‹ Home

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HL7 FHIR eReferral Workstream

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Added by Tim Berezny • Updated Feb 19, 2019 at 11:21 AM

Home

Comments & Events

janet routliffe, Project Manager, Architecture Program Office
The following content has been added to the eReferral FHIR iGuide:

SCOPE:
This implementation guide describes the business considerations and implementation details for enabling interoperability between two eReferral systems to initiate and manage an eReferral. eReferral initiation is based on one of two patterns: (1) a modified SMART on FHIR messaging pattern in which the eReferral system A presents eReferral system B to the user in order to complete the initial eReferral request, including the initial appointment date and time or (2) a basic messaged-based request in which eReferral system A sends a completed eReferral to eReferral system B for consideration of service.The FHIR messaging pattern is used for eReferral management between the two eReferral systems (i.e. eReferral and appointment updates, communications and notifications).

OUT OF SCOPE:
At this time, the implementation guide does not cover:
- Initiation of an eReferral using the FHIR messaging pattern in which the user completes the eReferral in system A, which is then forwarded on to system B
- Communication with a health services directory to expand the list of services/providers that can be searched
- Integration with Ontario digital health assets such as Provincial Client Registry
- Communication of outcome of the eReferral (i.e. consultation report)
- Semantically interoperable eReferral form templates and/or content
- Chained, forwarded or recursive eReferrals in which a eReferral #1 is sent from system A to system B and then eReferral #1 must either be forwarded on to system C or leads to multiple related eReferrals to be created and managed (e.g. a centralized intake request leads to multiple service referrals)

Feb 21, 2019 at 3:35 PM · Notified 1 person

janet routliffe, Project Manager, Architecture Program Office
Hello,

Send your discussion topics in advance of the March 1st "Identifier Policy" session.

janet
Feb 21, 2019 at 4:37 PM · Notified 1 person

janet routliffe, Project Manager, Architecture Program Office

Standards Identifier Management 201902-eReferral.pdf 2.74 MB • Download

Feb 25, 2019 at 10:09 AM · Notified 1 person

janet routliffe, Project Manager, Architecture Program Office
Presentation deck for Friday's "Identifier Policy" meeting is now posted.

Feb 25, 2019 at 10:10 AM · Notified 1 person

janet routliffe, Project Manager, Architecture Program Office

FHIR URI strategy

Objective

This document provides background and recommendations for implementers as they evaluate their approach to the "system" element used in both the Identifier and the Coding data types in the FHIR specification. The document is created with a focus on the Canadian context, but is intended to be generalizable for international use.

There's a fair bit of background here because different readers will have different levels of familiarity. Feel free to skip to the "Recommendations" section.

Background

What are FHIR 'system' elements?

FHIR makes use of two 'system' elements: code systems and identifier systems. These elements define the "namespace" for codes and identifier values. The combination of code 'system' + code and the combination of identifier 'system' + identifier value are globally unique. This ensures safe matching of codes and identifiers and helps enable interoperability across systems.

A code "system" identifies a specific set of codes maintained in a single namespace and generally maintained by a single organization. It's possible for the set of codes in the code system to evolve over time as codes are deprecated and new ones are added. However, in "good practice" code systems, a given code will only have a single meaning in the scope of that code system. Where good practices are not followed, it may occasionally be necessary to include the "version" element as part of the Coding to ensure the meaning is clear.

An identifier "system" identifies a specific set of identifiers assigned out of a single namespace. The namespace is a single collection of unique identifiers. It's possible that multiple types of identifiers could come from a single namespace (e.g. registered nurse license number, licensed practical nurse , certified nursing assistant, etc. all issued from the same set of numbers). Also, it's possible that the namespace might change over the lifetime of a single identifier (e.g. organization starts re-issuing the same ids 20 years on). Thus, namespace is not necessarily synonymous with identifier type.

FHIR URI strategy_Lloyd_14_July_2017.pdf 196 KB • Download

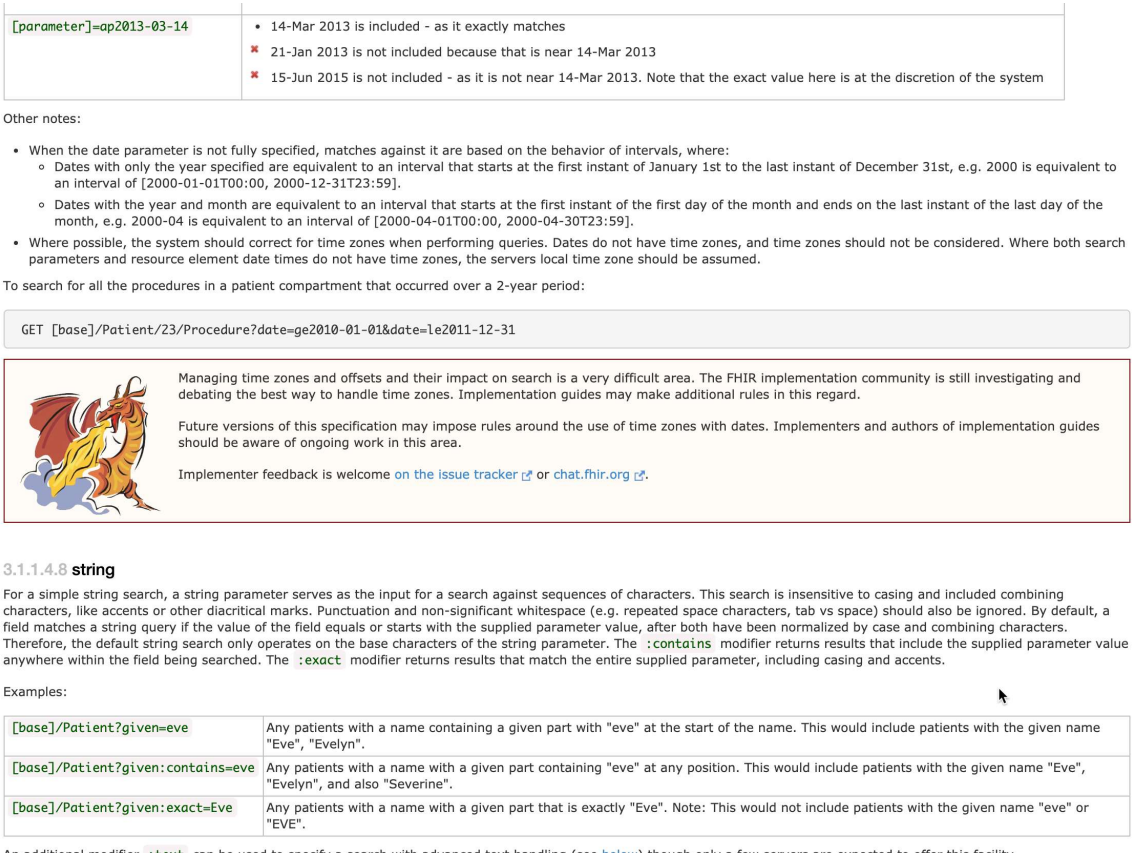
Mar 01, 2019 at 1:57 PM · Notified 2 people

janet routliffe, Project Manager, Architecture Program Office
Hello,

Thank you to everyone who attended this morning's call on the Identifier Policy. Based on the questions raised at the meeting, I have added a document "FHIR URI Strategy" by Lloyd Mackenzie for your consideration. The document summarizes the material Cindy covered in her presentation (there's a lot packed into nine pages!).

If you have any follow up questions regarding OIDs or URI's, Cindy would be happy to respond to them.
Mar 01, 2019 at 2:01 PM · Notified 2 people

Tim Berezny, CTO Caredove, Chair FHIR eReferral Specification Working Group
Here is an interesting thing done on the official FHIR documents, they indicate when there is still significant discussion happening on particular item. I suggest we implement something similar in this guide.
http://build.fhir.org/bundle.html



`[parameter]=ap2013-03-14`	• 14-Mar 2013 is included - as it exactly matches ✖ 21-Jan 2013 is not included because that is near 14-Mar 2013 ✖ 15-Jun 2015 is not included - as it is not near 14-Mar 2013. Note that the exact value here is at the discretion of the system

Other notes:

- When the date parameter is not fully specified, matches against it are based on the behavior of intervals, where:
  - Dates with only the year specified are equivalent to an interval that starts at the first instant of January 1st to the last instant of December 31st, e.g. 2000 is equivalent to an interval of [2000-01-01T00:00, 2000-12-31T23:59].
  - Dates with the year and month are equivalent to an interval that starts at the first instant of the first day of the month and ends on the last instant of the last day of the month, e.g. 2000-04 is equivalent to an interval of [2000-04-01T00:00, 2000-04-30T23:59].
- Where possible, the system should correct for time zones when performing queries. Dates do not have time zones, and time zones should not be considered. Where both search parameters and resource element date times do not have time zones, the servers local time zone should be assumed.

To search for all the procedures in a patient compartment that occurred over a 2-year period:

```
GET [base]/Patient/23/Procedure?date=ge2010-01-01&date=le2011-12-31
```

Managing time zones and offsets and their impact on search is a very difficult area. The FHIR implementation community is still investigating and debating the best way to handle time zones. Implementation guides may make additional rules in this regard.

Future versions of this specification may impose rules around the use of time zones with dates. Implementers and authors of implementation guides should be aware of ongoing work in this area.

Implementer feedback is welcome on the issue tracker or chat.fhir.org.

3.1.1.4.8 **string**

For a simple string search, a string parameter serves as the input for a search against sequences of characters. This search is insensitive to casing and included combining characters, like accents or other diacritical marks. Punctuation and non-significant whitespace (e.g. repeated space characters, tab vs space) should also be ignored. By default, a field matches a string query if the value of the field equals or starts with the supplied parameter value, after both have been normalized by case and combining characters. Therefore, the default string search only operates on the base characters of the string parameter. The `:contains` modifier returns results that include the supplied parameter value anywhere within the field being searched. The `:exact` modifier returns results that match the entire supplied parameter, including casing and accents.

Examples:

`[base]/Patient?given=eve`	Any patients with a name containing a given part with "eve" at the start of the name. This would include patients with the given name "Eve", "Evelyn".
`[base]/Patient?given:contains=eve`	Any patients with a name with a given part containing "eve" at any position. This would include patients with the given name "Eve", "Evelyn", and also "Severine".
`[base]/Patient?given:exact=Eve`	Any patients with a name with a given part that is exactly "Eve". Note: This would not include patients with the given name "eve" or "EVE".

2019-03-15_09-37-09.png 612 KB • Download

Mar 15, 2019 at 9:45 AM · Notified 2 people