Nationwide Health Information Network

Use of HL7 Standards – The Northrop Grumman approach

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Current state of interoperability in the U.S.
One way to create an NHIN…
Alternative approach
Desired features of an NHIN canonical standard

- Enables computable semantic interoperability
- Enables interoperability across domains
- Is based on an overarching information model

Answer: HL7 Version 3
Main challenge to HL7 V3 as NHIN standard

- Not enough adoption
  - But implementers won’t start adopting if other standards are selected instead

- However, the canonical data model lets us select a standard based on its future potential, not its current adoption
  - Current local interoperability implementations will still work without change
  - Eventually, people will migrate to the canonical standard
  - No need to rip and replace
Northrop Grumman’s use of HL7 v3 for NHIN

- **Patient identification:**
  - Patient Registry Find Candidates Query/Response (PRPA)

- **Metadata registry:**
  - Find Act Reference Registry Entries Query/Response (MFMT)

- **Consent registry:**
  - (Interim) Masking Topic (MFMT)
  - (Future) Medical Records Data Consent Topic (RCMR)

- **Personal Health Record:**
  - CDA (awaiting CCD specs)

- **Medication History:**
  - Pharmacy Generic Patient-Related Query (PORX)

- **Laboratory Results:**
  - Laboratory Result Topic (POLB)
A topic for further HL7 committee work:

- Report of resource utilization for biosurveillance (e.g. number of beds available in hospitals)
- No current HL7 v3 RMIM for this use case
- Current standard: HAVE (Hospital AVailability Exchange)
- Standard includes its own XML-encoding schema and wrapper (EDXL-DE)
HAVE – How to create a v3 specification?

- The requirements are well-documented
  - The standard requirements specification includes an information model and a use case activity diagram

- This is precisely what Ch.2 of the HL7 Development Framework requires
  - From here, we can create a RIM-compliant static model (RMIM) and a dynamic model
  - We will engage the PHER SIG to add this new content for consideration
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