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Health informatics — Health informatics profiling framework

Informatique de santé — Cadre de profil d'informatique de santé

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ISO copyright office
Case postale 56 • CH-1211 Geneva 20
Tel. + 41 22 749 01 11
Fax + 41 22 749 09 47
E-mail copyright@iso.org
Web www.iso.org

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

In exceptional circumstances, when a technical committee has collected data of a different kind from that which is normally published as an International Standard ("state of the art", for example), it may decide by a simple majority vote of its participating members to publish a Technical Report. A Technical Report is entirely informative in nature and does not have to be reviewed until the data it provides are considered to be no longer valid or useful.

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ISO/TR 17119 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 215, *Health informatics*.

Introduction

The health informatics profiling framework (HIPF) is designed to bring order to the description of health informatics standards artefacts. A common means of description is necessary to facilitate the coordination, communication and comparability of health informatics standards across and between disciplines and jurisdictions. The HIPF is an approach and tool to describe the variety of artefacts within the domain of health informatics standards. It builds upon other key information frameworks. This Technical Report does not constrain or drive conformance across informatics standards or their development, but it provides a useful descriptive tool to describe existing and developing health informatics standards.

Health informatics — Health informatics profiling framework

1 Scope

1.1 General

This Technical Report provides a common description framework for health informatics standards artefacts. The aim of the health informatics profiling framework (HIPF) is to provide a consistent method for describing and classifying artefacts within the domain of health informatics standards.

The HIPF establishes common concepts and a vocabulary for describing the complex domain of various health informatics standards initiatives and their supporting artefacts. The use of the HIPF should promote the reuse of health informatics knowledge and improve the identification of opportunities for health informatics standards alignment, collaboration and coordination.

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of the HIPF is to facilitate shared descriptions and comparisons of health informatics standards. In particular, it is the aim of the HIPF to:

- provide the capability to comprehensively define and classify health informatics standards artefacts,
- facilitate the coordination, communication and comparability of health informatics standards through a common understanding of intended uses and content,
- help identify and coordinate health informatics standards development,
- provide a potential foundation for the development of a global health informatics standards knowledge base,
- promote health informatics standards integration and alignment within and between standards from different jurisdictions, and
- provide a framework to assist with the coordination of ISO/TC 215 work items both within the technical committee and with related initiatives from other sources.

1.3 Benefits

The potential benefits of the HIPF include:

- introduction of classification concepts and terminology for health informatics standards artefacts,
- enhancement of health informatics standards development coordination through the identification of potential duplication between standards initiatives, and
- enhancement of global understanding of health informatics standards in support of their knowledge management.

1.4 Target users

The target users of the HIPF include:

- health informatics standards developers, and
- users of health informatics standards.

2 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this Technical Report, the following terms and definitions apply.

2.1
artefact
any model, document, or work product

2.2
compatibility
capability of a functional unit to meet the requirements of a specified interface without appreciable modification

[ENV 12443:1996]

2.3
concept
units of thought constituted through abstraction on the basis of properties common to a set of objects

[ENV 12443:1996]

2.4
context
related conditions and situations that provide a useful understanding and meaning of a subject

2.5
data
"raw" alphanumeric text, objects, and symbols defined without any context in such a way that by itself one cannot tell its correct meaning

2.6
framework
a structure for supporting or enclosing something else, often acting to partition something complex into simple components

2.7
granularity
the boundary where an object functions as a self-contained, stand-alone unit to support a common vision or goal

2.8
health informatics profiling framework
HIPF
an approach and tool to describe the variety of artefacts within the domain of health informatics standards

2.9
HIPF cell
the intersection of an HIPF perspective and an HIPF level of specificity that is defined within the context of the HIPF classification matrix