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International

**Health Level Seven<sup>®</sup> International**

*For Immediate Release*

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## **HL7<sup>®</sup> and HL7<sup>®</sup> Da Vinci Project Letter to NCVHS on FHIR Standards for Electronic Attachments**

*FHIR Implementation Guides Support HIPAA mandated transactions for Prior Authorization and Electronic Attachments*

**ANN ARBOR, Mich. – December 6, 2022** – Industry stakeholders are currently anticipating the imminent release a proposed Attachments rule identified in the CMS Unified Agenda. As the global leader in interoperability, Health Level Seven<sup>®</sup> International (HL7<sup>®</sup>) and its FHIR Accelerator, the HL7 Da Vinci Project, today sent a letter to the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics to update the Committee (NCVHS) on recent advances in HL7 standards activities related to the HL7 Fast Healthcare Implementation Resources (FHIR<sup>®</sup>) Implementation Guides (IGs) capable of supporting HIPAA mandated prior authorization (PA) and clinical attachments workflows.

The letter expressed HL7's concern that the proposed rule may not include HL7 FHIR or the CDex IG as a standard for electronic clinical attachments since NCVHS did not recommend a specific standard in their July 2022 letter to the HHS Secretary. According to HL7 CEO Charles Jaffe, M.D., Ph.D., "If they are not included, the health care industry may miss a significant opportunity to build upon the FHIR foundations. This may have lasting impact on patients, providers, government and commercial entities and the broader healthcare community. We must continue to adopt HL7 FHIR to support HIPAA mandated transactions."

The prior authorization guides, collectively known as the Burden Reduction Implementation Guides, specify a FHIR-based approach which can be implemented within a provider's EHR-workflow and reduce the burden of identifying the need for PA, gathering the required information from the EHR, and submitting the PA to the payer.

Additionally, the Da Vinci Clinical Data Exchange Implementation Guide (CDex), balloted earlier this year, is nearing completion with publishing planned for the First Quarter 2023. This guide defines a FHIR-based approach to support electronic clinical attachments for both solicited and unsolicited attachments, as well as requests for additional information not identified and exchanged during the initial prior authorization and quality measure exchange processes defined by other Da Vinci FHIR implementation guides.

"The rapid advancements in FHIR adoption by providers, payers and others establishes a foundation for future progress in interoperability based on the FHIR standard," said HL7 Chief Standards Implementation Officer, Viet Nguyen, MD. "HL7 will collaborate with stakeholders in the standards and interoperability community such as the Designated Standards Maintenance Organization (DSMO) members and WEDI, to develop and adopt standards that support foundational clinical and administrative processes."

Further information about these implementation guides is available at [confluence.hl7.org/display/DVP/Da+Vinci](https://confluence.hl7.org/display/DVP/Da+Vinci).

### **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. [www.HL7.org](http://www.HL7.org).

### **About the HL7 Da Vinci Project**

As an HL7 FHIR Accelerator, the HL7 Da Vinci Project is a private sector initiative comprised of industry leaders and health information technology technical experts who are working together to accelerate the adoption of HL7® FHIR® as the standard to support and integrate value-based care (VBC) data exchange across communities. The Da Vinci Project focuses on minimizing the development and deployment of one-off solutions between partners with a goal to help all clinicians and health plans to better deliver clinical quality, value and care management outcomes. The core focus of phase one of the project is to deliver implementation guides and reference software implementations to the public for data exchange and workflows necessary to support providers and payers entering and managing VBC contracts and relationships.

To learn more about the HL7 Da Vinci Project and to sign up for the listserv, please visit: [hl7.me/davincinews](http://hl7.me/davincinews).