

Statement of Understanding (SOU)

Defining the relationship between:

Health Level Seven® International
3300 Washtenaw Avenue, Suite 227
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104-4261

Hereinafter identified as HL7®

AND

The Health Story Project
c/o Joy Kuhl
Optimal Accords, LLC
4804 Laurel Canyon Boulevard, #1043
Valley Village, California 91607

Hereinafter identified as the Associate

This SOU shall have an effective date of: May 11, 2011

Statement of Purpose

HL7 has as its mission the goal of providing reliable standards for the exchange, management and integration of data that support clinical patient care and the management, delivery and evaluation of healthcare services. HL7 encourages the creation of flexible, cost-effective approaches, standards, guidelines, methodologies, and related services for the interoperability of healthcare information systems. HL7 provides a forum for the effective and efficient communication between the constituents of the healthcare community as represented by its membership: an international community of healthcare organizations, vendors and developers of healthcare information systems, academics, consultants and systems integrators, and related public and private healthcare service agencies. Recognizing that complementary efforts are underway to create and extend comprehensive standards in the healthcare community, HL7 enters into formal relationships to further these goals. This SOU defines the rights and obligations inherent in such relationships and shall be the sole governing document regarding the relationship between HL7 and the Associate. Associates are independent, non-profit entities whose mission is to advance, nationally or internationally, the acceptance and usage of standards within healthcare. Such entities include, but are not limited to, other Standards Development Organizations (SDO), industry associations or consortiums, and other groups that share the vision of improved healthcare through standards.

The Health Story Project is an alliance of vendors, providers and associations that have pooled resources to develop CDA Implementation Guides (IG) for common types of electronic healthcare documents, bring the IG through the HL7 ballot process and promote their adoption within the healthcare industry. The standardization and adoption of these common electronic documents will enlarge and enrich the flow of data into the electronic health record and speed the development of interoperable clinical document repositories for use within the enterprise and regional and national networks. This rapid-development project bridges the gap between narrative documents produced through dictation and the structured, computable records within an

EHR.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 An entity is eligible to be recognized as an Associate, at the discretion of the HL7 Board of Directors, based upon the entity's petition to establish a relationship with HL7.

1.2 The Associate may establish meeting schedules similar to HL7, and in addition may establish meetings with other Associates when convenient. The Associate is also encouraged to work with other standards organizations toward harmonization.

1.3 Official joint meetings between the Associate and HL7 may be scheduled where such meetings serve a common purpose and are convenient to the HL7 meeting agenda.

1.4 The parties to this SOU shall appoint a liaison to represent each to the other. It is expected, although not required, that the liaison hold joint membership in HL7 and the Associate.

1.5 Such projects as might be jointly undertaken by HL7 and the Associate will be clearly defined and delineated by a joint project proposal which must include a succinct description of the proposed project, an estimate of time required and resources expected to be committed by each party.

2.0 Rights Granted

2.1 The HL7 Working Group Meeting (WGM) or the equivalent Associate assemblage may be convened and conducted as a joint meeting of the two organizations.

2.2 Such joint meetings, when conducted, will be jointly promoted and shall at all times adhere to the rules of the host organization. When voting within the joint meeting context to propose changes to the standard, or to conduct other business specific to either HL7 or the Associate, the relevant procedures of the respective organization shall be enforced.

2.3 If the Associate is a member-based organizations, then

2.3.1 For the express purpose of attending the HL7 WGM, HL7 shall extend to benefactor and founding members of the Associate the HL7 member rate. In turn, the Associate shall recognize HL7 members as Associate participants and extend equivalent meeting privileges.

2.3.2 Members of the Associate, while encouraged to participate in HL7 Work Groups, may not seek leadership positions within HL7 unless they also hold HL7 membership.

2.4 Participation in HL7 through the Associate does not convey free access to or the right to distribute any HL7 intellectual property. The Associate is free to distribute implementation guides developed through joint projects to its Participants; however, Associate Participants shall acquire any underlying specifications or standards necessary for implementation from HL7.

2.5 HL7 and the Associate support and encourage the harmonization of any information model(s) with the HL7 Reference Information Model (RIM).

