

# Building Blocks Working Group Meeting Summary

## Meeting Summary

<u>Date and Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Note Taker</u>	<u>Next Meeting Date</u>
Thursday, August 8, 2024, 1:00pm-2:00PM ET	Virtual	Sadrina Petit, Project Analyst, Digital Health Interoperability	Thursday, August 15, 2024, 1:00pm-2:00PM ET
<b>Meeting Agenda:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Queries / Capability Statements</li> <li>2. Terminology Sets</li> </ol>			
<b>Presenters</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dean Matthews – Service Directory, Product Owner</li> <li>• Irfan Hakim - Functional &amp; Industry Consultant  Data &amp; AI</li> </ul>			
<b>Invited Guests</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public</li> </ul>			

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

D. Matthews welcomed all participants to the working group meeting. Meeting materials and recording of the session will be made available on the InfoCentral working group.

### 2. Content Presentation

The Infoway Team presented each of the agenda items as outlined above. In the meeting, we reviewed queries, capability statements, and terminology sets

The presentation is available: [Building Blocks Working Group Meeting](#)

The video recording is available: [Building Blocks Working Group Meeting](#)

### 3. Questions raised during the working group meeting:

#### What are the primary use cases for the initial release of the service directory?

The initial release supports two main use cases:

1. **Search for Service:** Finding specific services within the directory.
2. **Search for Service Provider:** Locating providers offering specific services.

#### What terminology adjustments have been made to clarify these use cases?

The focus has been adjusted to better define and clarify the use cases, ensuring users have a clear understanding of what each search functionality entails.

### **What are the essential resources and parameters for these use cases?**

A rough estimate of essential resources has been provided, distinguishing which are crucial for holding the majority of information relevant to the use cases. The directory highlights necessary search parameters, like IDs, and distinguishes between essential and non-essential parameters.

### **What functionalities must the service directory support?**

The service directory must support:

- **GET and POST methods:** Fundamental for retrieving and submitting data.
- **Future extensions:** Planned expansions to enhance functionality, including possibly federated services and RESTful features.

### **Is the delete function supported in the service directory?**

Currently, the delete function is not a focus and is not supported as standard. It may be considered in future iterations based on needs and the evolution of the directory's use cases.

### **How does the service directory handle inactive or outdated entries?**

Instead of deleting entries, the directory should set their status to inactive. This ensures that historical data, like referrals linked to specific services, are preserved and not lost.

### **What technical considerations are there for querying by ID?**

- Direct retrieval by appending the ID to the location path.
- Using search parameters to bundle the ID in a query, useful when combining with includes and rev includes.

### **Why do we need search parameters other than ID if ID is unique?**

While IDs are unique and crucial for retrieving specific entries, other search parameters are necessary for initially discovering these IDs. For example, users might need to search by healthcare service name to find relevant IDs, which can then be used for further updates or checks.

### **Can we focus on simpler search parts before addressing more complex elements?**

Yes, it is suggested to first address simpler aspects of the search functionalities. This approach allows for a more manageable progression into complex elements and business requirements, ensuring foundational parts are well-established.

### **What is the importance of ID-based searches in the system?**

ID-based searches are essential as they are often the final step in a search process, used to precisely fetch detailed information from the server. However, other parameters play an important role in initially filtering and narrowing down the search results from a business perspective.

### **How does the variability in search parameter implementation affect different jurisdictions?**

Different jurisdictions may implement search parameters based on their specific needs and contexts. Some might omit elements like practitioner roles or organizational details, focusing only on essential components such as healthcare service, practitioner, and location. This flexibility allows each jurisdiction to adapt the guidelines to suit their operational requirements.

**Is there a need for further clarification on the use of ID and other search parameters?**

Yes, there is an expressed need for clearer guidelines or adjustments in the implementation strategy for search parameters, including IDs. This involves better defining how these parameters should be prioritized and utilized within the system to avoid redundancy and ensure efficient searches.

**What is necessary for managing referral flows within organizations?**

To manage referral flows effectively, it's essential to access detailed information about professionals and their roles within the organization through the service directory.

**How can I retrieve directory data for specific organizations?**

For use cases requiring access to directory data for specific organizations, such as those with established educational rights, it is possible to query the directory to retrieve data limited to those particular organizations.

**Is pushing notifications a valid method for initiating queries in the system?**

Yes, pushing notifications is a legitimate and supported method for initiating queries within the system, facilitating real-time updates and interactions.

**What are the key use cases for vendors using the service directory?**

A significant use case for vendors is to develop front-end applications that allow users to perform searches. These applications query a backend database to provide search results, enhancing user interaction and accessibility.

**How often should data synchronization occur, especially concerning practitioner availability?**

Data synchronization should occur frequently enough to reflect changes in practitioner availability, ensuring that the directory is up-to-date and accurate. This allows for effective assignment of referrals to available practitioners.

**What endpoints need to be supported for searching healthcare services and locations?**

The system should support endpoints that allow for detailed searches, including healthcare services and associated location details. This ensures comprehensive search capabilities within the directory.

**What outcomes can we expect from searches within the service directory?**

The expected outcomes from searches should align with defined operational needs and use cases, ensuring accurate retrieval of healthcare services, practitioner roles, organization data, and location information. However, the inclusion of location data is considered debatable and depends on specific requirements.

**How do special directories handle historical data and resource integration?**

Special directories might integrate multiple resources, such as patient data and organization details, within a single patient resource using extensions and containers. This method simplifies the structure but is tailored to specific project needs, offering a unique approach to directory data management.

**How are broad functional requirements balanced with specific needs like immunization in the directory?**

The approach involves setting a core list of functionalities that all implementations must support, with optional extensions for specific capabilities like immunization. This flexibility allows for various implementations while maintaining a consistent framework for essential services.

**Is there a consensus on the mandatory search capabilities for the healthcare service directory?**

The consensus suggests focusing mandatory functionalities around healthcare services, including relevant associations via "\_reinclude." Additional capabilities would be considered optional, allowing for adaptability across different use cases without imposing extensive requirements on all implementations.

**What are the minimal requirements for ensuring compliance and functionality in the healthcare service directory?**

The minimal requirements should focus on supporting searches primarily against healthcare services. All other capabilities, such as searching against practitioner roles or organizations, should be considered additional and not mandatory for basic compliance.

**How are value sets handled for effective search and categorization within the directory?**

The directory should include a comprehensive list of value sets that accommodate diverse needs, such as location details and healthcare service types. Essential value sets need to be well-defined and accessible to support effective categorization and search functionality.

**How should the directory handle complex categorizations like specialties?**

Managing specialties involves a nuanced approach, deciding whether specialties should be linked directly to healthcare services or practitioner roles. This decision impacts how the directory structures its data and supports search functionalities related to specialty services.