

nehta

Reason for Encounter

Data Specification

Version 2.0 — 7 Sep 2009

Final

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Document Information

Change history

Version	Date	Comments
1.0	29 Jun 2007	Initial public release
1.1	29 Feb 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• minor typographical corrections and wording changes in Introduction• Figure 1 in Introduction updated to show more comprehensive information• there are no significant alterations that affect the data structure or use of this document
2.0	7 Sep 2009	Updated to incorporate changes made in the version 2.0 of the Discharge Summary Specification.

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- Standards Australia;
- Royal Australian College of General Practitioners;
- Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia;
- Members of the Australian DataTypes Project;
- Australian Institute of Health & Welfare; and
- Ocean Informatics.

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose and Scope

The Reason for Encounter data group specification forms part of a suite of data specifications that NEHTA is developing for the Australian Health Informatics Community. The suite comprises specifications for a range of health topics (represented as “data groups”), which are generally agreed to be of high priority to standardise in order to achieve the benefits brought about by Level 4 (semantic) interoperability in the Australian health care setting.

1.2 Intended Audience

This document is intended to be read by jurisdictional ICT managers, clinicians involved in Clinical Information System specifications, software architects and developers, and implementers of Clinical Information Systems in various health care settings.

It is reasonably technical in nature and expects the audience to be familiar with the language of health data specification and have some familiarity with health information standards and specifications. Definitions and examples are provided to clarify relevant terminology usage and intent.

1.3 Background

There are several e-health priority areas to be addressed by NEHTA specifications. One area of priority is identification of the data to be communicated and its structure. NEHTA is addressing this through Data Specifications which detail the Data Elements (logically grouped), and their associated value domains.

Data Specifications need to be independent of messaging formats. They are concerned with providing an information framework in which to achieve semantic interoperability.

Data specifications have been developed:

- Based on jurisdiction and clinician identified priorities;
- Specifically to suit the Australian model for a shared EHR;
- To define collections of related information, i.e. event summaries, data groups, data elements;
- To allow for expansion and extension as electronic systems mature;
- So they are “human readable”, (with information enhanced by the hierarchical structure);
- Incorporating clinical examples of use to enhance utility and adoption; and
- To provide a set of clinical terminologies, specific to the requirements of the Australian healthcare system.

Whilst shared EHR is referred to in these documents the implementation of the shared EHR is not dealt with here.

1.4 Terminology

NEHTA, through the National Clinical Terminology and Information Service (NCTIS), is defining a national approach to clinical terminology. Consistent and accurate articulation and interpretation of clinical terms is critical to the process of safe exchange.

SNOMED CT has been recommended by NEHTA and endorsed by the Australian, State and Territory governments as the preferred clinical terminology for Australia, and is now freely available for e-health software developers to use in their Australian products under IHTSDO (International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation) licensing arrangements.

While NEHTA's achievement of a national standard clinical terminology is based on SNOMED CT as the foundational resource, local variations and customisation of terms relevant to the Australian healthcare sector will be incorporated. SNOMED CT Australian Release (SNOMED CT AU) is the Australian extension to SNOMED CT; the integrated national release of SNOMED CT for implementation in Australian deployed clinical IT systems. NEHTA is also developing the Australian Medicines Terminology (AMT) as the designated clinical terminology for medicines available in Australia. The AMT will provide a consistent approach to the identification and naming of medicines, to support medicines management and activity across the Australian healthcare domain. The AMT will be integrated with SNOMED CT-AU in the near future.

Reference sets listed as value domains within this document have been developed taking into account data element and data group definitions and how they align and complement the SNOMED CT concept model. For further information regarding terminology and the development of reference sets please visit <http://www.nehta.gov.au/connecting-australia/clinical-terminologies> and direct your questions or feedback to terminologies@nehta.gov.au.

1.5 Related Documents

The following documents are companion documents to this Data Specification:

[NEHTA Data Specification and Structured Document Template Guide for Use](#)¹

Version No.: 1.0, Issued: 07 August 2009

This guide describes the generic data structures, data types, keywords and icons used within this Data Specification.

[NEHTA Participation Data Specification](#)²

Version No.: 1.0, Issued: 16 July 2009

This document contains the full specification of the participation data type used within this Data Specification.

[NEHTA Acronyms, Abbreviations & Glossary of Terms](#)³

Version No.: 1.2, Issued: 25 May 2005

A complete listing of all relevant acronyms and abbreviations, and a glossary of terms.








¹ http://www.nehta.gov.au/component/docman/doc_download/771-data-specifications-and-sdt-guide-for-use-20090807

² http://www.nehta.gov.au/component/docman/doc_download/754-participation-data-specification-v10

³ http://www.nehta.gov.au/dmdocuments/Glossary_v1-2.pdf

2 Specification

2.1 Data Hierarchy

	REASON FOR ENCOUNTER		
	 T	Reason for Encounter Description	 
	T	Reason for Encounter Note	0
		DateTime Recorded	0
	 T	Information Provided by	0
		REPORTER	0

2.2 REASON FOR ENCOUNTER

Identification





Name	REASON FOR ENCOUNTER
Meta-data Type	Data Group
Identifier	DG-15502
Version	2.0

Definition

Definition	The reason why a person engages with the healthcare system, representing the demand for care/service by that subject of care.
Definition Source	NEHTA
Synonymous Names	Reason for admission Problem on admission Reason for presentation Presenting complaint
Notes	This item is also used for encounters other than hospital admissions, such as outpatients or emergency attendances.

Relationships

Children

Data Type	Name	Version	Obligation	Condition	Occurrence
	Reason for Encounter Description	1.0	Essential		Multiple
T	Reason for Encounter Note	1.0	Optional		Single
	DateTime Recorded	1.0	Optional		Single
	Information Provided by	2.0	Optional		Single
	REPORTER	1.0	Optional		Single

2.3 Reason for Encounter Description

Identification

Name	Reason for Encounter Description
Meta-data Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-15501

Definition


Definition	The reason why the subject of care is seeking or receiving health advice and/or attention.
Definition Source	NEHTA
Synonymous Names	
Data Type	CodeableText
Value Domain	Not specified - Use existing code sets until NEHTA determines a suitable common reference set.
Notes	This item identifies the reason why a subject of care has presented for examination by a healthcare provider and is usually the first step of the encounter. In a referral situation (healthcare provider to healthcare provider) the referring healthcare provider might specify a provisional diagnosis as a reason for encounter.

Usage

Examples	1. Elective admission for Right Total Knee Replacement.
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Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Version	Obligation	Condition	Occurrence
	REASON FOR ENCOUNTER	1.0	Essential		Multiple

2.4 Reason for Encounter Note

Identification

Name	Reason for Encounter Note
Meta-data Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-15596

Definition

Definition	Comments relevant to the reason for encounter.
Definition Source	NEHTA
Synonymous Names	
Data Type	Text
Notes	This item provides additional narrative information in relation to the reason for encounter.

Usage

Examples	1. Readmission following cancellation of scheduled procedure 3 weeks ago.
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Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Version	Obligation	Condition	Occurrence
⌘	REASON FOR ENCOUNTER	1.0	Optional		Single

2.5 DateTime Recorded

Identification

Name	DateTime Recorded
Meta-data Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-15511

Definition

Definition	The date or date and time that the Reason for Encounter was recorded.
Definition Source	NEHTA
Synonymous Names	
Data Type	DateTime

Usage

Examples

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Version	Obligation	Condition	Occurrence
FE	REASON FOR ENCOUNTER	1.0	Optional		Single

2.6 Information Provided by

Identification

Name	Information Provided by
Meta-data Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-15503

Definition

Definition	A category of the source of the health information in this record.
Definition Source	NEHTA
Synonymous Names	
Data Type	CodeableText
Value Domain	Not specified - Use existing code sets until NEHTA determines a suitable common reference set.

Usage

Examples	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Subject of care 2. Carer 3. Other
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Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Version	Obligation	Condition	Occurrence
⌘	REASON FOR ENCOUNTER	1.0	Optional		Single

2.7 REPORTER

Identification

Name	REPORTER (Reuse of Participation Data Group)
Meta-data Type	Data Group
Identifier	DG-10296
Version	1.0

Definition

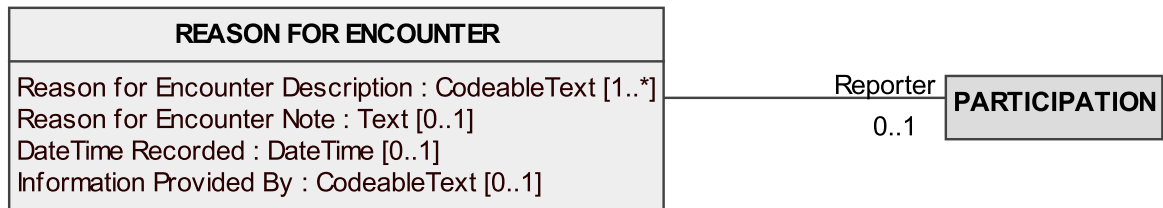
Definition	Details pertinent to the identification of a healthcare provider individual who is recording the reason for encounter information.
Definition Source	NEHTA
Synonymous Names	

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Version	Obligation	Condition	Occurrence
⌘	REASON FOR ENCOUNTER	1.0	Optional		Single

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