

HL7 Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) is a next-generation interoperability standard created by the standards development organization Health Level 7 (HL7®). HL7 FHIR is designed to enable health data, including clinical and administrative data, to be quickly and efficiently exchanged.

Healthcare records are increasingly becoming digitized. As patients move around the healthcare ecosystem, their electronic health records must be available, discoverable, and understandable. Further, to support automated clinical decision support and other machine-based processing, the data must also be structured and standardized. HL7 FHIR is a specification based on emerging industry approaches, but informed by years of lessons around requirements, successes and challenges gained through defining and implementing other HL7 standards. HL7 FHIR can be used as a stand-alone data exchange standard, but can and will also be used in partnership with existing widely used standards. FHIR leverages existing logical and theoretical models to provide a consistent, easy to implement, and rigorous mechanism for exchanging data between healthcare applications.

General Details

PRIMARY USERS:

HL7 FHIR is used deeply and widely by key global health, digital health, electronic health record and interoperability stakeholders across the world. For example, some key user groups are healthcare providers and workers, government stakeholders, public health officials, private sector innovators, payers, pharmaceutical companies, lab and diagnostic leaders, quality improvement experts and health equity trailblazers. For user topics and work areas, [see here](#).

LANGUAGES:

English, Russian, Japanese and Chinese.

TYPE:

Content

OPEN SOURCE LICENSE:

CC0 1.0 Universal (CC0 1.0) Public Domain Dedication

Access Information

WEBSITE

<http://hl7.org/fhir/>

CONTACT

karenvan@hl7.org

WHO System Classification

PRIMARY

D2 | D2 Data interchange and interoperability

ADDITIONAL

A5 | A5 Electronic medical record systems

D6 | D6 Health management information systems (HMIS)

A6 | A6 Laboratory information systems

D8 | D8 Shared Health Record and Health Information Repositories

Geographic Reach & Impact

HL7 FHIR is used in every corner of the globe, currently in 74 countries as detailed below. Adoption varies from mature implementations with FHIR embedded in national and regional health programs to introductory use. It is employed in a wide variety of settings and for many aspects of healthcare delivery and the supply chain. HL7 expert Work Group topics provide a good lenses through which to understand how HL7 FHIR is developed and deployed. A list of these HL7 Work Groups can be found [here](#). The United Kingdom and the United States reference HL7 FHIR requirements in national health programs, while Australia, Kenya, Argentina and Spain include HL7 FHIR as part of pre- or in-service training programs.



Standards & Interoperability

For more information on the HL7 FHIR standard, see <https://www.hl7.org/fhir/overview.html> and for more about how HL7 FHIR supports conformance testing of IHE workflows and profiles, see: <https://registry.fhir.org/results?query=%22ihe%22&latestFilter=true>

The content has been reviewed/quality assured. For details about the process see the following: <https://hl7.org/fhir/R4/ansi.html> https://www.hl7.org/documentcenter/public/membership/ANSI_Essential_Requirements.pdf

STANDARDS
HL7 FHIR

OPENHIE COMPONENT
Not Applicable

Maturity

All maturity model assessments are self-reported by the funded organization leading the content development of the global good

Maturity Matrix: 2023

Global Utility

Country Utilization	High
Country Strategy	High
Digital Health Classifications Mapping	High
Content Accessibility	High
Sustainability and Ongoing Support	High

Community Support

Organizational and Community Engagement	High
Content Governance	High
Content Roadmap	High
Resources to Support Use	High
Multi-Lingual Support	Medium

Software Maturity

Content Productization	High
Content Reuse / Adaptability	High
Content Alignment to Global Normative Agencies	Low

Resources

Example Case Studies

<https://www.hl7.org/participate/case-studies/index.cfm?rev=nav>

Master Index of Scientific Articles

https://www.zotero.org/groups/4928801/hl7_fhir/collections/7MQ854T6



Community

The HL7 FHIR community is diverse and operates in both developed and LMIC country contexts. Please see <https://chat.fhir.org/stat>
Please see HL7 International Council and Affiliates here: <https://www.hl7.org/Special/committees/international/leadership.cfm?ref=nav>

The community has been in existence since 2012 and currently there are 25,000 plus users on Zulip .The governance structure is documented [here](#)
and information about HL7 FHIR community engagement can be found at: <https://fhir.org/community/process/>.

COMMUNITY CALLS / FORUMS

Regular community calls can be accessed here:
<https://www.hl7.org/concalls/>

PLATFORMS / MAILING LISTS

The community engagement platforms is available here:
<https://hl7.org/fhir/credits.html#community>
and the community code of conduct can be seen here:
<http://www.hl7.org/legal/code-of-conduct.cfm>

EVENTS & CONFERENCES

HL7 holds a variety of multi-stakeholder forums, implementer events and technical, policy and other meetings to support the advancement of HL7 FHIR. See <https://www.hl7.org/events/> for more information.

Sustainability

The content is managed by Health Level Seven International <http://www.hl7.org>. The content is supported / sustained financially through member dues and services. Key funders/investors of the work over the past 5 years are HL7 members and U.S. Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology.

Linked Registries & Initiatives



Policies

Terms & Conditions	https://www.hl7.org/legal/code-of-conduct.cfm
User Agreement	https://www.hl7.org/legal/code-of-ethics.cfm
Tool Privacy Policy	https://www.hl7.org/legal/privacy.cfm?ref=nav
Do No Harm Policy	https://www.hl7.org/legal/code-of-ethics.cfm