INTEROPERABILITY SERVICES
HEALTH LEVEL SEVEN (HL7) SOLUTIONS

HL7 is a standard for exchanging information between medical applications and is an abbreviation of "Health Level Seven". "Level Seven" refers to the seventh OSI layer protocol for the health environment. In general terms, HL7 is a protocol for data exchange. It defines the format and the content of the messages that applications must use when exchanging data with each another in various circumstances.

Electronic healthcare systems require the ability to send and receive data, including patient information. As a result, vast amounts of healthcare information are exchanged on a daily basis within and between different organizations. This information is normally stored in some non-standard format. To transmit the information, the data must be converted from one format to another. Since the data is both time and content sensitive, there need to be a transparent solution to resolve the information conversion problem.

HL7 SERVICES

iLink Systems provides HL7 solutions and specializes in HL7 based integration of health applications. iLink has proven experience in the design, architecture, planning, testing and implementation of complex HL7 based applications integration. These projects include the integration of hospital EMR system, Lab Information Systems, Personal Health Records or other clinical systems.

iLink educates and promotes the use of HL7 standards to clients and prospects. Our domain experts work with our clients to help share patient information using HL7 standards to enable interoperability to deliver better and safer patient care.

HL7 EXPERTISE

HL7 Version 3: Version 3 uses an object-oriented development methodology and a Reference Information Model (RIM) to create messages. The RIM is an essential part of the HL7 Version 3 development methodology, as it provides an explicit representation of the semantic and lexical connections that exist between the information carried in the fields of HL7 messages.

Clinical Context Management (CCOW): CCOW is an end-user-focused standard that complements HL7's traditional emphasis on data interchange and enterprise workflow. Using a technique known as context management, the clinical user's experience is one of interacting with a single system, when in fact he or she may be using multiple, independent applications from many different systems, each via its native user interface.

Clinical Document Architecture (CDA): CDA provides an exchange model for clinical documents (such as discharge summaries and progress notes) and brings the healthcare industry closer to the realization of an electronic medical record. By leveraging the use of XML, the HL7 Reference Information Model (RIM) and coded vocabularies, the CDA makes documents both machine-readable, so they are easily parsed and processed electronically and human-readable so they can be easily retrieved and used by the people who need them.

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