



***For Immediate Release***

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## **HL7 International CEO Dr. Charles Jaffe Named an Interoperability Hero**

*DirectTrust™ Initiative Recognizes Organizations, Teams, and Individuals That  
Make Significant Contributions Advance Interoperability in Health Care*

**Ann Arbor, Mich. — Feb. 17, 2022** — Health Level Seven® International (HL7®), the global authority for interoperability in healthcare information technology with members in over 50 countries, today announced that DirectTrust has named HL7 International Chief Executive Officer Charles Jaffe, M.D., Ph.D. an Interoperability Hero for the organization's Q4 2021 awards. DirectTrust is a non-profit healthcare industry alliance created to support secure, identity-verified electronic exchanges of protected health information. The organization's Interoperability Hero Initiative was established in 2021 to recognize organizations, teams and individuals' commitment to advancing interoperability across the health care continuum.

Today's announcement recognized Dr. Jaffe's work as a tireless champion of both interoperability and the communities that rely upon them to improve health care. It also highlights how his "engagement with academic, industry and professional organizations has led to the growth and adoption of interoperability standards, fostering innovation in patient care, reducing clinician burden and advancing population health."

Throughout his tenure at HL7, Dr. Jaffe has advocated for the development, adoption, and implementation of HL7 FHIR on a global scale and has led the formation of the HL7 FHIR Accelerator Program. "So much of the credit for the progress toward true interoperability rests with the passionate efforts of the entire HL7 community as well as the organizations with which we collaborate," comments Dr. Jaffe. "The vision of HL7 will foster better care for our patients worldwide and for the legions of health care providers and researchers that rely upon information when and where its needed."

“HL7 International is enormously proud of the history of leadership provided by Dr. Jaffe,” said HL7 Board Chair Andy Truscott. “His vision for standards-based interoperability as the fuel for optimizing and improving patient outcomes has driven the global health IT ecosystem for over a decade. A consummate medical professional, Dr. Jaffe’s compassion for patients is matched by his sincerity in improving the care experience for all healthcare professionals.”

HL7 Chief Standards Implementation Officer, Viet Nguyen, M.D., noted that Dr. Jaffe’s efforts have brought together diverse stakeholder communities to form HL7 FHIR Accelerators and advance interoperability. “I am honored to serve with him in modernizing health IT, expanding HL7’s reach to the implementer community and improving health care for all,” he said.

HL7 Chief Standards Development Officer Daniel Vreeman, DPT, shares his colleagues’ praise for Dr. Jaffe, stating, “His sustained and enduring contributions have radically advanced health data interoperability around the world through his leadership of HL7 International and in partnership with countless other organizations. His efforts are constantly improving the capabilities of patients, care teams, and researchers to improve health.”

### **About the Interoperability Hero Award**

Each quarter, DirectTrust selects nominees to be an Interoperability Hero for their significant contributions to advancing interoperability and for making significant contributions in areas such as collaboration, patient engagement, use of trust framework and utilizing Direct with other standards/works, such as Query and HL7 Fast Health Interoperability Resources (FHIR®). For more information about DirectTrust’s Interoperability Hero initiative, visit <https://directtrust.org/interop-hero>. To see the InteropHeros for Q4 of 2021, please visit <https://directtrust.org/blog/interop-heroes-q4-2021/%E2%80%8B>.

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

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). [www.HL7.org](http://www.HL7.org). For more information on HL7 FHIR, visit [www.HL7.org/FHIR](http://www.HL7.org/FHIR).

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