



***For Immediate Release***

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## **HL7 International to Test COVID-19 Knowledge Accelerator (COKA) FHIR Resources at its May 13-15, 2020 Virtual FHIR Connectathon**

*HL7 and the COKA initiative collaborate to support the immediate development of FHIR resources to discover, evaluate and disseminate COVID-19 scientific knowledge*

**Ann Arbor, Mich. – May 12, 2020** – HL7 International (HL7®) today announced that it will host a COVID-19 Knowledge Accelerator (COKA) and Evidence-based Medicine track to support the development and testing of new resources at this week's upcoming Virtual FHIR Connectathon. This track represents another collaborative effort using HL7's Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR®) standard to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

The COKA project was launched in March 2020 to address inefficiencies in scientific knowledge processing by supporting the development and implementation of standards for electronic communication of scientific findings. One such effort includes applying HL7 FHIR to evidence-based medicine knowledge assets (known as EBMonFHIR). New FHIR resources to extend the EBMonFHIR effort will be tested at the HL7's Virtual Connectathon to support COVID-19 science communication. COKA has grown rapidly and, in a two-week time period, created a FHIR Citation Resource to serve as a standard for unique representation and could produce a collective repository with an estimated 100,000 to 200,000 articles about COVID-19 from three research collections within this next week.

Brian Alper, M.D., chief medical knowledge officer for EBSCO Information Services and COKA project founder commented, "People are dying, and our daily life experience is threatened. Overcoming these challenges transcends political, business and career motivations. Consistent daily focus and positive momentum combined have profound compounding effects."

HL7 CEO Dr. Charles Jaffe commented, "We are pleased to host the COKA track at the upcoming FHIR Connectathon. The COKA initiative is helping to close our knowledge gaps so critical to fighting the current COVID pandemic."

## **HL7 Virtual FHIR Connectathon**

Ten organizations from five countries are expected to participate in the [COVID-19 Knowledge Accelerator \(and Evidence-based Medicine\) track](#) at the upcoming HL7 FHIR Virtual Connectathon being held this week, from May 13-2020. Registration and more information is available here: <https://www.hl7.org/events/fhir/connectathon/2020/05/>. More information on the EBMonFHIR project can be found at: [tinyurl.com/EBMonFHIR](http://tinyurl.com/EBMonFHIR). To learn more about the COKA project, please visit: [tinyurl.com/COKAproject](http://tinyurl.com/COKAproject).

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## **About HL7 International**

[Health Level Seven® International \(HL7\)](#) is an ANSI-accredited, not-for-profit standards developing organization with the mission of empowering global health interoperability. With affiliates in over 30 countries, HL7's global membership envisions a world in which everyone can securely access and use the right data when and where they need it. Widely implemented by vendor and healthcare systems, and required by governing bodies around the world, HL7 standards deliver solutions for health information technology, including HL7® Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR®), Version 2 (V2) and Clinical Document Architecture (CDA®). For more information, visit [HL7.org](http://HL7.org).