

Health Information Standards

British Columbia Ministry of Health

Pan-Canadian Document Ontology Working Group

September 22, 2025 – 11:00 – Noon (EST)

By Mukesh Kashyap, BC MoH



Ministry of Health



Agenda

- Purpose
- BC Perspective
- Process for Creating a Code
- Samples of Request
- Value Set Use
- Q&A

Purpose – Why BC Document Ontology



LOINC AXIS	EXAMPLE
SUBJECT MATTER DOMAIN ✓	Cardiology, Physical Therapy, Pediatric Cardiology
ROLE ✗	Physician, Nurse, Case Manager, Therapist
SETTING ✗	Hospital, Outpatient, Emergency Department
TYPE OF SERVICE ✓	Consultation, History, Discharge Summary
KIND OF DOCUMENT ✓	Note, Report, Procedure, Consent

LOINC DISPLAY NAME
Cardiology Consult Note ✓
Cardiology Attending Consult Note ✗
Cardiology Hospital Admission Note ✗

BC DISPLAY NAME
Cardiology Consult ✓
Derm Progress ✓
Geri Med Admit ✓

BC Document Ontology Value Set



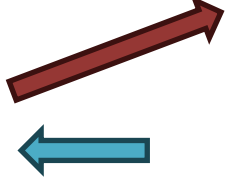
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Status	Code	Replacement Code	LOINC Long Name	BC Display Name	Document Kind	Subject Matter Domain	Service	Setting	Role
A	84109-8		Geriatric Medicine Admission Evaluation Note	Geri Med Admit	Note	Geriatric Medicine	Admission evaluation		
D	85445-5	84119-7	Geriatric Medicine Note	Geri Med Clinic Note	Note	Geriatric Medicine			
A	84119-7		Geriatric Medicine Outpatient Note	Geri Med Clinic note	Note	Geriatric Medicine		Outpatient	
A	34776-5		Geriatric Medicine Consult Note	Geri Med Consult	Note	Geriatric Medicine	Consultation		
A	80811-3		Geriatric Medicine Discharge Summary	Geri Med D/C	Note	Geriatric Medicine	Discharge summary		
A	96144-1		Geriatric medicine Evaluation note	Geri Med Evaluation	Note	Geriatric Medicine	Evaluation		
D	X10606	84119-7		Geri Med Note	Note	Geriatric Medicine			
A	83545-4		Geriatric medicine Nurse practitioner Note	Geri Med Note - NP	Note	Geriatric Medicine			Nurse Practitioner
A	83622-1		Geriatric medicine Nurse Note	Geri Med Note - Nurse	Note	Geriatric Medicine			Nurse
A	80818-8		Geriatric medicine Plan of care note	Geri Med Plan of Care	Note	Geriatric Medicine	Plan of care		
A	82355-9		Geriatric Medicine Procedure Note	Geri Med Procedure	Note	Geriatric Medicine	Procedure		
A	80815-4		Geriatric Medicine Progress Note	Geri Med Progress	Note	Geriatric Medicine	Progress		
A	57171-1		Geriatric medicine Referral note	Geri Med Referral	Note	Geriatric Medicine	Referral		

- Canadian“ize” some subject matter domains (e.g. Respiriology vs Pulmonology)
- For non doc.ont class document types (diagnostic studies, tests)
 - “Report” = used if diagnostic study only monitors and captures data (i.e. Pacemaker)
 - “Test” = used if the diagnostic study captures data while patient is being actively stimulated (i.e., treadmill test)
- Remove “note” from titles where not required (90% of all note types).
- UPCC in BC is used in place of Urgent Care.
- Outpatient progress notes used extensively. Inpatient progress notes are seldom distributed in BC (due to volume).
- Figure out the nature of the problem with document title.

Process for Creating a Code

BC Document Ontology Workflow Process Requesting a new document type



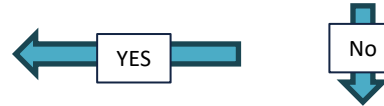
Vancouver Coastal Health needs 3 new document types in Cerner to capture details about some new transplant procedures. We want to distribute these documents outside of Cerner to the Family Doctor.

In Cerner we want to call them:

1. Liver transplant procedure note
2. Kidney transplant procedure note
3. Lung transplant procedure note



Do we already have the document type in the BC Ontology ?



Does LOINC support the document type with that specific name ?



Does LOINC support the document type with a similar or less discrete name ?
e.g. Solid Organ Transplant Procedure Note



If document type is truly unique and no existing LOINC code exists, request a new x-code* from Excelleris with the exact name in the original request and add this to the BC Document Ontology**

* Work with Infoway to see if this document type is valid for a formal request to LOINC for inclusion in LOINC

** Monitor existing x-codes for valid LOINC replacement codes in future releases of LOINC

BC Document
Ontology

LOINC

Excelleris

Sample of Request Received



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Request	Result
Neonatal Consult	Neonatal-Perinatal Consult
Nephrology Transplant Surgery	Transplant Surgery
Nephrology Annual Review	Nephrology Plan of Care
Asthma Clinic Note	Respirology Clinic Note
Mental Health Act Form 4	Involuntary Admission (Form 4)
Mental Health Act Form 6	Involuntary Admission Renewal (Form 6)
Community Collaborative Care Plans	Primary Care Network Care Plan
Respirology Operative Note	Rejected
Patient Progress Summary	Retracted

Value Set Use in BC

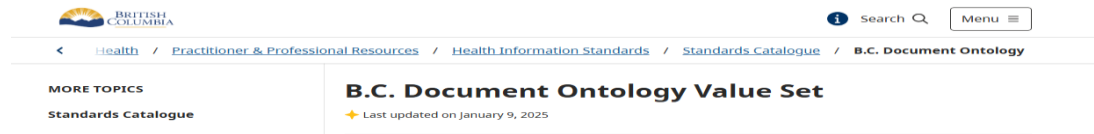
Health Authority	Population	Using BCLOINC?
Fraser	2.0 Million	100% - rolling out as upgrade hospitals (4/12 done)
Vancouver Coastal	1.25 Million	100%
Island	867,000	100%
Interior	820,000	About 30 document types, growing slowly
Northern	300,000	LOINC Identifiers and names, <i>in progress</i>

BC Document Ontology



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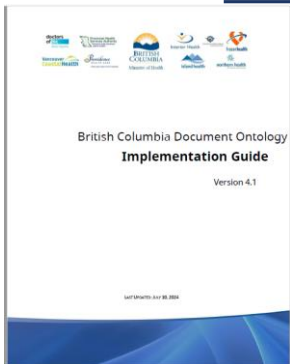
BC Webpage:



B.C. Document Ontology Value Set - Province of British Columbia

B.C. Document Ontology Implementation Guide v6.0 (PDF, 651 KB)

B.C. Document Ontology LOINC Codes v6.0 (Excel, 141.5 KB)



BRITISH COLUMBIA - DOCUMENT ONTOLOGY VALUE SET					
File Name	B.C. Document Ontology Value Set (BCDO)				
Version	4.1				
Iteration	000004				
Iteration Date	2024/02/27				
LOINC Document Ontology Version	LOINC 2.17 Released 2024-02-27				
B.C. Document Ontology File Structure					
The BC Document Ontology is distributed in a highly downloadable file that contains all document codes and metadata required for system designers to fully implement the BC Document Ontology.					
File fields and relationships to LOINC					
Col #	Column Name	Purpose	Source	Example	Value Set
1	Status* (see legend below)	Active, Replacement, Pretermed, or Dispretermed	Ministry of Health	Active	N/A
2	Code	Primary document type code	LOINC and BC Extensions	3602-8	LOINC DOO ONTOLOGY
3	Replacement Code	Used to indicate new (or better) LOINC code as replacement for a deprecated code	LOINC	87008-8 (Replaces 200808)	LOINC
4	LOINC Long Name	Long name format (could be used in the document title)	LOINC and BC Extensions	Plastic Surgery Consult Note	N/A
5	BC Display Name	BC Short name format	LOINC and BC Extensions	Plastic Surg Consult	N/A
6	Document Title	Use of document	LOINC, BC Extensions	None	N/A
7	Subject Matter Domain	Medical specialty	LOINC, BC Extensions	Plastic Surgery	N/A
8	Service	Medical service performed	LOINC, BC Extensions	Consultation	N/A
9	Setting	Clinical setting where service was performed	LOINC, BC Extensions	Emergency Department	N/A
10	Role	Service provider's role who performed the service	LOINC (Methods)	None	N/A
Notes:					
A	For the acute health systems, VHA, VPP, FHS has made the decision to generally NOT send out any progress notes. The reason is that progress notes are generally only related to patient visits and also iterations on the volume of these notes grows created daily for a complex patient and are they are not necessarily a program in itself or being the data source which we want to be independent about. Although the most complete data set does not show in the file as LOINC, some systems often refer to these notes types as "outpatient clinic notes". This standard is one that both VHA, VPP and FHS have followed to table consistency in all systems.				
B	The LOINC Long Name will NOT be present in the value set for codes that start with "class". These codes do not originate from LOINC.				
C	Phonology is the term for the U.S. specialty. Psychology is the term for the Canadian medical specialty.				
D	When a vendor updates their systems to ICD-10 procedure codes and modify Replacement Pretermed and Dispretermed codes.				
E	Status Legend				
A	Active	The LOINC or BCDO in column name Code is used in one or more health authorities in BC.			
D	Dispretermed	The LOINC or BCDO in column name Code might be in use but the code (if available) in column name Replacement Pretermed is recommended.			

BC Document Ontology Team



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Contact us:

- Dr. Ian Bekker – Clinician, SME
- Dennis Cabel – Technical, SME
- [Mukesh Kashyap](#) – Business, Ministry of Health
- BC PLUG Team (LOINC Users Group)
- [BC HIS Team](#) (Health Information Standards)

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Questions and Discussion



Thank you!!!