Health Level Seven® International

For Immediate Release
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HL7® Releases Findings of Synthetic Data Event
Brain trust from 12 countries shares insights during interactive summit

Ann Arbor, Mich. – **October 25, 2023** – Health Level Seven® (HL7®) International, the global authority on interoperability of health information technology with members in 55 countries, released findings from its virtual FHIR® Synthetic Data Event held Aug. 29-30, 2023.

The event was convened to discuss creating and using openly accessible synthetic FHIR (Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources) data and brought together top talent from the academic, standards, and vendor communities for an interactive dialog among 28 presenters and moderators. More than 70 individuals from 59 organizations and 12 countries participated in the discussion, representing health IT vendors, healthcare payers, standards developers, and government agencies involved in the development, implementation, and/or testing of HL7 FHIR standards and artifacts.

Synthetic healthcare data offers crucial advantages including:
1. **Privacy protection**: Shields real patient data from exposure, ensuring compliance with regulations like HIPAA.
2. **Standards development and testing**: Facilitates interoperability testing and protocol validation, ensuring systems can exchange electronic health information effectively.
3. **Education and training**: Provides a safe environment for realistic training scenarios, preparing healthcare professionals for diverse real-world cases.
4. **Software development and testing**: Enables secure development and testing of healthcare applications, reducing reliance on limited or privacy-restricted real-world data.
5. **Cost-effectiveness**: Reduces costs associated with acquiring, managing, and securing large volumes of real patient data.
6. **Innovation and research**: Supports experimentation and collaboration among researchers,

developers, and healthcare professionals, free from constraints of real patient data.

7. **Avoidance of data bias**: Allows for the potential of balanced and controlled data distribution, minimizing biases present in real-world data.

"It's highly unusual to have this concentration of brains on this subject," said Diego Kaminker, HL7 deputy chief standards implementation officer. "Synthetic data is a crucial catalyst for innovation across healthcare standards, delivery and research sectors. HL7 and the standards development community will play a vital role in facilitating and advancing its use."

The Event featured eight panel discussions across two sequential tracks focused on sharing information and demonstrating tools and resources that are crucial to the continued expansion and support of the FHIR implementation and testing community.

The 10-page summary report outlines key themes from each session, including insights into the challenges and limitations of current synthetic data and tools and future needs and recommendations for generating openly accessible synthetic FHIR data that is scalable, extensible, and fit for purpose.

For more information about the HL7 FHIR Synthetic Data Event, including session recordings, slides, and the final report, click here.

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 health care 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.

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