

Things You May Need to Remember when Running Certain Types of Reports



Attaching Populations, Universes, and Repeat Sets

Populations, Universes, and Repeat Sets can all be attached to a report in the Report Definition screen. When a one of these filters is attached to a report in the Report Definition screen, it is saved as a permanent part of the report. Contrast this with populations and universes that are attached in the Report Run Details dialog box (as a second population/universe), which are applied only to the current report run and will not appear as a part of the report to users who open or run the report in the future.

To attach a population, universe, or repeat set:

- Select a population from the Population drop-down menu.
- Select a universe from the Universe drop-down menu.
- Select a repeat set from the Repeat Set drop-down menu.

Constraining Multicopy Fields

When multicopy fields contain a wide variety of responses, they can sometimes produce reports that seem cluttered and make it difficult for users to observe the information they want to see. For example, to run a report showing the number of liver injuries in the database, a user might create a Table of Counts on the variable Injury Diagnosis ICD-9 Code. While this report would include the desired information on liver injuries (all codes starting with 864), it would also include all non-liver ICD-9 codes, forcing the user to scan awkwardly through the report to find the relevant information. To narrow the report's scope, the user might attach a Liver Injuries **population** before running it. Though the population filters the database to include only patients who suffered liver damage, the report will continue to show the ICD-9 codes for all of these patient's injuries, both liver and non-liver.

To create a succinct report, a Liver Injuries **constraint** must be applied to the Injury Diagnosis ICD-9 Code variable. The constraint option allows a population to be applied to an individual field instead of the patient record as a whole, ensuring that irrelevant responses are left invisible when the report is run. ***Remember, a constraint is simply a population.***

Including only specified values (for variables that have multiple values)

Some variables such as those associated with vitals, procedures, and radiology can have multiple values entered throughout a patient's record. By default, Trauma One will report on all values entered, but users have the ability to tell the system to include only specified entries by occurrence (e.g. first, last, high, etc.) by using the *Which Values* field. For procedures and radiology, if you would also like to narrow your results down to a specific 'location', apply a constraint as mentioned above.

Linking Columns for variables from scrolling windows

When a multivariable report takes two or more (or perhaps all) of its variables from a single scrolling window or other multicopy field, the **Linked Column** output type *must* be used. Some cases that might require a Linked Column include reports on radiology, trauma team, surgical procedures, or vitals, among others.

By linking variables from a scrolling window, you ensure that blank sub-fields in copies of data do not cause misalignment between columns. Additional variables in the report that do not come from the scrolling window are not linked, and behave as they would in a Columnar Table. You must select one of the scrolling window variables included in your report to be the primary linkage variable. The primary linkage variable is the individual scrolling window column to which all other scrolling window columns will be anchored in your report. By anchoring all variables from the scrolling window to a single column, you can be sure that the scrolling window variables will always be sorted as a single unit. It is best, though not necessary, to choose a variable that is always filled as your primary linkage variable.

To create a Linked Column multi-variable report:

1. Create a multi-variable report with a least two variables from the same scrolling window
2. Select Linked Column from the Output Type drop-down menu
3. Choose one of the variables from the scrolling window as the primary linkage variable. Enter the primary linkage variable's Variable # into the ***Link to Column*** box for every other variable from the scrolling window.
4. Caution: Make sure that missing data is included for all linked variables by checking the "Display status information for missing data" box.

CAUTION! Excluding missing data from a Linked Column report will cause the data in columns to become misaligned and produce inaccurate results.