Australian Government
Australian Digital Health Agency

Physical Examination Findings
Detailed Clinical Model Specification
Version 1.2

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Approved for external use

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Document Information

Key Information

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Product Version History

Product version	Date	Release comments
1.0	4 Sep 2013	Initial public release.
1.1	18 Dec 2015	This version of the specification is updated to use the current version of Related Information (previously called "Link"), use the current common design elements for observations (Observation DateTime) and incorporate editorial corrections.
1.2	5 Aug 2016	This version of the specification has been rebranded to the Australian Digital Health Agency. The DCM is unaltered, except for rebranding for the Australian Digital Health Agency.

Related Documents

Name	Version/Release Date
Participation Data Specification	Version 3.2, Issued 20 July 2011

Included Detailed Clinical Models

This specification contains the following detailed clinical models:

- Physical Examination Findings, version 1.1

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Acknowledgements

Council of Australian Governments

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Regenstrief Institute (LOINC)

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Table of Contents

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose and Scope

This detailed clinical model (DCM) specification forms part of a suite of data specifications that the Australian Digital Health Agency (the Agency) is developing for the Australian health informatics community. The suite comprises specifications for a range of health topics (represented as data groups), which are considered to be the most critical to support the work programme given to the Agency and to realise the benefits derived from Level 4 (semantic) interoperability[1] in the Australian healthcare setting.

We value your questions and comments about this document. Please direct your questions or feedback to help@digitalhealth.gov.au.

1.2 Intended Audience

This document is intended to be read by jurisdictional information and communication technology (ICT) managers, clinicians involved in clinical information system specifications, software architects and developers, and implementers of clinical information systems in various healthcare settings.

This is a technical document; the audience should be familiar with the language of health data specification and also have some familiarity with health information standards and specifications. Definitions and examples are provided to clarify relevant terminology, usage, and intent.

1.3 Background

One area of priority for us is the identification of digital health data to be communicated and its structure. We are addressing this through data specifications, which detail the data elements (logically grouped) and their associated value domains.

Data specifications need to be independent of messaging formats. They are concerned with providing an information framework in which to achieve semantic interoperability.

Data specifications have been developed based on priorities identified by jurisdictions and clinicians, incorporating clinical examples of use to enhance utility and adoption. These specifications are intended to:

- suit the Australian model for a shared electronic health record;
- define collections of related information, e.g. event summaries, data groups, data elements;
- be human readable (with information enhanced by the hierarchical structure);
- provide a set of clinical terminologies specific to the requirements of the Australian healthcare system; and
- allow for expansion and extension as electronic systems mature.

While the My Health Record system is referred to in these documents, implementation within the system is not dealt with here.

1.4 Terminology

Our National Clinical Terminology Service (NCTS) is defining a national approach to clinical terminology. Consistent and accurate articulation and interpretation of clinical terms is critical to the process of safe exchange.

[1] Level 4 interoperability is described in *The Value Of Health Care Information Exchange And Interoperability [WALJ2005a]*.

We recommend the SNOMED CT as the preferred clinical terminology for Australia and this has been endorsed by the Australian, state and territory governments. SNOMED CT is considered to be the most comprehensive multilingual health terminology in the world. It is owned, maintained and distributed by the International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation (IHTSDO).

Our NCTS is the Australian National Release Centre for SNOMED CT and is also responsible for managing, developing and distributing national clinical terminologies, such as SNOMED CT Australian Release (SNOMED CT-AU), the Australian Medicines Terminology (AMT), and related tools and services.

SNOMED CT-AU provides local variations and customisation of terms relevant to the Australian healthcare community. It includes the international resources, along with all Australian-developed terminology for implementation in Australian clinical information technology systems. The AMT provides a consistent approach to the identification and naming of medicines, and supports medicines management and activity across the Australian healthcare domain. The AMT is now included within SNOMED CT-AU, with even closer integration planned for the future.

Reference sets listed as value domains within this document have been developed taking into account data element and data group definitions, as well as how they align with and complement the SNOMED CT concept model.

SNOMED CT-AU has been available for software developers to use in their Australian products since 1 July 2006. It is updated monthly and is freely available under a dual licensing arrangement – namely the SNOMED CT Affiliate License and Australian National Terminology License.

For further information regarding terminology and the development of reference sets, please visit http://-www.healthterminologies.gov.au. Email *help@digitalhealth.gov.au* with questions or feedback.

2 Physical Examination Findings Detailed Clinical Model

This chapter describes version 1.1 of the *Physical Examination Findings* Detailed Clinical Model.

2.1 Purpose

For recording a narrative description and clinical interpretation of the findings observed during the overall physical examination of a subject of care, and to provide a framework in which to nest situation specific data groups, each of which will enable specific aspects of the physical examination to be recorded in detail.

2.2 Use

Use to record a narrative description of the findings observed during the overall physical examination of a subject of care.

Use to incorporate the narrative descriptions of clinical findings within existing or legacy clinical systems into a structured format, using the *Findings Description* `data element`.

The use of this DCM is not limited to clinical examination findings performed by a clinician and can be used for recording observations of physical changes by a non-clinician or carer, especially within the *Findings Description* `data element`.

Use as a container to provide a common, queryable DCM in which situation-specific data groups can be nested. Examples of situation-specific data groups include those that detail the inspection, palpation, auscultation, percussion and movement of body systems or anatomical structures.

2.3 Misuse

Not to be used for recording history-taking observations - use specific DCMs and data groups. Not to be used to record stand-alone clinical observations - use specific DCMs and data groups, for example *Body Weight*.

2.4 UML Class Diagrams

The following figure represents the data hierarchy using a UML 2.0 class diagram. The diagram displays data groups and data elements, together with their names, data types and multiplicities. Data elements are displayed as attributes; data groups are displayed as classes; their label names are represented as association role names. Association role names are only displayed if they differ from the associated class name. When a data element has a choice of data types, the data type of the attribute that represents it is an abstract interface class generalised from the individual data types. The diagram shows the data hierarchy excluding the details of participation. The default multiplicity is 1..1.

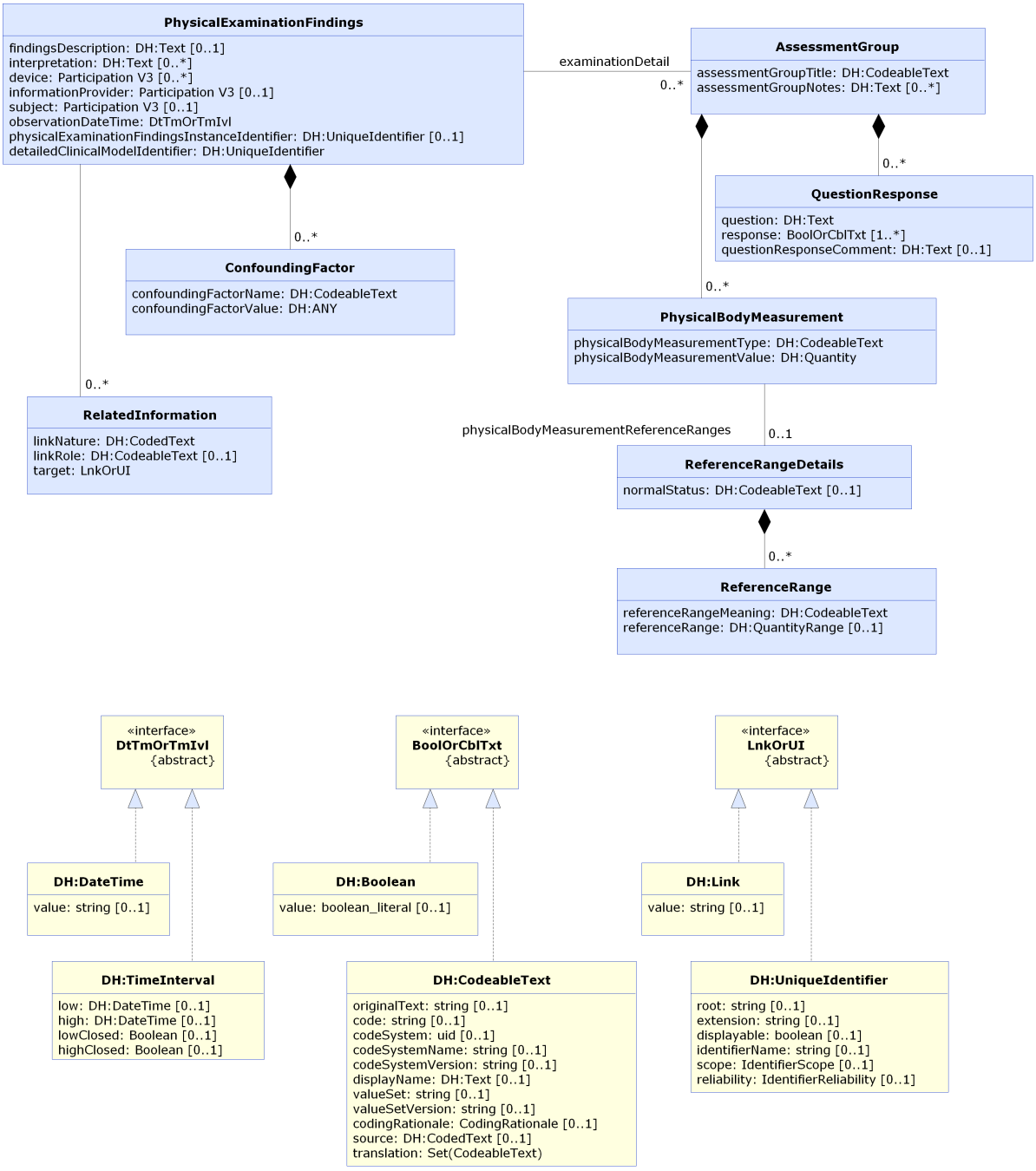

Figure 2.1. Physical Examination Findings

2.5 PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS

Identification

Label	PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS
Metadata Type	Data Group
Identifier	DG-16911
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.102.16911

Definition

Definition	Findings observed during the physical examination of a subject.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	Examination Physical Exam Findings

Data Hierarchy

Note

Items below whose text is lighter (mid-blue and mid-grey) are technical identifiers whose purpose is to facilitate interoperability, sharing of data and secondary use. Typically, such identifiers will be generated internally by systems and not displayed to users since they rarely have clinical significance.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS							
	Description (Findings Description)						0..1
	Examination Detail (ASSESSMENT GROUP)						0..*
		Assessment Group Title					1..1
		PHYSICAL BODY MEASUREMENT					0..*
			Physical Body Measurement Type				1..1
			Physical Body Measurement Value				1..1
			Physical Body Measurement Reference Ranges (REFERENCE RANGE DETAILS)				0..1
				Normal Status			0..1
				REFERENCE RANGE			0..*
					Reference Range Meaning		1..1

						Reference Range	0..1
			QUESTION RESPONSE				0..*
				Question			1..1
				Response			1..*
				Comment (Question Response Comment)			0..1
			Notes (Assessment Group Notes)				0..*
		Interpretation					0..*
		CONFOUNDING FACTOR					0..*
			Confounding Factor Name				1..1
			Confounding Factor Value				1..1
		DEVICE					0..*
		INFORMATION PROVIDER					0..1
		SUBJECT					0..1
		Observation DateTime					1..1
		Physical Examination Findings Instance Identifier					0..1
		RELATED INFORMATION					0..*
			Link Nature				1..1
			Link Role				0..1
			Target				1..1
		Detailed Clinical Model Identifier					1..1

2.6 Findings Description

Identification

Label	Description
Metadata Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-16941
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.103.16941

Definition

Definition	Narrative description of the overall findings observed during the physical examination of a subject.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Notes	May be used to record a narrative summary of the complete clinical examination or key aspects of clinical examination findings, which will be supported by structured data. Details of specific structured findings can be included using CLUSTER archetypes in the *Examination Detail* slot. This data element may be used to capture legacy data that is not available in a structured format.
Data Type	Text

Usage

Examples	Please see Appendix B, *Specification Guide for Use* for examples and usage information for Text.

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS	0..1

2.7 ASSESSMENT GROUP

Identification

Label	Examination Detail
Metadata Type	Data Group
Identifier	DG-16894
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.102.16894

Definition

Definition	Structured details of the physical examination.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS	0..*

Children

Data Type	Name	Occurrences
	Assessment Group Title	1..1
	PHYSICAL BODY MEASUREMENT	0..*
	QUESTION RESPONSE	0..*
	Notes (Assessment Group Notes)	0..*

2.8 Assessment Group Title

Identification

Label	Assessment Group Title
Metadata Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-16896
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.103.16896

Definition

Definition	The name or title of the assessment group.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Data Type	CodeableText
Value Domain	*Not specified.* In the absence of national standard code sets, the code sets used **SHALL** be registered code sets, i.e. registered through the HL7 code set registration procedure[1] with an appropriate object identifier (OID), and **SHALL** be publicly available. When national standard code sets become available, they **SHALL** be used and the non-standard code sets **SHALL** be deprecated.

Usage

Examples	Please see Appendix B, *Specification Guide for Use* for examples and usage information for CodeableText.

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	Examination Detail (ASSESSMENT GROUP)	1..1

[1] http://www.hl7.org/oid/index.cfm

2.9 PHYSICAL BODY MEASUREMENT

Identification

Label	PHYSICAL BODY MEASUREMENT
Metadata Type	Data Group
Identifier	DG-16899
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.102.16899

Definition

Definition	A measurement of a physical attribute of a person.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	Examination Detail (ASSESSMENT GROUP)	0..*

Children

Data Type	Name	Occurrences
	Physical Body Measurement Type	1..1
	Physical Body Measurement Value	1..1
	Physical Body Measurement Reference Ranges (REFERENCE RANGE DETAILS)	0..1

2.10 Physical Body Measurement Type

Identification

Label	Physical Body Measurement Type
Metadata Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-16898
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.103.16898

Definition

Definition	The name of the type of physical measurement recorded.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Data Type	CodeableText
Value Domain	*Not specified.* In the absence of national standard code sets, the code sets used **SHALL** be registered code sets, i.e. registered through the HL7 code set registration procedure[2] with an appropriate object identifier (OID), and **SHALL** be publicly available. When national standard code sets become available, they **SHALL** be used and the non-standard code sets **SHALL** be deprecated.

Usage

Examples	1) Height 2) Weight

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	PHYSICAL BODY MEASUREMENT	1..1

[2] http://www.hl7.org/oid/index.cfm

2.11 Physical Body Measurement Value

Identification

Label	Physical Body Measurement Value
Metadata Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-16899
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.103.16899

Definition

Definition	The measurement of a physical attribute of a person.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Data Type	Quantity

Usage

Examples	Please see Appendix B, *Specification Guide for Use* for examples and usage information for Quantity.

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	PHYSICAL BODY MEASUREMENT	1..1

2.12 REFERENCE RANGE DETAILS

Identification

Label	Physical Body Measurement Reference Ranges
Metadata Type	Data Group
Identifier	DG-16325
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.102.16325

Definition

Definition	One or more reference ranges applicable to *Physical Body Measurement Value*.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Notes	Each such range is particular to the patient and context, e.g. sex, age, and any other factor that affects ranges. May be used to represent normal, therapeutic, dangerous, critical and other such clinical ranges.

Usage

Conditions of Use	If the document exchange scenario is the *NSW Healthcare Provider Health Check (NPHC)*, then this `data group` is **ESSENTIAL**.
Conditions of Use Source	Australian Digital Health Agency

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	PHYSICAL BODY MEASUREMENT	0..1

Children

Data Type	Name	Occurrences
	Normal Status	0..1
	REFERENCE RANGE	0..*

2.13 Normal Status

Identification

Label	Normal Status
Metadata Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-11028
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.103.11028

Definition

Definition	An indication of the degree of diagnostically significant abnormality of the value, based on available clinical information (including but not limited to the reference range).
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Notes	The term “normal” is **not** statistical normality, but rather what would normally be considered healthy for the individual concerned. As such, this `data element` represents the health risk for the individual, which is indicated by the observation or measurement and the nature and criticality of that health risk.
Data Type	CodeableText
Value Domain	*Not specified.* In the absence of national standard code sets, the code sets used **SHALL** be registered code sets, i.e. registered through the HL7 code set registration procedure[3] with an appropriate object identifier (OID), and **SHALL** be publicly available. When national standard code sets become available, they **SHALL** be used and the non-standard code sets **SHALL** be deprecated.

Usage

Examples	1) Below normal 2) Above normal 3) Critically low 4) Critically high

[3] http://www.hl7.org/oid/index.cfm

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	Physical Body Measurement Reference Ranges (REFERENCE RANGE DETAILS)	0..1

2.14 REFERENCE RANGE

Identification

Label	REFERENCE RANGE
Metadata Type	Data Group
Identifier	DG-11024
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.102.11024

Definition

Definition	A named range to be associated with any quantity datum.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Notes	The obligations on this data group imply that if this data group occurs only once, the *Reference Range* `data element` is optional, otherwise it is essential.

Usage

Conditions of Use	If this data group occurs only once, its contents **SHALL** span the observed value. If this data group occurs more than once, its contents **SHOULD** include all of the ranges in a single set. If this data group occurs more than once, the *Reference Range* `data element` is **ESSENTIAL**. All reference ranges **SHALL** come from the one set of reference ranges.
Conditions of Use Source	Australian Digital Health Agency

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	Physical Body Measurement Reference Ranges (REFERENCE RANGE DETAILS)	0..*

Children

Data Type	Name	Occurrences
	Reference Range Meaning	1..1
	Reference Range	0..1

2.15 Reference Range Meaning

Identification

Label	Reference Range Meaning
Metadata Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-16574
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.103.16574

Definition

Definition	Term whose value indicates the meaning of this range.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Data Type	CodeableText
Value Domain	*Not specified.* In the absence of national standard code sets, the code sets used **SHALL** be registered code sets, i.e. registered through the HL7 code set registration procedure[4] with an appropriate object identifier (OID), and **SHALL** be publicly available. When national standard code sets become available, they **SHALL** be used and the non-standard code sets **SHALL** be deprecated.

Usage

Examples	1) Normal 2) Critical 3) Therapeutic

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	REFERENCE RANGE	1..1

[4] http://www.hl7.org/oid/index.cfm

2.16 Reference Range

Identification

Label	Reference Range
Metadata Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-11024
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.103.11024

Definition

Definition	The data range for the associated *Reference Range Meaning* `data element`.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Data Type	QuantityRange

Usage

Examples	1) 15 - 58 g/L 2) < 15 mmol/L 3) 2.5 - 3.5 kg 4) 23 - 45 cm

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	REFERENCE RANGE	0..1

2.17 QUESTION RESPONSE

Identification

Label	QUESTION RESPONSE
Metadata Type	Data Group
Identifier	DG-16906
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.102.16906

Definition

Definition	A question that forms part of the assessment or questionnaire, along with its response.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	

Usage

Conditions of Use	Each question **SHALL** have a response. The response **MAY** be a null flavour.
Conditions of Use Source	Australian Digital Health Agency

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	Examination Detail (ASSESSMENT GROUP)	0..*

Children

Data Type	Name	Occurrences
	Question	1..1
	Response	1..*
	Comment (Question Response Comment)	0..1

2.18 Question

Identification

Label	Question
Metadata Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-16907
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.103.16907

Definition

Definition	The question asked, written as free text.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Data Type	Text

Usage

Examples	Please see Appendix B, *Specification Guide for Use* for examples and usage information for Text.

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	QUESTION RESPONSE	1..1

2.19 Response

Identification

Label	Response
Metadata Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-16908
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.103.16908

Definition

Definition	The response to the question asked.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Data Type	CodeableText Boolean
Value Domain	*Not specified.* In the absence of national standard code sets, the code sets used **SHALL** be registered code sets, i.e. registered through the HL7 code set registration procedure[5] with an appropriate object identifier (OID), and **SHALL** be publicly available. When national standard code sets become available, they **SHALL** be used and the non-standard code sets **SHALL** be deprecated.

Usage

Examples	Please see Appendix B, *Specification Guide for Use* for examples and usage information for CodeableText, and Boolean.

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	QUESTION RESPONSE	1..*

[5] http://www.hl7.org/oid/index.cfm

2.20 Question Response Comment

Identification

Label	Comment
Metadata Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-16044
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.103.16044

Definition

Definition	A comment relevant to the question or response (or both).
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Data Type	Text

Usage

Examples	Please see Appendix B, *Specification Guide for Use* for examples and usage information for Text.

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	QUESTION RESPONSE	0..1

2.21 Assessment Group Notes

Identification

Label	Notes
Metadata Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-16909
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.103.16909

Definition

Definition	Additional notes relevant to the assessment group.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Data Type	Text

Usage

Examples	Please see Appendix B, *Specification Guide for Use* for examples and usage information for Text.

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	Examination Detail (ASSESSMENT GROUP)	0..*

2.22 Interpretation

Identification

Label	Interpretation
Metadata Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-16943
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.103.16943

Definition

Definition	A single word, phrase or brief description that represents the clinical meaning and significance of the physical examination findings.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Data Type	Text

Usage

Examples	Please see Appendix B, *Specification Guide for Use* for examples and usage information for Text.

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS	0..*

2.23 CONFOUNDING FACTOR

Identification

Label	CONFOUNDING FACTOR
Metadata Type	Data Group
Identifier	DG-16051
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.102.16051

Definition

Definition	An issue or factor of note that may have impacted on the measurement made during the examination.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS	0..*

Children

Data Type	Name	Occurrences
	Confounding Factor Name	1..1
	Confounding Factor Value	1..1

2.24 Confounding Factor Name

Identification

Label	Confounding Factor Name
Metadata Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-16950
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.103.16950

Definition

Definition	The name of a confounding factor of an observation.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Data Type	CodeableText
Value Domain	*Not specified.* In the absence of national standard code sets, the code sets used **SHALL** be registered code sets, i.e. registered through the HL7 code set registration procedure[6] with an appropriate object identifier (OID), and **SHALL** be publicly available. When national standard code sets become available, they **SHALL** be used and the non-standard code sets **SHALL** be deprecated.

Usage

Examples	Please see Appendix B, *Specification Guide for Use* for examples and usage information for CodeableText.

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	CONFOUNDING FACTOR	1..1

[6] http://www.hl7.org/oid/index.cfm

2.25 Confounding Factor Value

Identification

Label	Confounding Factor Value
Metadata Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-16955
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.103.16955

Definition

Definition	The value of a confounding factor of an observation.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Notes	Typically values will be codes, measurements or text. Other types of value are possible.
Data Type	

Usage

Examples	1) Subject of care agitated and restless

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	CONFOUNDING FACTOR	1..1

2.26 DEVICE

Identification

Label	DEVICE
Metadata Type	Data Group
Identifier	DG-10296
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.102.10296

Definition

Definition	Details about any device used during the physical examination.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Scope	This is limited to devices used as part of the physical examination (e.g. measurement tool) and that are not the information provider.
Scope Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Notes	Typically this will be a machine used by the information provider.

Usage

Conditions of Use	This is a reuse of the *PARTICIPATION* `data group`, which is described in *Participation Data Specification [NEHT2011v]*. The following constraints are additional to those specified in *Participation Data Specification [NEHT2011v]*. Constraints are explained in Appendix B, *Specification Guide for Use*. Additional obligation and occurrence constraints: • Participation Type **SHALL** have an implementation-specific value equivalent to “Device”. • PERSON OR ORGANISATION OR DEVICE **SHALL** be instantiated as a DEVICE.
Conditions of Use Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Misuse	Where the value of *DEVICE* is equivalent to the value of *INFORMATION PROVIDER*.

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS	0..*

2.27 INFORMATION PROVIDER

Identification

Label	INFORMATION PROVIDER
Metadata Type	Data Group
Identifier	DG-10296
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.102.10296

Definition

Definition	Details pertinent to the identification of the source of the information.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Notes	This does not have to be a person and, in particular, does not have to be a healthcare provider. Types of sources include: • the subject of care; • a subject of care agent, e.g. parent, guardian; • the clinician; and • a device or software.

Usage

Conditions of Use	This is a reuse of the *PARTICIPATION* `data group`, which is described in *Participation Data Specification [NEHT2011v]*. The following constraints are additional to those specified in *Participation Data Specification [NEHT2011v]*. Constraints are explained in Appendix B, *Specification Guide for Use*. **Constraints applicable when the information provider is a person NOT acting as a healthcare provider.** Additional obligation and occurrence constraints: • LOCATION OF PARTICIPATION is **PROHIBITED**. • EMPLOYMENT DETAIL is **PROHIBITED**. • DEMOGRAPHIC DATA is **PROHIBITED**. • ENTITLEMENT is **PROHIBITED**. • Qualifications is **PROHIBITED**. Other additional constraints: • Participation Type **SHALL** have an implementation-specific value equivalent to “Information Provider”.

	• Role **SHOULD** have an implementation-specific value equivalent to “Authorised Representative” or “Nominated Representative”. However, other similar values **MAY** be appropriate. • PERSON OR ORGANISATION OR DEVICE **SHALL** be instantiated as PERSON. **Constraints applicable when the information provider is a person acting as a healthcare provider.** Additional obligation and occurrence constraints: • LOCATION OF PARTICIPATION is **PROHIBITED**. • Entity Identifier is **ESSENTIAL**. • Relationship to Subject of Care is **PROHIBITED**. • DEMOGRAPHIC DATA is **PROHIBITED**. Other additional constraints: • Participation Type **SHALL** have an implementation-specific value equivalent to “Information Provider”. • Role **SHOULD** have a value chosen from *1220.0 - ANZSCO - Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, First Edition, Revision 1 [ABS2009]*. However, if a suitable value in this set cannot be found, then any code set that is both registered with HL7 and is publicly available **MAY** be used. • PERSON OR ORGANISATION OR DEVICE **SHALL** be instantiated as PERSON. **Constraints applicable when the information provider is a device.** Additional obligation and occurrence constraints: • LOCATION OF PARTICIPATION is **PROHIBITED**. • ADDRESS is **PROHIBITED**. • ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DETAIL is **PROHIBITED**. • ENTITLEMENT is **PROHIBITED**. • Qualifications is **PROHIBITED**. Other additional constraints: • Participation Type **SHALL** have an implementation-specific value equivalent to “Information Provider”. • Role **SHOULD** have an implementation-specific value equivalent to “Not Applicable”. • PERSON OR ORGANISATION OR DEVICE **SHALL** be instantiated as a DEVICE. • ENTITLEMENT is **PROHIBITED**. • Qualifications is **PROHIBITED**.
Conditions of Use Source	Australian Digital Health Agency

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS	0..1

2.28 SUBJECT

Identification

Label	SUBJECT
Metadata Type	Data Group
Identifier	DG-10296
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.102.10296

Definition

Definition	The person who was examined during the physical examination.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Scope	Generally only used when the recorder needs to make it explicit. Otherwise, the subject of the enclosing Structured Document is assumed.
Scope Source	Australian Digital Health Agency

Usage

Conditions of Use	This is a reuse of the *PARTICIPATION* `data group`, which is described in *Participation Data Specification [NEHT2011v]*. The following constraints are additional to those specified in *Participation Data Specification [NEHT2011v]*. Constraints are explained in Appendix B, *Specification Guide for Use*. • Participation Type **SHALL** have an implementation-specific value equivalent to “Subject”. • PERSON OR ORGANISATION OR DEVICE **SHALL** be instantiated as a PERSON.
Conditions of Use Source	Australian Digital Health Agency

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS	0..1

2.29 Observation DateTime

Identification

Label	Observation DateTime
Metadata Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-15561
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.103.15561

Definition

Definition	Date, and optionally time, when an observation is clinically significant to the condition of the subject of the observation.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	Clinically Significant DateTime Effective DateTime
Context	For a *Pathology Test Result* the value is the date, and optionally time, of collection of the specimen. For an *Imaging Examination Result* the value is the date, and optionally time, of the imaging examination. For a series of images this is the date, and optionally time, when the last image was taken.
Context Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Notes	Associated with every observation of a subject are two different times that often, but not always, coincide, and are consequently often conflated: the time that the activity of observing occurred (the time the subject **was** observed, the *measuring time*), and the time that the subject was the way it looked (the time the subject was **as** observed, the *state time*.) Generally, there is no delay between a person being in a state, and an observation of the person being in that state. For example, if a pulse of 72 bpm is recorded at 13:45 on 12 February 2015, one can assume that the heart rate was 72 bpm at that time. (Pulse is a surrogate for heart rate.) In such cases the *measuring time* and the *state time* are the same. Sometimes, when there is a delay between the time the person is in a state and the time when they are measured, the delay is important. For example, if a sample is taken from a person and its testing is completed over a period of days, the test results will provide information about the state of the person at the time the sample was taken, not the time the test was completed. The clinically significant time in all clinical observations is the time that the person was as observed, the *state time*. In observations involving specimens, the time that the specimen was taken is the closest practicable proxy for the *state time*. The meaning of *Observation DateTime* is always the time that the person was **as** observed. This approach follows that of openEHR.
Data Type	DateTime TimeInterval

Usage

Examples	Please see DateTime in Appendix B, *Specification Guide for Use* for examples and usage information on specifying a date or time (or both).

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	**Occurrences** (child within parent)
	PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS	1..1

2.30 Physical Examination Findings Instance Identifier

Identification

Label	Physical Examination Findings Instance Identifier
Metadata Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-16916
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.103.16916

Definition

Definition	A globally unique identifier for each instance of a *Physical Examination Findings* observation.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Data Type	UniqueIdentifier

Usage

Examples	Please see Appendix B, *Specification Guide for Use* for examples and usage information for UniqueIdentifier.

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS	0..1

2.31 RELATED INFORMATION

Identification

Label	RELATED INFORMATION
Metadata Type	Data Group
Identifier	DG-16692
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.102.16692

Definition

Definition	A link to another instance of a detailed clinical model (DCM) or a document containing instances of DCMs.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Notes	Links may be to structures inside the enclosing document or inside other documents.

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS	0..*

Children

Data Type	Name	Occurrences
	Link Nature	1..1
	Link Role	0..1
	Target	1..1

2.32 Link Nature

Identification

Label	Link Nature
Metadata Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-16698
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.103.16698

Definition

Definition	The general semantic category of the relationship between this instance of this detailed clinical model (DCM), i.e. the source, and the target DCM instance or target document.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Notes	This is one of two attributes that together communicate the semantics of the relationship between the source and target DCMs or document. This attribute is intended to be a coarse-grained category that can be used to enable interoperability between sender and receiver.
Data Type	CodedText
Value Domain	Link Nature Values

Usage

Examples	1) is related to 2) is confirmed by or authorised by 3) is related to the same problem or health issue

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	RELATED INFORMATION	1..1

2.33 Link Nature Values

Identification

Label	Link Nature Values
Metadata Type	Value Domain
Identifier	VD-16698
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.104.16698
External Identifier	LINK_NATURE

Definition

Definition	Set of values for the general semantic category of the relationship between this instance of this DCM, i.e. the source, and the target DCM instance or target document.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency

Value Domain

Source	ISO 13606-3:2009	
Permissible Values	The permissible values are those specified in Termlist LINK_NATURE in *ISO 13606-3:2009 Health informatics - Electronic health record communication - Part 3: Reference archetypes and term lists [ISO2009a]*. They are listed here.	
	LINK-A0, is related to	A generic category for any Link, the details of which will be given by the value of Link Role.
	LINK-B0, is confirmed by or authorised by	The target link contains [an instance of a DCM or document] that acts as the legal or clinical basis for the activity documented in the source [DCM instance], or is a declaration of intent to provide (or not to provide) requested care. This Link is to be used to connect two [DCM instances or DCM and document], as opposed to the inclusion of a corroborating or authorising participant as an identified party within a single [DCM instance or document].
	LINK-C0, is related to the same problem or health issue	The target [instance of a DCM or document] documents health or health care that pertains to the same clinical situation as the source [DCM instance]. One of the two might be defining a problem for which the other is a manifestation, or the relationship might for example be cause and effect, stages in an evolving clinical history, a different interpretation of an observation, a clinical indication or contraindication.
	LINK-D0, is related to the same care plan, act or episode	The source and the target [instances of DCM or documents] are each documenting parts of the same care plan, act or episode. One of the two might be defining the same care plan, act or episode, or both might be related milestones.

	LINK-E0, is a related documentation	The target [instance of a DCM or document] is an alternative documentary form of the source [DCM instance], such as re-expression of the same clinical information or additional supplementary explanatory information.

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	Link Nature	1..1

2.34 Link Role

Identification

Label	Link Role
Metadata Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-16699
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.103.16699

Definition

Definition	The detailed semantic description of the relationship between this instance of this DCM (i.e. the source), and the target DCM instance or target document.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Notes	This is one of two attributes that together communicate the semantics of the relationship between the source and target DCMs. This attribute provides for a specific description of the actual role played by the target in relation to the source. This attribute may be populated from any suitable terminology, and therefore might support human readership better than interoperable automated processing.
Data Type	CodeableText
Value Domain	Link Role Values

Usage

Examples	1) unspecified link 2) suggests 3) endorses 4) evidence for 5) outcome 6) is documented by 7) excerpts

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	RELATED INFORMATION	0..1

2.35 Link Role Values

Identification

Label	Link Role Values
Metadata Type	Value Domain
Identifier	VD-16699
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.104.16699
External Identifier	LINK_ROLE

Definition

Definition	Set of values for the detailed semantic description of the relationship between this instance of this DCM, i.e. the source, and the target DCM instance or target document.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Context	These values are used within the context of the value of the *Link Nature* `data element`. They provide greater specificity and may be selected more for human readership than for interoperable automated processing.
Context Source	Australian Digital Health Agency

Value Domain

Source	ISO 13606-3:2009
Permissible Values	Values **SHOULD** be from Termlist LINK_ROLE in ISO 13606-3:2009 [ISO2009a]. Values **MAY** be from any suitable terminology. Some values from Termlist LINK_ROLE in *ISO 13606-3:2009 Health informatics - Electronic health record communication - Part 3: Reference archetypes and term lists [ISO2009a]* are:

LINK-A1, unspecified link	The term is used when no semantic information is available for this Link in the EHR system from which the EXTRACT has been created.
LINK-A2, suggests	The interpretation expressed in the target component is a possible cause or outcome of the findings documented in the source component.
LINK-B1, endorses	The interpretation expressed in the source component provides confirmatory evidence or a confirmatory opinion of the interpretation expressed in the target component.
LINK-C3, evidence for	The observation or interpretation documented in the source component provides confirmatory evidence of the interpretation expressed in the target component.
LINK-D1, outcome	The clinical situation documented in the target component is the direct outcome of the situation documented in the source component.

	LINK-E1, documented by	A clinical situation documented in the source component is more formally documented in the target component.
	LINK-E4, excerpts	The source component is an extract (copy) of part or all of the information contained within the target component.

Usage

Conditions of Use	Each of the link terms in LINK_ROLE from ISO 13606-3:2009 is a subcategory of a corresponding term in *Link Nature Values*, where that correspondence is indicated by the first letter after the code string "LINK-". For example the term LINK-A1 is a subcategory of term LINK-A0. If a term in this list is used for the *Link Role* `data element`, the appropriate corresponding value **SHALL** be used from *Link Nature Values*.
Conditions of Use Source	ISO 13606-3:2009

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	**Occurrences** (child within parent)
	Link Role	1..1

2.36 Target

Identification

Label	Target
Metadata Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-16700
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.103.16700

Definition

Definition	The “linked to” or identified information.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Data Type	Link UniqueIdentifier

Usage

Examples	Please see Appendix B, *Specification Guide for Use* for examples and usage information for Link, and UniqueIdentifier.

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	RELATED INFORMATION	1..1

2.37 Detailed Clinical Model Identifier

Identification

Label	Detailed Clinical Model Identifier
Metadata Type	Data Element
Identifier	DE-16693
OID	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.103.16693

Definition

Definition	A globally unique identifier for this Detailed Clinical Model.
Definition Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Synonymous Names	
Data Type	UniqueIdentifier

Usage

Conditions of Use	The value of this item **SHALL** be either the default value or a semantically equivalent value from an appropriate code system.
Conditions of Use Source	Australian Digital Health Agency
Examples	Please see Appendix B, *Specification Guide for Use* for examples and usage information for UniqueIdentifier.
Default Value	1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101.102.16911

Relationships

Parents

Data Type	Name	Occurrences (child within parent)
	PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS	1..1

Appendix A. Known Issues

This appendix lists known issues with this specification at the time of publishing. We are working on solutions to these issues and encourage comments to help us develop these solutions.

Reference	Description
Links to external resources	Certain combinations of web browsers and PDF readers have problems opening URL links (usually found in reference sections) that span more than one line.
Data Hierarchy	Only the parts of this detailed clinical model (DCM) required for current structured content specifications have been mapped to HL7 CDA. Mapping the remaining parts to CDA may reveal inconsistencies in the data hierarchy, requiring normative change.
Undefined Value Domains	The following data elements lack a defined value domain: *Assessment Group Title*, *Physical Body Measurement Type*, *Normal Status*, *Reference Range Meaning*, *Response*, and *Confounding Factor Name*. We are in the process of developing national code sets for these items. In the meantime, you are free to use your own code sets, providing any code set used **SHALL** be registered, i.e. registered through the HL7 code set registration procedure with an appropriate object identifier (OID), and **SHALL** be publicly available. Note that when national standard code sets do become available, they **SHALL** be used and the non-standard code sets **SHALL** be deprecated.
DCM design	The current design does not support the full range of uses described in the chapters 2.1 Purpose and 2.2 Use.
Approximate value indicator for measurements	No method is provided to indicate that a measurement, such as circumference, has an approximate value although the data type *Quantity* does allow an uncertainty to be included.
Reference Range Details	There is no method provided to group reference ranges, nor is one provided to identify the source of a reference range. For example, if both WHO (World Health Organization) and RACGP (Royal Australian College of General Practitioners) percentile ranges are included, there is no good way to separate the entries for the different ranges.
Information Provider	The constraints have not been updated to align with those in more recent DCMs.

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Appendix B. Specification Guide for Use

B.1 Overview

Each detailed clinical model (DCM) and structured content specification (SCS) is designed to be a shared basis for data interpretation. It specifies rigorous business and technical definitions of data that systems may need to share. It is intended to be a logical specification of the data to be persisted within or communicated between systems. It is also the foundation for the compliance, conformance, and declaration process. Our CDA implementation guides are guides to the implementation of HL7 CDA R2 messages based upon these DCMs and SCSs.

Each DCM specifies all of the data components required for any use of a clinical concept; for instance, an entry in a medical record such as a procedure or an imaging test. As such, they are maximal data sets. DCMs are building blocks, which are trimmed to size for use in the construction of SCSs.

Each SCS describes a template of a Structured Document. It specifies the data for a single type of clinical document or information exchange, such as a discharge summary. It is assembled using DCMs that have been constrained to eliminate data components not relevant to the particular context. For example, *Procedure* in a discharge summary uses only some of the data components required by *Procedure* in a specialist report.

B.2 The Structured Content Specification Metamodel

Our metamodel for structured content specifications (see Figure 1) is used to specify the overall structure of a structured content specification. The structure is a tree, so every item in the tree, other than the root node, has a parent node. For an SCS, the root node is a Structured Document. For a DCM, the root node is a Data Group.

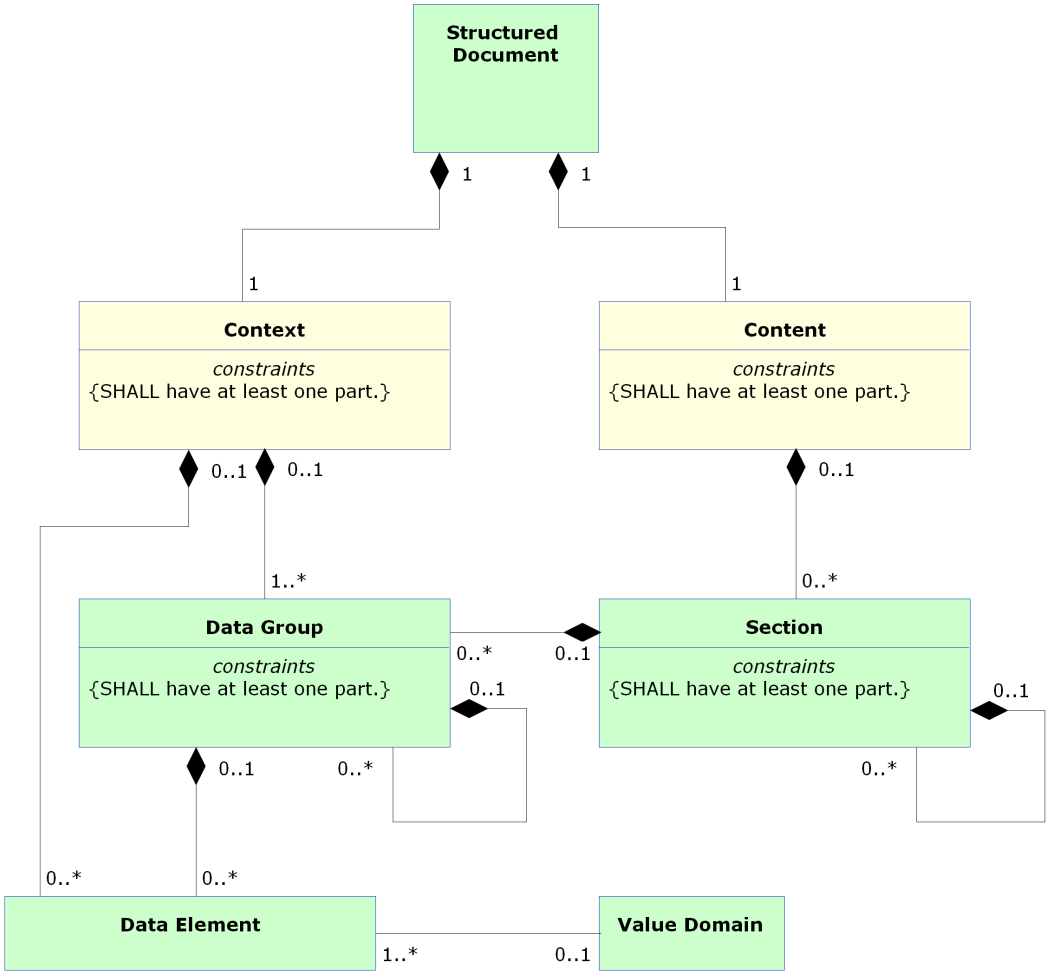

Figure 1: SCS Metamodel

There are two main items used to organise information within an SCS as follows:

Context: This contains information related to the overall context of the document.

Content: This contains information that changes between different SCSs, but is always structured as shown in Figure 1, and consists of the following data components:

- Section
- Data Group
- Data Element
- Value Domain

These data components are described in more detail below.

Structured Document

A structured document is a collection of health information about a subject of care that is relevant to the ongoing care of that person. They are composed of one or more data groups and data elements that are organised into

sections. Examples of structured documents are *Discharge Summary*, *Shared Health Summary*, and *Advance Care Directive Custodian Record*.

Context

The purpose of the context is to identify and classify the document and to provide subjects of care and involved healthcare providers with the information related to the relevant healthcare events.

Content

Content contains a collection of personal information and health information pertinent to a subject of care that is derived from the healthcare event described in the document. The detail is organised into one or more data groups, which are optionally grouped into sections.

Section

A section is composed of data groups, other sections, or both. It is an organising container that cues the reader about expected content. A section organises information in a manner suitable for the primary purpose for which it is collected and provides a way to navigate through the data components within the document, thereby enabling more efficient querying. It is recommended that the section support safe reuse for secondary purposes, e.g. clinical coding or inclusion in a summarised form in an electronic health record. A section is context-specific to the document in which it resides.

Data Group

Each data group is used to represent one concept. A data group consists of other data groups, data elements, or both. Some data groups are reused across DCMs.

Every instance of a data group **SHALL** have at least one child data component instantiated.

Participation

Participation is a special case of a data group that is based on a data group template, which is reused throughout the DCMs and SCSs. Participations are an amalgam of the Actors (see below) operating within a defined healthcare domain and the Roles they are playing within that domain.

A Participant has been defined to align with the concepts of the Agency's *Interoperability Framework [NEHT2007b]*. It equates to an *Entity* that is related to the action described in an SCS as an *Actor*. A Participant can be a human, an organisation, or an IT system.

Our *Participation Data Specification [NEHT2011v]* defines the full Participation specification.

Choice

Choice represents a selection, to be made at run-time, of a single member from a set of data groups, where the set is defined at design-time, i.e. one and only one member of the set is chosen for each instance of the choice.

For example, at design-time a healthcare provider provides a service, but it is not until run-time that a decision can be made as to whether the provider is a person or an organisation. Hence, when a healthcare provider *Participant* is instantiated, it will contain either an instance of the *Person* data group or an instance of the *Organisation* data group.

Data Element

A data element is the smallest named unit of information in the model that can be assigned a value. For example, *DateTime of Observation* and *Observation Note*. Data elements are bound to data types (see Data Types Legend). Some data elements are reused in different data groups.

While all data elements are constrained by their data type, some data elements are further constrained by value domains (see Value Domain below).

Value Domain

A value domain constrains the permissible values for a data element. The values are often a subset of values based on a generic data type.

Value domains are reusable items, therefore the same value domain can be referred to by different data elements in different contexts. Value domains are often specified with reference to a *reference set*. A reference set is a constrained list of SNOMED CT-AU concepts that are appropriate to a particular context or use. Since many of these reference sets have been developed specifically for the context in which they appear, it is recommended that an assessment of fitness for purpose be undertaken before using any of the reference sets in another context.

Value domains constrain either by specifying a lower or upper bound (or both) on the range of permissible values or by specifying a finite set of prescribed values. Such a set of prescribed values can be specified directly within the definition of the data element, or in a separate but associated specification, or else by reference to one or more vocabulary or terminology reference sets. The table below provides some examples of value domains.

Table 1: Value Domain Examples

<table>
<tr><th>Data Element</th><th>Data Type</th><th>Example of Value Domain</th></tr>
<tr><td>Sex</td><td>CodedText</td><td>Standards Australia AS 4846 (2006) – Health Care Provider Identification [SA2006a] and Standards Australia AS 5017 (2006) – Health Care Client Identification [SA2006b] derive their values from METeOR 287316, which includes values such as:

<table><tr><th>Value</th><th>Meaning</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Male</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Female</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Intersex or Indeterminate</td></tr><tr><td>9</td><td>Not Stated/Inadequately Described</td></tr></table></td></tr>
<tr><td>Diagnosis</td><td>CodeableText</td><td>A SNOMED CT-AU reference set that references concepts such as “Bronchitis” (Concept ID: 32398004).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Therapeutic Good Identification</td><td>CodeableText</td><td>An AMT reference set that references concepts such as “Ibuprofen Blue (Herron) (ibuprofen 200 mg) tablet: film-coated, 1 tablet” (Concept ID: 54363011000036107).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Individual Pathology Test Result Name</td><td>CodeableText</td><td>A LOINC subset that references concepts such as “Cholesterol [Moles/volume] in Serum or Plasma” (ID: 14647-2).</td></tr>
</table>

B.3 Icon Legend

These legends describe all icons that are used in the Agency's DCMs and SCSs.

Metadata Types Legend

The following table explains each of the icons used to represent the metadata types within DCMs and SCSs.

Table 2: Metadata Types Legend

Icon	Metadata Types
	Structured Document
	Section
	Data Group
	Participation
	Choice

Data Types Legend

The following table explains each of the icons used to represent the data types bound to each data element in the SCSs. These data types are a profile of the **ISO 21090-2011** data types as specified in *Data Types in NEHTA Specifications: A Profile of the ISO 21090 Specification [NEHT2010c]*.

Table 3: Data Types Legend

Icon	Data type	Explanation
	Any (ISO 21090: ANY)	Use of this icon indicates that instances of the data element can be of any concrete data type. There are no limitations on the data type of the data element. The values that can be required will vary considerably depending on the context. This is an abstract data type that is the basis for all data types and **SHOULD NOT** be used in an actual implementation.
	Boolean (ISO 21090: BL)	A data type, sometimes called the logical data type, having one of the two values: *true* and *false*. Many systems represent true as *non-zero* (often 1, or -1) and false as *zero*. **Usage/Examples** • An actual value entered by a user might be “yes” or could be chosen by a mouse click on an icon such as ☑.

CodeableText

(ISO 21090: CD)

Coded text *with* exceptions; supports various ways of holding text, both free text and coded text.

Often used to support compliance for early adopters of the structured content specifications.

While it is recommended that the values in this data type come from the bound value domain, it allows other value domains to also be used (with or without translations to the bound value domain) or free text alternatives. This is useful when it is not possible to define an entire value domain for a complex concept (e.g. *Diagnosis*) and when there are competing code sets in existence. Note that within exchange specifications or message profiles this data type **MAY** be constrained to mandate compliance with the bound value domain.

Usage/Examples

- The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) defines a data element concept *Episode of admitted patient care-separation mode* (the status at separation of a subject of care and the place to which they are released). An early adopter could have a similar concept (coded or otherwise) that maps to this data element but does not strictly comply with the AIHW values.
- A SNOMED CT-AU coded/complex expression that embodies single or multiple concepts. The SNOMED CT-AU concepts behind these CodeableText data elements are specified in the structured content specification value domains.

CodedText

(ISO 21090: CD)

Coded text *without* exceptions; text with code mappings. Values in this data type **SHALL** come from the bound value domain, with no exceptions.

Often used for reference sets with only a small number of applicable values, e.g. Gender and Document Status.

Usage/Examples

Standards Australia AS 5017 (2006) – Health Care Client Identification [SA2006b] specifies the following value domain representing a type of address:

Value	Meaning
1	Business
2	Mailing or Postal
3	Temporary Accommodation
4	Residential (permanent)
9	Not Stated/Unknown/Inadequately Described

DateTime

(ISO 21090: TS)

A single date, optionally with a time of day.

Has the ability to indicate a level of precision, but not whether the date or time is estimated. Cannot represent a time alone.

String representations of known dates **SHALL** conform to the format within the **ISO 21090-2011** standard without the use of extensions, i.e. YYYY[MM[DD[HH[MM[SS[.U[U[U[U]]]]]]]]][+|-ZZzz].

Usage/Examples

- Partial dates: 2008, 20081001.
- To indicate 1:20 pm on May the 31st, 1999 for a time zone that is 10 hours ahead of Coordinated Universal Time (UTC): 19990531132000+1000.

 Duration (ISO 21090: PQ.TIME)	The period of time during which something continues. Consists of a value and a unit that represents the time value, e.g. hours, months. Compound durations are not allowed, e.g. 10 days 3 weeks 5 hours. **Usage/Examples** • 3 hours • 6 months • 1 year
 EncapsulatedData (ISO 21090: ED)	Data that is primarily intended for human interpretation or for further machine processing outside the scope of this specification. This includes unformatted or formatted written language, multimedia data, or structured information as defined by a different standard (e.g. XML signatures). **Usage/Examples** • JPEG images • HTML documents • [RFC1521] MIME types
 Integer (ISO 21090: INT)	The mathematical data type comprising the exact integral values. **Usage/Examples** • 1 • -50 • 125
 Link (ISO 21090: TEL)	A general link, reference or pointer to an object, data or application that exists logically or is stored electronically in a computer system. **Usage/Examples** • URL (Uniform Resource Locator) – the World Wide Web address of a site on the internet, such as the URL for the Google internet search engine – *http://www.google.com*. • An absolute or relative path within a file or directory structure – e.g. in the Windows operating system, the “link” or absolute path to a particular letter could be *C:\Documents and Settings\GuestUser\MyDocuments\letter.doc*
 Quantity (ISO 21090: PQ)	A magnitude value with a unit of measurement. This is used for recording many real world measurements and observations. As the default unit of measure is 1, even counts of items can be recorded with *Quantity*. **Usage/Examples** • 100 centimetres • 25.5 grams • 3 per month

 QuantityRange (ISO 21090: IVL)	A range of *Quantity* values. It may be identified using a combination of an optional minimum *Quantity* and an optional maximum *Quantity* (i.e. lower and upper bounds). This is typically used for defining the valid range of values for a particular measurement or observation. Unbounded quantity ranges can be identified by not including a minimum or a maximum *Quantity* value. **Usage/Examples** • -20 to 100 Celsius • 30-50 mg • >10 kg • 2-3 hours
 QuantityRatio (ISO 21090: RTO)	A relative magnitude of two *Quantity* values. Usually recorded as numerator and denominator. **Usage/Examples** • 25 mg / 500 ml • 200 mmol per litre
 Real (ISO 21090: REAL)	A computational approximation to the standard mathematical concept of real numbers. These are often called floating-point numbers. **Usage/Examples** • 1.075 • -325.1 • 3.14157
 Text (ISO 21090: ST)	A character string (with optional language) containing any combination of alpha, numeric, or symbols from the Unicode character set. Also referred to as *free text*. **Usage/Examples** “The patient is a 37 year old man who was referred for cardiac evaluation after complaining of occasional palpitations, racing heart beats and occasional dizziness.”
 TimeInterval (ISO 21090:IVL)	An interval in time. It is identified using a combination of an optional start *DateTime*, an optional end *DateTime*, and an optional *Duration*. **Usage/Examples** • 20080101+1000 - 20081231+1000 • 200801010130+1000 - 200801011800+1000 • 200801010130+1000, duration=16.5 hours

	UniqueIdentifier (ISO 21090: II)	A unique value used to identify a physical or virtual object or concept. In using this data type, the attributes of the UniqueIdentifier data type **SHOULD** be populated from the identifiers as defined in *AS 4846 (2006) – Health Care Provider Identification [SA2006a]* and *AS 5017 (2006) – Health Care Client Identification [SA2006b]* as follows: • *root*: a globally unique object identifier that identifies the combination of geographic area, issuer and type. If no such globally unique object identifier exists, it **SHALL** be created. • *extension*: a unique identifier within the scope of the root that is directly equivalent to the identifier designation element. • *identifierName*: a human readable name for the namespace represented by the root that is populated with the issuer or identifier type values, or a concatenation of both, as appropriate. The content of this attribute is not intended for machine processing and **SHOULD NOT** be used for that purpose. • *identifierScope*: the geographic span or coverage that applies to or constrains the identifier. It is directly equivalent to the geographic area element. The content of this attribute is not intended for machine processing and **SHOULD NOT** be used as such. Also, the following constraints apply on the UniqueIdentifier data type: 1) The *root* attribute **SHALL** be used. 2) For an Entity Identifier, the *root* attribute **SHALL** be an OID that consists of a node in a hierarchically assigned namespace, formally defined using the ITU-T's ASN.1 standard. 3) For an Entity Identifier, the *root* attribute **SHALL NOT** be a UUID. 4) The *extension* attribute **SHALL** be used. **Usage/Examples** Australian health identifiers (e.g. IHI, HPI-I and HPI-O) and patient hospital medical record numbers are examples of identifiers that may be carried by data elements of this data type.

Keywords Legend

Where used in this document and in DCMs and SCSs, the keywords **SHALL, SHOULD, MAY, SHALL NOT** and **SHOULD NOT** are to be interpreted as described in *Key Words for Use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels [RFC2119]*. Our specifications use the terms **SHALL** in place of “MUST” and **SHALL NOT** in place of “MUST NOT”. The key word definitions in RFC 2119, adjusted to remove the key words not used in the Agency specifications, are presented in the following table.

Table 4: Keywords Legend

Keyword	Definition
SHALL	This word means that the statement is an absolute requirement of the specification.
SHOULD	This word means that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances to ignore a particular data component, but the full implications must be understood and carefully weighed before choosing a different course.

MAY	This word means that a data component is truly optional. One implementer may choose to include the data component because a particular implementation requires it, or because the implementer determines that it enhances the implementation, while another implementer may omit the same data component. An implementation that does not include a particular option shall be prepared to interoperate with another implementation that does include the option, perhaps with reduced functionality. In the same vein, an implementation that does include a particular option shall be prepared to interoperate with another implementation that does not include the option (except of course, for the feature the option provides).
SHALL NOT	This phrase means that the statement is an absolute prohibition of the specification.
SHOULD NOT	This phrase means that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances when the particular behaviour is acceptable or even useful, but the full implications should be understood and the case carefully weighed before implementing any behaviour described with this label.

Obligation Legend

In DCMs and SCSs obligations on a data component specify whether or not it **SHALL** be populated in the logical record architecture of a message. We intend that all data components that are not **PROHIBITED** will be implemented.

Obligations in statements about values specify whether or not certain values are permitted.

Implementation guides specify the rules and formats for implementing and populating data components in specific messaging formats.

The following table defines the obligations.

Table 5: Obligations Legend

Keyword	Interpretation
ESSENTIAL	Indicates that the data component is considered a mandatory item of information and **SHALL** be populated. **Usage/Examples:** The Participant data component for a Subject of Care **SHALL** include an Entity Identifier data component in order to hold the IHI.
OPTIONAL	Indicates that the data component is not considered a mandatory item of information and **MAY** be populated. **Usage/Examples:** Such data components will be implemented, only inclusion and population are optional. This is only needed when a DCM incorrectly asserts that a data component is **ESSENTIAL**. It will be used with a note stating that the DCM needs revision.
PROHIBITED	On a data component this indicates that the data component is considered a forbidden item of information and **SHALL NOT** be included. In a statement about values this indicates that the use of the specified values is considered forbidden and they **SHALL NOT** be used. **Usage/Examples:** Within a Participation data group depicting a Subject of Care, the Participation Healthcare Role **SHALL NOT** be populated.

CONDITIONAL	Indicates that a data component is considered **ESSENTIAL** only on satisfaction of a given condition. Individual data components specify the obligation of the data component when the condition is not met. When a condition is met, the data component is considered to be **ESSENTIAL** and **SHALL** be populated. When a condition is not met, the data component may be considered **PROHIBITED**, or the data component may be considered **OPTIONAL**. **Usage/Examples:** Within a Pathology Result Report, the *Specimen Detail* `data group` is **ESSENTIAL** if the requested test is to be performed on a specimen; otherwise it **SHALL NOT** be included.

Obligations follow the usual scope rules: where **ESSENTIAL** child data components are contained within **OPTIONAL** parent data components, the child data components **SHALL NOT** be included when the parent is not included.

B.4 Exceptional Values

Occasionally a data element will have an exceptional value: an abnormal value (i.e. the value cannot be described using the expected set of values) or an absent value (i.e. no value is provided). Some abnormal values are only relevant to data elements of certain data types (e.g. positive infinity is relevant to numbers but not Booleans).

Unless otherwise specified, all data elements are permitted to have exceptional values. Constraints on the use of exceptional values are contained in the Exceptional Values row of the Usage section, except for instances of Participation, when they are in the Conditions of Use row. The most common statements constraining exceptional values are:

- Absent values are **PROHIBITED**.
- Abnormal values are **PROHIBITED**.

The commonly used implementation specifications ISO 21090 and HL7 CDA R2 use *nullFlavor* to manage abnormal and absent values.

The following table provides a classification of nullFlavor values as abnormal or absent.

Table 6: Classification of ISO 21090 nullFlavor values as absent or abnormal

Level	Code	Term	Abnormal	Absent
1	NI	No information		Absent
2	INV	Invalid	Abnormal	
3	OTH	Other	Abnormal	
4	PINF	Positive infinity	Abnormal	
4	NINF	Negative infinity	Abnormal	
3	UNC	Unencoded	Abnormal	
3	DER	Derived	Abnormal	
2	UNK	Unknown		Absent
3	ASKU	Asked but unknown		Absent
4	NAV	Temporarily unavailable		Absent
3	NASK	Not asked		Absent
3	QS	Sufficient quantity	Abnormal	

Level	Code	Term	Abnormal	Absent
3	TRC	Trace	Abnormal	
2	MSK	Masked		Absent
2	NA	Not applicable		Absent

B.5 Information Model Specification Parts Legends

This section illustrates the format and parts used to define each section, data group and data element within the Agency's DCMs and SCSs, and identifies when each part is applicable.

Chapter Name

Each section, data group, data element, value domain or choice has its own eponymous chapter. The chapter name is used in all data hierarchies.

Identification Section Legend

The following table illustrates the layout of the Identification section and describes the various parts of the section.

Table 7: Identification Section Legend

Label	A suggested display name for the data component.
Metadata Type	The type of the data component, e.g. section, data group or data element.
Identifier	An Agency-assigned internal identifier of the data component. Note that if one data component is used twice (e.g. *Therapeutic Good Identification* is used in both *Medication Instruction* and *Medication Action*), both uses of the data component will have the same identifier. A data component identifier identifies a data component, not a **use** of a data component.
OID	An object identifier equivalent to the data component identifier.
External Identifier	An identifier of the concept represented by the data component that is assigned by an organisation other than the Agency.

Definition Section Legend

The following table illustrates the layout of the Definition section and describes the various parts of the section.

Table 8: Definition Section Legend

Definition	The meaning, description or explanation of the data component. For data groups used in a particular context, the definition **MAY** be a refinement of the generic data group definition.
Definition Source	The authoritative source for the Definition statement.
Synonymous Names	A list of any names the data component may also be known as.

	Implementers may prefer to use synonymous names to refer to the data component in specific contexts.
Scope	Situations in which the data component may be used, including the Scope circumstances where specified data are required or recommended. For example, Medication Instruction (data group) has a scope that includes all prescribable therapeutic goods, both medicines and non-medicines. This item is not relevant to data elements or value domains.
Scope Source	The authoritative source for the Scope statement.
Context	The environment in which the data component is meaningful, i.e. the circumstance, purpose and perspective under which this data component is defined or used. For example, Street Name has a context of Address. This item is applicable only to data elements.
Assumptions	Suppositions and notions used in defining the data component.
Assumptions Source	The authoritative source for the Assumptions statement.
Notes	Informative text that further describes the data component, or assists in the understanding of how the data component can be used.
Data Type	The data type (or data types) of the data element, e.g. DateTime or Text. The valid data types are specified in the Data Types Legend. This item is applicable only to data elements.
Value Domain	The name of the Value Domain used to define the range of values of the data element, or a statement describing what values to use in the absence of a defined value domain for the related data element. The statement is: In the absence of national standard code sets, the code sets used **SHALL** be registered code sets, i.e. registered through the HL7 code set registration procedure with an appropriate object identifier (OID), and **SHALL** be publicly available. When national standard code sets become available, they **SHALL** be used and the non-standard code sets **SHALL** be deprecated. This item is applicable only to data elements with data type CodedText or CodeableText.

Data Hierarchy

The top-level data components (a Structured Document in an SCS or Data Groups in a DCM) contain a data hierarchy. Each row contains information about a single data component. The entries are nested to represent inclusion of one data component in another. Each entry contains at least three occupied cells. The left-most cell contains an icon to indicate the entry's data type. The next cell to the right contains the label of the data component (if the label is different from the name, the name is displayed in brackets after the label). The next cell to the right contains the multiplicity range for the data component.

If a row is shaded grey, this indicates that the data component **SHOULD NOT** be used. This will be because analysis of requirements either did not find reasons to use it or found reasons to not use it.

If the text in a row is in a ~~strike through~~ font and the multiplicity is 0..0, this indicates that the data component **SHALL NOT** be used. This will be because analysis of requirements found reasons to prohibit the use of it.

In some documents the right-hand side of the data hierarchy contains one or more columns under the heading “Core Requirement”. Each column contains information for one document exchange scenario. A cell that is empty indicates that the data component on that row is **OPTIONAL** to implement. That is, software that creates documents made in conformance with this specification **MAY** exclude the data component, and software that reads documents made in conformance with this specification **MAY** ignore the data component. All other data components **SHALL** be implemented.

Sample SCS Data Hierarchy

Note

Items below whose text is lighter (mid-blue and mid-grey) are technical identifiers whose purpose is to facilitate interoperability, sharing of data and secondary use. Typically, such identifiers will be generated internally by systems and not displayed to users since they rarely have clinical significance.

Items below with a grey background are data components that are included in the relevant detailed clinical model specification, but whose use is discouraged in this particular scenario.

	SPECIALIST LETTER			
CONTEXT				
		SUBJECT OF CARE		1..1
		DOCUMENT AUTHOR		1..1
		ENCOUNTER		1..1
			DateTime Subject of Care Seen (DateTime Health Event Started)	1..1
			DateTime Health Event Ended	0..0
			HEALTHCARE FACILITY	0..0
		Document Instance Identifier		0..1
		RELATED INFORMATION		0..0
		Document Type		1..1
CONTENT				
		RESPONSE DETAILS		1..1
			Diagnosis (PROBLEM/DIAGNOSIS)	0..*
			Diagnosis Name (Problem/Diagnosis Identification)	1..1
			Clinical Description	0..0
	and more			

Value Domain Section Legend

The following table illustrates the layout of the Value Domain section and describes the various parts of the section.

Table 9: Value Domain Section Legend

Source	The name of the terminology or vocabulary from which the value domain's permissible values are sourced, e.g. SNOMED CT-AU, LOINC.
Version Number	Version number of the value domain source.
Permissible Values	A specification of the permissible values in the value domain. This may be a list of codes. (Each code is typically presented as a triple with code values, text equivalent, and description) for example: 1, Registered No result yet available. This may be a conformance statement (e.g. "The permissible values are the members of the following seven AMT reference sets: ...").

Usage Section Legend

The following table illustrates the layout of the Usage section and describes the various parts of the section.

Table 10: Usage Section Legend

Examples	Sample values for the data element, with or without notes about sample values. Where a data element has an associated value domain, examples representative of that domain are used where possible. Where the value domain is yet to be determined, indicative examples are provided. Implementation guides may contain specific examples of how data elements may be populated and how they relate to each other. This item is applicable only to data elements.
Conditions of Use	Prerequisites, provisos or restrictions for use of the data component.
Conditions of Use Source	The authoritative source for the Conditions of Use statement.
Misuse	Incorrect, inappropriate or wrong uses of the data component.
Default Value	A common denomination, or at least a usable denomination, from the Value Domain where available or applicable, typically assigned at the creation of an instance of the data component.
Exceptional Values	A statement of limitations on the use of exceptional values, see Exceptional Values. Unless otherwise specified, all data elements are permitted to have exceptional values. The most common statements constraining exceptional values are: • Abnormal values are **PROHIBITED**. • Absent values are **PROHIBITED**. This item is applicable only to data elements.

Relationships Section Legend

The Relationships section specifies the cardinality between parent and child data components.

The following table illustrates the layout of the Parent relationships table. Note that the occurrences in the relationships described by this table are from the parent to the child data component, i.e. from the data component listed in the table to the data component described by the section.

Table 11: Parent Legend

Data Type	**Name**	**Occurrences** (child within parent)
The icon illustrating the metadata type or data type.	Parent Data Component Name	The minimum and maximum number of instances of the data component described on this page that **SHALL** occur.

The following table illustrates the layout of the Children relationships table.

Table 12: Children Legend

Data Type	**Name**	**Occurrences**
The icon illustrating the metadata type or data type.	Child Data Component Name	The minimum and maximum number of instances of the data component described on this page that **SHALL** occur.

Appendix C. Change History

A summary of changes from one document version to the next. Changes to the change history are excluded.

C.1 Changes Since Version 1.1 - 18 December 2015

Generic changes

Various changes to rebrand the document from the National E-Health Transition Authority (NEHTA) to the Australian Digital Health Agency (the Agency):

- Definition Source, Scope Source, Context Source, Condition of Use Source and Value Domain Source updated from “NEHTA” to “Australian Digital Health Agency”;
- references to “National E-Health Transition Authority” and “NEHTA” have been replaced with references to the “Australian Digital Health Agency” and “the Agency” respectively; and
- all NEHTA URLs have been updated to redirect to the Agency website.

Preliminary Pages

Document Information section has been changed to include the latest release details.

Chapter 1 Introduction

Various editorial changes to presentation and wording, including replacing the expression “PCEHR” with “My Health Record”.

Chapter 2 Physical Examination Findings Detailed Clinical Model

Rebranding changes.

Appendix A. Known Issues

Various changes.

Appendix B. Specification Guide for Use

Various editorial changes.

Renamed the section B.4 “Abnormal and Absent Values” to “Exceptional Values” and updated explanatory text throughout accordingly.

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