



**Health Level Seven® International**

*For Immediate Release*

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## **Health Level Seven Publishes FHIR Implementation Guide on Genomics Reporting**

**Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA – December 19, 2019** – Health Level Seven® (HL7®) International, the global authority on interoperability of health information technology with members in 55 countries, is pleased to announce formal publication of a Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) Genomics Reporting Implementation Guide (IG) as a standard for trial use. Developed by the [HL7 Clinical Genomics Work Group](#), the guide covers all aspects of genomic lab reporting and is an integral resource for implementers interested in communicating genomic data.

Gathering expert advice and collating reports from dozens of tests and laboratories across the world, the group seeks to harmonize approaches, use cases, and terminologies. Developers from diverse teams including Boston Children's Hospital/Harvard Medical School, the National Library of Medicine, major EHR vendors, Elimu Informatics, Philips, MOLIT Institute for Personalized Medicine, and the National Marrow Donor Program®/Be The Match® have been instrumental in providing examples and prototype implementations. The resulting FHIR IG (available at <http://hl7.org/fhir/uv/genomics-reporting/>) provides guidance on structuring reports using FHIR resources and builds upon work, easing implementation and minimizing required use of extension. It also provides guidance on structuring reports using other FHIR resources. The IG builds upon previous work in FHIR STU3 and R4, easing implementation and minimizing required use of extensions.

"FHIR is a natural fit for the complexity of genomic data, as it provides modular structuring and can interface with domain-specific services through technologies such as SMART-on-FHIR and CDS Hooks," notes Gil Alterovitz, PhD, FACMI, a professor at Harvard Medical School and HL7 Clinical Genomics FHIR subgroup lead. Applications based on the specification, including genomic data servers, screening services per emerging clinical guidelines, virtual tumor-boards and variant viewing software are already under development.

In the constantly evolving field of genomics, the IG aims to provide tools to communicate not just what is required today in the US, but also what modern research efforts suggest will be the standard of care in the future.

The HL7 FHIR Genomics Reporting Implementation Guide has undergone two official ballots since it was first drafted in 2018 and has been directly tested in four HL7 FHIR Connectathon tracks. The HL7 Clinical Genomics Work Group is actively developing content for future versions of this guide and welcomes all comments and questions on [https://chat.fhir.org/#narrow/stream/genomics\\_or](https://chat.fhir.org/#narrow/stream/genomics_or) the HL7 email listserv "clingenomics".

### **About Health Level Seven International (HL7)**

Founded in 1987, [Health Level Seven International](http://www.hl7.org) is the global authority for healthcare information interoperability and standards with affiliates established in more than 30 countries. HL7 is a non-profit, ANSI accredited standards development organization dedicated to providing a comprehensive framework and related standards for the exchange, integration, sharing, and retrieval of electronic health information that supports clinical practice and the management, delivery and evaluation of health services. HL7's members represent approximately 500 corporate members, which include more than 90 percent of the information systems vendors serving healthcare. HL7 collaborates with other standards developers and provider, payer, philanthropic and government agencies at the highest levels to ensure the development of comprehensive and reliable standards and successful interoperability efforts.

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