Aland Islands	ALA
Albania	ALB
Algeria	DZA
Andorra	AND
Angola	AGO
Anguilla	AIA
Antigua and Barbuda	ATG
Argentina	ARG
Armenia	ARM
Aruba	ABW
Australia	AUS
Austria	AUT
Azerbaijan	AZE
Bahamas	BHS
Bahrain	BHR
Bangladesh	BGD
Barbados	BRB
Belarus	BLR

NARS Activity XML File Specification

Country	Code
Belgium	BEL
Belize	BLZ
Benin	BEN
Bermuda	BMU
Bhutan	BTN
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	BOL
Bosnia and Herzegovina	BIH
Botswana	BWA
Brazil	BRA
British Virgin Islands	VGB
Brunei Darussalam	BRN
Bulgaria	BGR
Burkina Faso	BFA
Burundi	BDI
Cambodia	KHM
Cameroon	CMR
Canada	CAN
Cape Verde	CPV
Cayman Islands	CYM
Central African Republic	CAF
Chad	TCD
Chile	CHL
China	CHN
Colombia	COL

NARS Activity XML File Specification

Country	Code
Comoros	COM
Congo	COG
Cook Islands	COK
Costa Rica	CRI
Cote d'Ivoire	CIV
Croatia	HRV
Cuba	CUB
Cyprus	CYP
Czech Republic	CZE
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	PRK
Democratic Republic of the Congo	COD
Denmark	DNK
Djibouti	DJI
Dominica	DMA
Dominican Republic	DOM
Ecuador	ECU
Egypt	EGY
El Salvador	SLV
Equatorial Guinea	GNQ
Eritrea	ERI
Estonia	EST
Ethiopia	ETH
Faeroe Islands	FRO
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	FLK

NARS Activity XML File Specification

Country	Code
Fiji	FJI
Finland	FIN
France	FRA
French Guiana	GUF
French Polynesia	PYF
Gabon	GAB
Gambia	GMB
Georgia	GEO
Germany	DEU
Ghana	GHA
Gibraltar	GIB
Greece	GRC
Greenland	GRL
Grenada	GRD
Guadeloupe	GLP
Guatemala	GTM
Guernsey	GGY
Guinea	GIN
Guinea-Bissau	GNB
Guyana	GUY
Haiti	HTI
Holy See	VAT
Honduras	HND
Hong Kong Special Administrative	HKG

NARS Activity XML File Specification

Country	Code
Region of China	
Hungary	HUN
Iceland	ISL
India	IND
Indonesia	IDN
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	IRN
Iraq	IRQ
Ireland	IRL
Isle of Man	IMN
Israel	ISR
Italy	ITA
Jamaica	JAM
Japan	JPN
Jersey	JEY
Jordan	JOR
Kazakhstan	KAZ
Kenya	KEN
Kiribati	KIR
Kuwait	KWT
Kyrgyzstan	KGZ
Lao People's Democratic Republic	LAO
Latvia	LVA
Lebanon	LBN
Lesotho	LSO

NARS Activity XML File Specification

Country	Code
Liberia	LBR
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	LBY
Liechtenstein	LIE
Lithuania	LTU
Luxembourg	LUX
Macao Special Administrative Region of China	MAC
Madagascar	MDG
Malawi	MWI
Malaysia	MYS
Maldives	MDV
Mali	MLI
Malta	MLT
Martinique	MTQ
Mauritania	MRT
Mauritius	MUS
Mayotte	MYT
Mexico	MEX
Monaco	MCO
Mongolia	MNG
Montenegro	MNE
Montserrat	MSR
Morocco	MAR
Mozambique	MOZ

NARS Activity XML File Specification

Country	Code
Myanmar	MMR
Namibia	NAM
Nauru	NRU
Nepal	NPL
Netherlands	NLD
Netherlands Antilles	ANT
New Caledonia	NCL
New Zealand	NZL
Nicaragua	NIC
Niger	NER
Nigeria	NGA
Niue	NIU
Norfolk Island	NFK
Norway	NOR
Occupied Palestinian Territory	PSE
Oman	OMN
Pakistan	PAK
Panama	PAN
Papua New Guinea	PNG
Paraguay	PRY
Peru	PER
Philippines	PHL
Pitcairn	PCN
Poland	POL

NARS Activity XML File Specification

Country	Code
Portugal	PRT
Qatar	QAT
Republic of Korea	KOR
Republic of Moldova	MDA
Réunion	REU
Romania	ROU
Russian Federation	RUS
Rwanda	RWA
Saint Helena	SHN
Saint Kitts and Nevis	KNA
Saint Lucia	LCA
Saint Pierre and Miquelon	SPM
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	VCT
Saint-Barthélemy	BLM
Saint-Martin (French part)	MAF
Samoa	WSM
San Marino	SMR
Sao Tome and Principe	STP
Saudi Arabia	SAU
Senegal	SEN
Serbia	SRB
Seychelles	SYC
Sierra Leone	SLE
Singapore	SGP

NARS Activity XML File Specification

Country	Code
Slovakia	SVK
Slovenia	SVN
Solomon Islands	SLB
Somalia	SOM
South Africa	ZAF
Spain	ESP
Sri Lanka	LKA
Sudan	SDN
Suriname	SUR
Svalbard and Jan Mayen Islands	SJM
Swaziland	SWZ
Sweden	SWE
Switzerland	CHE
Syrian Arab Republic	SYR
Tajikistan	TJK
Thailand	THA
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	MKD
Timor-Leste	TLS
Togo	TGO
Tokelau	TKL
Tonga	TON
Trinidad and Tobago	TTO
Tunisia	TUN

NARS Activity XML File Specification

Country	Code
Turkey	TUR
Turkmenistan	TKM
Turks and Caicos Islands	TCA
Tuvalu	TUV
Uganda	UGA
Ukraine	UKR
United Arab Emirates	ARE
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	GBR
United Republic of Tanzania	TZA
United States of America	USA
Uruguay	URY
Uzbekistan	UZB
Vanuatu	VUT
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	VEN
Viet Nam	VNM
Wallis and Futuna Islands	WLF
Western Sahara	ESH
Yemen	YEM
Zambia	ZMB
Zimbabwe	ZWE

Source: United Nations, April 15, 2009 list. <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49alpha.htm>

NARS Activity XML File Specification

US Territories/Regions:

For the following US territories / regions, the country code of USA should be used along with the applicable US State abbreviation in the State field.

Country	Country Code	U.S State Abbreviation
American Samoa	USA	AS
Federated States of Micronesia	USA	FM
Guam	USA	GU
Marshall Islands	USA	MH
Northern Mariana Islands	USA	MP
Puerto Rico	USA	PR
Palau	USA	PW
US Virgin Islands	USA	VI