



Sneak Peek of the Next National Implementation Guide Release

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2024 American Immunization Registry Association National Meeting

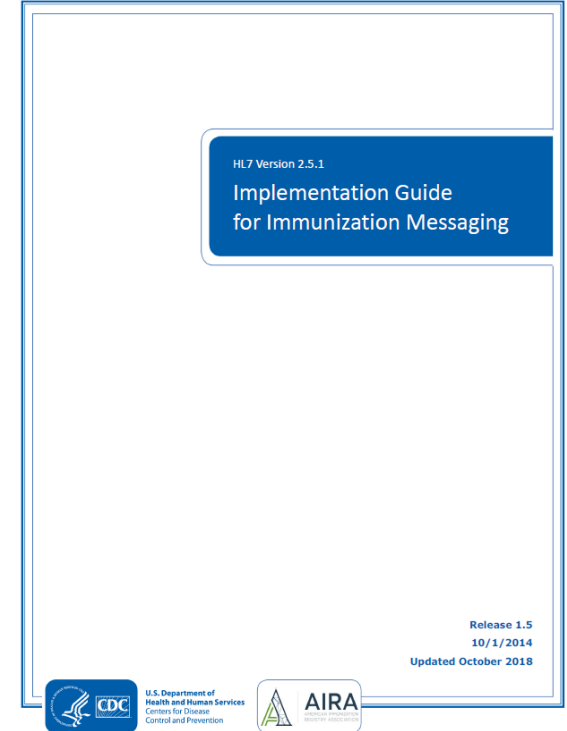
May 8, 2024

Agenda

- **Implementation Guide (IG) release history**
- **Topics for inclusion in the next release of the IG**
- **Impacts of the new release of IIS and EHRs**
- **What IIS and EHRs can do to ease these impacts**
- **Summary**

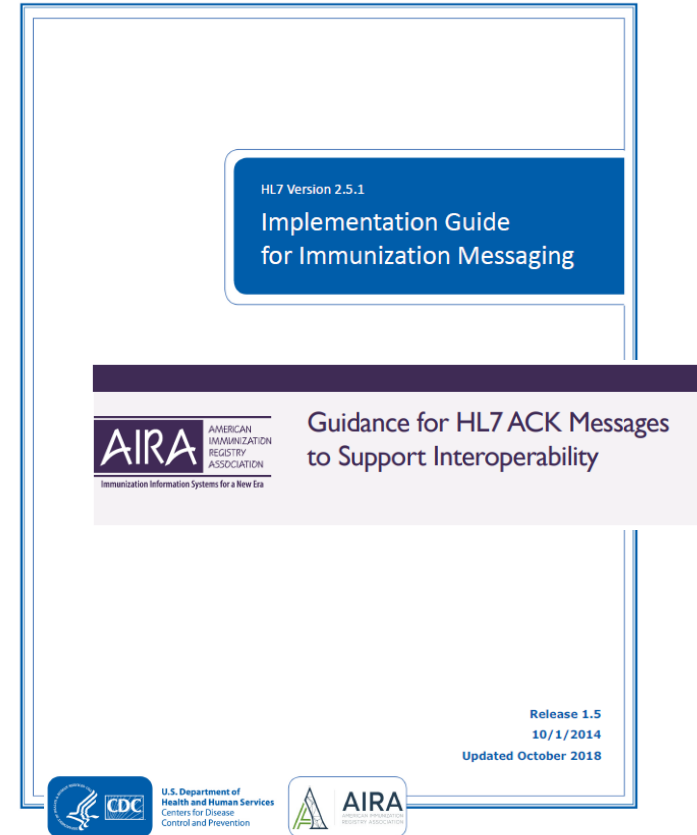
IG Release History

- **First Immunization IG:**
 - HL7 v2.3.1 standard (1999)
- **Next versions:**
 - HL7 v2.5 standard (2010)
 - Multiple versions exist
 - HL7 v2.5.1 *Implementation Guide for Immunization Messaging* (2015)
 - » Addendum created for EHR certification
 - A 2018 version consolidates addendum guidance
 - Widely implemented in Immunization community
 - Will be referred to as the National IG in this presentation
 - v2.8.2 IG exists, but is not implemented



Additional Guidance and Gaps for the National IG

- Documentation Challenges:



Additional Guidance and Gaps for the National IG

- Documentation Challenges:
 - Gaps resolved with scattered documentation

HL7 FAQ

**Frequently Asked Questions Series
Reviewed and Approved by AIRA
and CDC Staff**

Last Updated: 12/09/2021

HL7 Version 2.5.1

**Implementation Guide
for Immunization Messaging**



**Guidance for HL7 ACK Messages
to Support Interoperability**

Release 1.5

10/1/2014

Updated October 2018



U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention



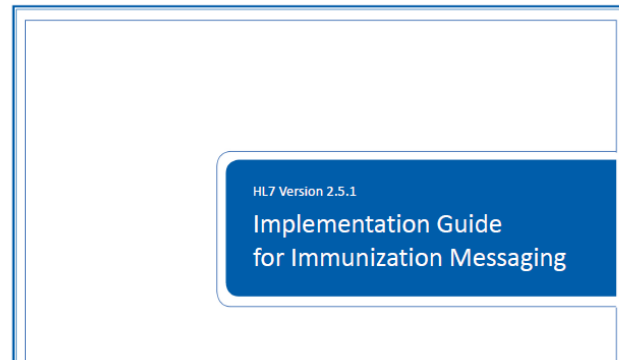
Additional Guidance and Gaps for the National IG

- Documentation Challenges:
 - Gaps resolved with scattered documentation
 - Difficult for new community members to synthesize information

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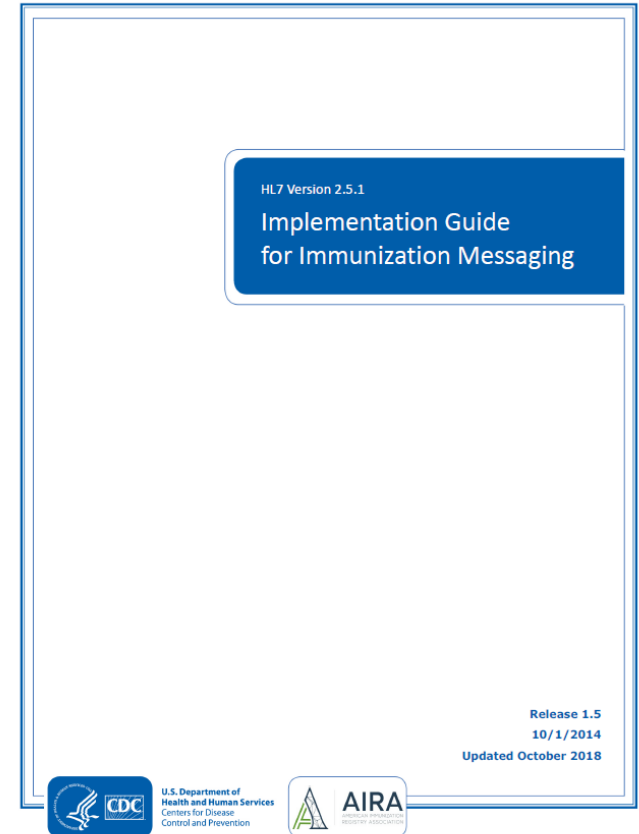
Guidance for HL7 ACK Messages to Support Interoperability



Guidance for HL7 RSP Messages to Support Interoperability

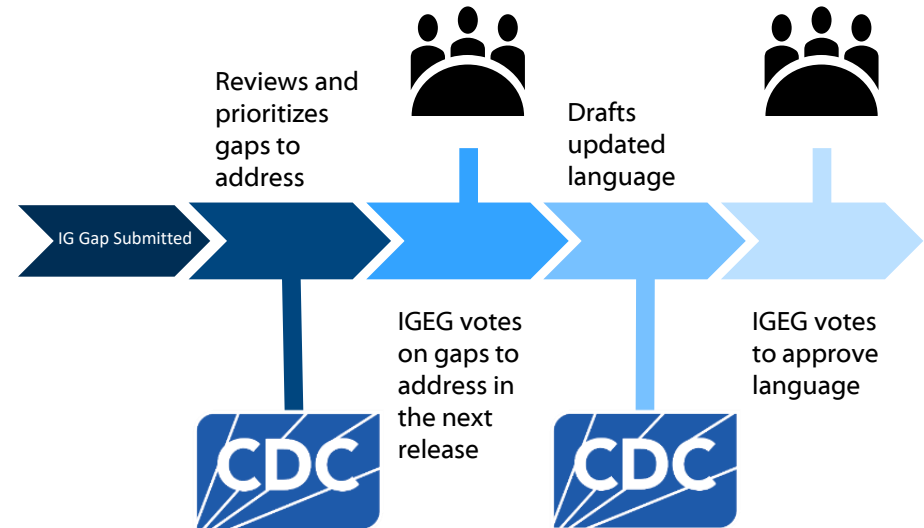
Additional Guidance and Gaps for the National IG

- Documentation Challenges:
 - Gaps resolved with scattered documentation
 - Difficult for new community members to synthesize information
- Proposal for updated National IG



Developing the Next Release of the IG

- **Implementation Guide Expert Group (IGEG):**
 - Consists of immunization community members from various stakeholder groups
 - Immunization Information Systems (IIS)
 - Electronic Health Record Vendors (EHRs)
 - IIS Tech Partners
 - Other national groups



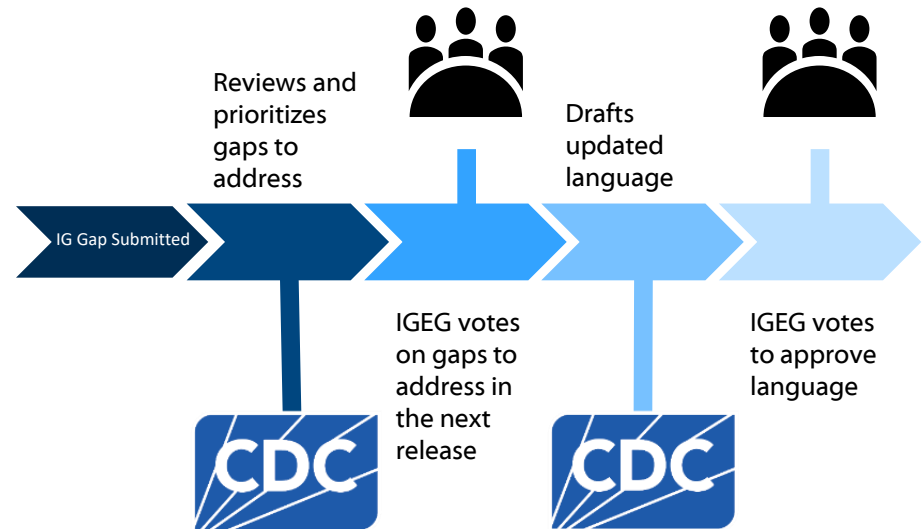
Developing the Next Release of the IG

- **IGEG Activities:**

- Monthly meetings since May 2023
- Voting on topics (Work Items) for next IG release
- Almost done voting on all submitted Work Items

- **Next Phase of IG Development:**

- Editing the IG to include Work Items
- Editing the IG to be written in plain language



Topics for inclusion in the next release of the IG

Work Item Category	Constraint Change	Constraint Modification	Example
ACK and Error Guidance	Y	Relaxed	Align Field Usages and Error Codes
Address and Tel Guidance	Y	Tightened	Telecommunication modernization
Consent, Status and Refusal Guidance	N		Patient Active/Inactive Status Guidance
General	Y	Relaxed	Removal of ADT Messages
General - CDC WSDL	N		Error Handling and Messaging Protocol
General - Coded Values	Y	Relaxed	Remove unbound value sets HL70204 and HL70360 to align with the current guide's structure
General - Conformance	Y	Relaxed	Guidance on Local Configurability

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General - Date/Time Guidance	N		Guidance on Partial Birth Dates
General - New Functions	Y	Relaxed	Gender Category Expansion
Later	Y	Tightened	Correct MSH-15 and MSH-16 Values
MSH Clarifications	Y	Relaxed	Remove value sets for MSH-3,4,5, and 6
OBX Guidance	N		Handling Unrecognized OBX Segments
OBX Indications	Y	Relaxed	Revise "Evidence of Immunity" Value Set
OBX VFC	Y	Relaxed	Review and Update VFC Codes
OBX VIS Guidance	TBD	TBD	Correct Reference Inconsistency
ORC Guidance	N		Clarify ORC-17 Meaning
PID MRN and SR Guidance	Y	Relaxed	Adjust Identifier Length Constraints
PID Name Guidance	Y	Tightened	Evaluate Requirements for RCP-2

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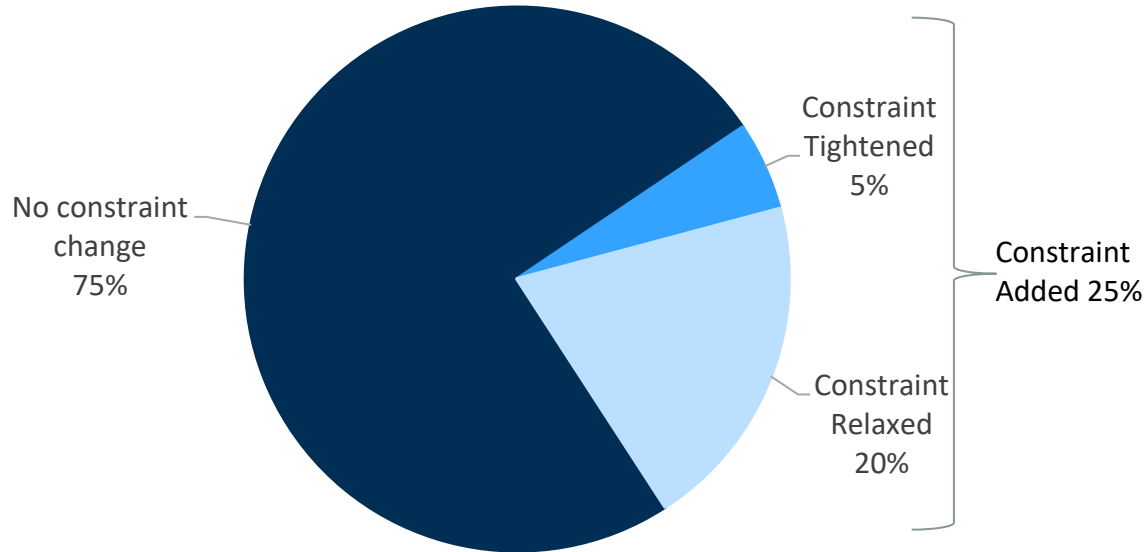
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PID Race and Ethnicity Guidance	Y	Relaxed	Unknown Race/Ethnicity
RCP Guidance	N		Clarify RCP-2 Quantity Limit Handling
RSP Guidance	N		Query Response Flexibility
RXA Dose Amount	N		RXA-6 and RXA-7 Definition Clarification
RXA Guidance	N		Slice RXA Segment Documentation
RXA Information Source Guidance	Y	Tightened	Clarify Definitions in RXA-9
RXA Vaccine Code Guidance	N		Incorporate NDC Requirements
RXR Guidance	Y	Tightened	Guidance on Route and Body Site Vocabularies
VXU Guidance	Y	Tightened	Next-of-Kin Relationship Clarification

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Summary of Topics for Inclusion

Approved Work Items by Constraint Change (N=95)



Easing the Impact of the Next Release

- **IIS and EHRs should incorporate previously existing AIRA documentation into their systems, if not already done**
 - Examples:
 - [Guidance for HL7 ACK Messages to Support Interoperability](#)
 - [HL7 FAQ](#)
- **IIS and EHRs should incorporate guidance in new Technical Advisory Bulletins (TAB) into their systems as soon as possible**
 - Examples:
 - TAB-010: Messaging Phone and Email
 - TAB-035: System Entry Date Time

Easing the Impact of the Next Release

- **Larger changes, such as Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) guidance, will be optional but may become mandatory in the future**
 - It is recommended to incorporate these changes sooner rather than later
- **Most changes are clarifications without obvious constraint changes**
 - Clarifications can lead to changes in system setup, though, so thorough reading of the documentation is recommended

Summary

- Release 2.0 of the *HL7 v2.5.1 Implementation Guide for Immunization Messaging* is pending
- IGEG is approving items to be included in the next release of the IG
- **Over 90 Work Items have been voted for inclusion in the next release of the IG**
 - About 75% of the changes are clarification and guidance changes that will most likely have no system impacts
- **Jurisdictions and EHR vendors are advised to review currently available documentation to ensure their systems are following guidance that will be incorporated into the next release**
- **Once available, systems should thoroughly review and implement new release of IG**

Thank You

- **CDC**
 - Ciarra Nelson
 - Fikru Mekonnen
 - Stuart Myerburg
- **AIRA**
 - Nathan Bunker
 - Erin Roche
- **IGEG Members**

For more information, contact CDC
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TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

