

NATIONAL E-HEALTH DATA GROUP LIBRARY

VERSION 1.0

Release Notes

14 September 2007

NEHTA publishes the first version of the National E-Health Data Group Library

NEHTA has now published the first version (v1.0) of the National E-Health Data Group Library (Data Group Library). The Data Group Library contains a suite of specifications that NEHTA has developed for the Australian health-care sector.

It has been developed to provide user-friendly access to NEHTA's data and content specifications for clinical concepts. It provides the existing clinical data and content specifications in a format that allows easy browsing and a wider variety of downloadable options for use by system designers, software developers and implementers including machine readable formats.

The library contains both:

- Data Specifications for particular health topics i.e., foundation 'data groups' such as problem/diagnosis, clinical intervention, adverse reactions; and
- Content Specifications for structured clinical documents such as discharge summary and referral, which make use of the foundation data groups.

How to use

The Data Group Library provides data and content specifications in a hierarchical structure combined with .pdf, XML and UML files for each specification. An introduction to these specifications and their anticipated use is accessible by clicking on the 'Information Overview' link in the hierarchy.

Use of Standards

It is expected that these specifications will be used in conjunction with other NEHTA-provided specifications such as the Australian Medicines Terminology and other SNOMED CT based clinical terminologies as they become available. NEHTA's recommended standards and specifications can be located through the National E-Health Standards Catalogue.

Data Specifications

NEHTA data specifications are aimed at standardising the language used to name and describe clinical concepts, and to provide a basis for the development of further, context-targeted

specifications that can be implemented by system designers.

The data specifications that have been published in the first version of the Data Group Library include:

- Adverse Reaction;
- Alert;
- Clinical Intervention;
- Clinical Synopsis;
- Diagnostic Imaging;
- Immunisation;
- Medication;
- Observation;
- Pathology;
- Problem and Diagnosis; and
- Reason for Encounter.

Data Content Specifications

NEHTA content specifications build on the data specifications to form structure clinical documents that can be implemented by system designers.

The data content specifications included in the Data Group Library include:

- National Discharge Summary; and
- Referral.

Ongoing Development

The development of data specifications is an iterative process, therefore, these specifications are likely to evolve in response to changing healthcare practices, workflow and information requirements.

Feedback

NEHTA continues to accept feedback from the healthcare industry as an ongoing commitment to the development of quality specifications. Comments and feedback can be emailed to: clinicalinfo@nehta.gov.au.

For further information go to www.nehta.gov.au.

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