



Canada Health Infoway

eReC Working Group

Online meeting
Feb 26, 2025

Topics

Topic	Time
Welcome	5 mins
Recap <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Feedback from Plugathon roadmapping session, Projectathon participants- Decision on use of HealthcareService on Task/Communication	10 mins
Work Questions and Feedback related to Identifiers and their use	40 mins
Next Steps	5 mins

Recap:

Work Items identified at Plugathon roadmap session

- Technical fixes to the specs are needed
 - e.g.: MessageHeader.event.eventCoding not profiled, display name in MessageEventCode valueset
- More clarity on expected use of identifiers (and meaning) needed
 - is there a primary or universal or “official” identifier for an eReferral
 - use of ServiceRequest.identifier, Task.identifier, Patient.identifier(s) and when required
 - more clarity needed on use of identifiers in Reference datatype (i.e. when slimming payloads)
- Expected interaction between CSD (HealthcareService) and eReferral (ServiceRequest) not clear
 - where do CSD records come from, how are they consumed by RMS, used in messaging
- Interaction between systems
 - sync/async messaging, HTTP (200 payload, 400 response on L1)
- 3 • state machines & interaction between them is unclear, Appointment states not discussed

Decision on use of HealthcareService as Task.owner & Communication.sender ([ER-48](#), [ER-55](#))

- CA:eReC includes support for HealthcareService as ServiceRequest.performer, this is the preferred modelling for Central Access and Triage (CAT)
- HealthcareService is not permitted in related elements on responses
 - [Task.owner](#)
 - [Communication.sender](#)
 - [MessageHeader.author](#)

Decision (Feb 19, option 1):

- Update models to:
 - Allow CA-eReC-HealthcareService as targetProfile for
 - Task.owner (0..1)
 - Communication.sender (0..1)
 - Loosen cardinality on MessageHeader.author to 0..1
- Add guidance on when to use HealthcareService vs PractitionerRole

Questions and feedback related to Identifiers and Use

Item	JIRA Link
Need to know the “official” or universal identifier for an eReferral (ServiceRequest.identifier)?	ER-75
Clarify intended use of ServiceRequest.identifier vs Task.identifier	
Patient.identifier – Why is this element required when there’s a reasonCode for not providing HCN? In what cases is an identifier other than an HCN required? (Missing binding and valueSet for extension.)	ER-75 , ER-70 , ER-69
Clarification of slimming rules needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- expectations on use .identifier vs .reference Reference datatype- business language needed about which referenced resources need to be in a Bundle	ER-75 , ER-67

Need to know the “official” or universal identifier for an eReferral (ServiceRequest.identifier)? [ER-75\(1\)](#)

Why: The specification allows for multiple identifiers to be added to a ServiceRequest. Systems that don't assign a SR.identifier need a consistent way to recognize a ServiceRequest (or Task, Appointment, Communication basedOn a SR) in messages exchanged.

Example: Ontario's PCCG is a intermediary that uses subscriptions to route messages to interested parties using the ServiceRequest.identifier.

Options:

1. Define a universal system for eReferral identifiers in CA:eReC that implementers SHALL send with a UUID
2. Allow RMS to continue to define system and id, mark “use” as “official” ([valueset](#)) < one and just one
3. Other options?

6

Considerations

ServiceRequest model:



Property	Cardinality	Value	Binding
ServiceRequest	1		
extension	1	0..*	Extension
identifier	1	0..*	Identifier
use	2..71	0..1	code Binding
type	1	0..1	CodeableConcept Binding
system	1	1..1	uri
value	1	1..1	string
period	1	0..1	Period
assigner	1	0..1	Reference(Organization)

Use of identifier in .basedOn

- Single identifier is allowed, this addresses an issue about how to populate the item when slimming.

Use of identifier in CAT Use Case

- “Official” identifier is [generated by the CAT on receipt of the eReferral](#).

Use of identifier when routing

- Duplicate identifiers when routing (see [route, split, chain](#) – bottom of page)

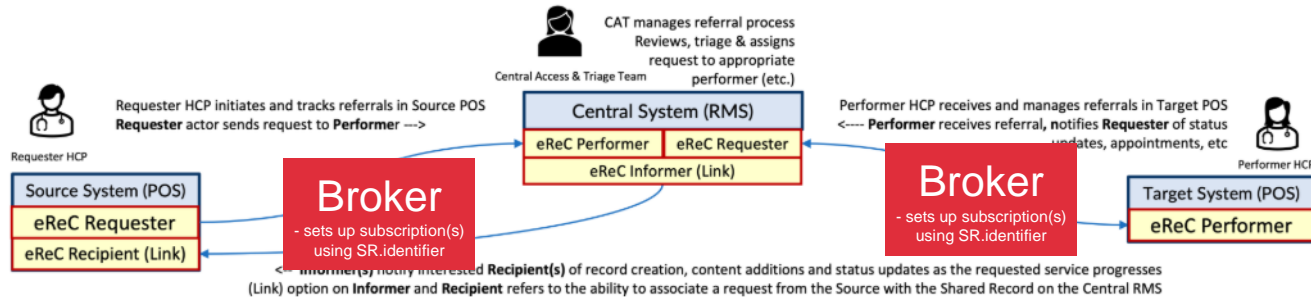
Routing	<p>1:1 relationship between parent and child ServiceRequests where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- ServiceRequest.identifier: There is a shared business identifier between parent and child- ServiceRequest.requisition: not used- ServiceRequest.replaces: populated in child with a reference to the parent- ServiceRequest.basedOn: not used
---------	--

- Motion:
 - eReC Requester SHALL send a service request with an identifier with unique system and value with use = “official”
 - There SHALL only be one “official” identifier associated with a ServiceRequest
 - In usage notes, provide example of <http://pancdn//id>, uuid, use = “official”
- Vote: Motion Russ, 2nd Tim, 12 in favour

Reference: Messaging with Intermediary



Routing	<p>1:1 relationship between parent and child ServiceRequests where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ServiceRequest.identifier: There is a shared business identifier between parent and child - ServiceRequest.requisition: not used - ServiceRequest.replaces: populated in child with a reference to the parent - ServiceRequest.basedOn: not used
---------	---



Clarify expected use of ServiceRequest.identifier vs Task.identifier ER-75(2)

Why: In messaging-based integrations both the Source System and Target System will have a copy of the referral potentially with local identifiers. (In messaging, .id is often not a persistent identifier)

Proposal:

- eReC Requester SHALL send the official or universal identifier in SR.identifier (MAY send others used by Source System in SR.identifier)
- eReC Performer SHALL store the official identifier for use in messages sent back to
 - e.g. Task.basedOn, Communication.basedon (etc) SHALL contain the “official” identifier received
- Requester (MAY send identifiers used by the Target System in Task.identifier)

Considerations, implications and options?

- Use of identifier in CAT Use Case ... “Official” identifier is generated by the CAT on receipt of the eReferral, is this the exception?

Discussion: Use of Patient.identifier

Patient.identifier

- Why is this element required when there's a reasonCode for not providing HCN?
 - In what cases is an identifier other than an HCN required?
- (Note the missing binding and valueSet for extension.)

[ER-75](#), [ER-70](#),
[ER-69](#)

Path	Cardinality	Binding	Value
Patient	I		Patient
identifier	S Σ 1..*		Identifier
extension	I 0..*		Extension
HealthCardNumberVersionCode	I 0..*		Extension(string)
ReasonForNoHCN	I 0..*		Extension(CodeableConcept)
use	Σ ?!	0..1	code Binding
type	Σ	0..1	CodeableConcept Binding
system	S Σ 1..1		uri
value	S Σ 1..1		string
period	Σ I 0..1		Period
assigner	Σ I 0..1		Reference(Organization)

Proposal:

- Make identifier.system and identifier.value optional

Considerations, implications and options?

-

.identifier

- Business identifier(s) for the patient, multiple allowed
- **MAY** include patient health card number or reason if an HCN is not provided (see: [ReasonForNoHCN](#))
 - **MAY** also include an HCN version code in Jurisdictions where it is applicable (see: [HealthCardNumberVersionCode](#))
- **MAY** include other business identifiers
- where present, the business identifier **MAY** be pushed to reference this resource in subsequent messages

Discussion: Clarification of slimming rules needed

- expectations on use `.identifier` vs `.reference` Reference datatype
- business language needed about which referenced resources need to be in a Bundle

[ER-75](#), [ER-67](#)

Reducing message size

References between resources within a Message Bundle (illustrated as relationships in the diagram above) are managed using using the Reference element, specified below.

Reference	1		Element
- reference	Σ 1	0..1	string
- type	Σ	0..1	uri Binding
- identifier	Σ	0..1	Identifier
- display	Σ	0..1	string

The structure supports references in either of two formats:

- a `reference` to a FHIR resource including within a `Bundle.entry`, or
- a shared business `identifier` for a Resource known to both systems

eReC Messaging requires that:

- when sending `Send new service request [eReCm-1]` transaction *all* Resources referenced within the message **SHALL** be included in the message as `Bundle` entries and referenced from other resources using an absolute URL
- when sending messages for other transactions:
 - any Resource(s) referenced in `MessageHeader.focus` **SHALL** be included in the message as `Bundle` entries and referenced from other resources using an absolute URL
 - any Resource referenced within the message that does not include a previously shared business `identifier` **SHALL** be included in the message as a `Bundle` entry and referenced from other resources using an absolute URL
 - other Resources with a previously shared business `identifier` **MAY** be referenced using the `reference.identifier` element with both the `system` and `value` elements populated

- basedOn	Σ	Σ 1	1..1	Reference(Se...
- reference	Σ	Σ 1	0..1	string
- type	Σ		0..1	uri Binding
- identifier	Σ	Σ	0..1	Identifier
- use	Σ ?		0..1	code Binding
- type	Σ		0..1	CodeableConce...
- system	Σ	Σ	1..1	uri
- value	Σ	Σ	1..1	string
- period	Σ 1		0..1	Period
- assigner	Σ 1		0..1	Reference(Org...

`.basedOn`

- used to associate the Task with the ServiceRequest being performed
- **SHALL** be populated with a reference to the ServiceRequest being performed
- if the Task is being transmitted via messaging, this element **SHALL** either
 - `.reference` a resource included in the message as a `Bundle.entry`
 - include an `.identifier` previously known to both systems

Next meeting



Canada Health Infoway

Thank you!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
infoway-inforoute.ca

VISIT OUR SURVEY WEBSITE
insights.infoway-inforoute.ca/

LET'S CONNECT ON LINKEDIN
linkedin.com/company/canada-health-infoway/

LET'S CONNECT ON TWITTER
[@infoway](https://twitter.com/infoway)