Australian Government
Australian Digital Health Agency

Observation View
PCEHR Conformance Profile

31 December 2014 v1.0
Approved for external use
Document ID: NEHTA-1976:2014

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Acknowledgements
The Australian Digital Health Agency is jointly funded by the Australian Government and all state and territory governments.

Document information

Key information

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Product or document version history

Product or document version	Date	Release comments
1.0	31 December 2014	Initial release
1.0	28 May 2025	The document presentation has been enhanced to align with current branding guidelines, however the content has not been changed.

Transition of terms

Certain terms used within the context of this document have changed. The table provides a clear comparison of the historical terms used in text and their current equivalents for your reference.

Historical term	Current term
National eHealth Transition Authority (NEHTA)	The Australian Digital Health Agency (ADHA)
Personally controlled electronic health record (PCEHR)	My Health Record (MHR)

Table of contents

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

This document summarises the requirements for producers and consumers of Observation Views produced by the national PCEHR system.

This document lists the specific conformance requirements that are in addition to the *Common Conformance Profile for Clinical Documents* [NEHTA2014a]. These documents represent the complete conformance requirements for producers and consumers of Observation Views.

1.2 Scope

The scope of this conformance profile is the use of Observation Views in the context of the national PCEHR system.

1.3 Intended audience

The intended audience includes the following organisations:

- healthcare providers;
- vendors and developers of connecting systems; and
- software test laboratories.

2 Conformance Requirements

2.1 Conformance requirements for producers

024706 **Objects of conformance**

Observation Views **SHALL** only be produced by the national PCEHR system.

Priority Mandatory

2.2 Conformance requirements for consumers

Observation Views may be consumed by:

- clinical information systems;
- contracted service provider (CSP) systems;
- registered consumer portals; and
- registered provider portals.

Note: National infrastructure of the PCEHR system will also be a consumer of Observation Views.

2.2.1 Rendering requirements

An Observation View is a CDA document and the rendering requirements for CDA documents (also called clinical documents) apply to software that renders an Observation View.

The following rendering requirements apply in addition to the clinical document rendering requirements in the *Common Conformance Profile for Clinical Documents* [NEHTA2014a].

024708 **Presenting a link to a clinical document**

When the software retrieves an Observation View containing narratives with clinical document links then the software **SHALL** either present the clinical document link text as a selectable link, or display the link text as plain text (that is, without the appearance of a selectable link).

Priority Mandatory

Additional Notes A link is included in the narrative using a linkHtml tag:

```
<linkHtml ID="_id" href="URI">link_text</linkHtml>
```

where `_id` is an internal identifier, `URI` is a uniform resource indicator and `link_text` is the link text.

024709	**Selecting a link to a clinical document**
	If the software allows a user to select a link to a clinical document, the clinical document **SHALL** be retrieved from the repository, rendered, and displayed according to the requirements for downloading and displaying that type of clinical document.
Priority	Mandatory
Additional Notes	The requirements for downloading and displaying a specific type of clinical document are listed in the relevant conformance profile. The process of retrieving the target of the link requires implementation of the *PCEHR B2B Gateway Service Document Exchange Specification* [NEHTA2014b].

Glossary

Term	Definition
clinical document	A digital file containing personal health information about an individual, containing unstructured (narrative) information and optionally structured (atomic) information.
clinical information system (CIS)	A system that deals with the collection, storage, retrieval, communication, and use of health related data, information and knowledge pertaining to subjects of care. The system may comprise one or more applications or components.
conformance	Conformance is a measurement (by testing) of the adherence of an implementation to a specification or standard.
consumer	In this document 'consumer' refers to a software system that has the role of being a consumer of Observation Views.
contracted service provider (CSP)	An entity that may offer health software as a service, and support access to the PCEHR system on behalf of healthcare organisations. A CSP provides under a contract with the healthcare provider organisation: a) information technology services relating to the PCEHR system; or b) health information management services relating the PCEHR system. (Section 5 *PCEHR Act* [COM2012]).
CSP system	A software system operated by a CSP that deals information and knowledge pertaining to subjects of care [AS5021]. The system may comprise one or more applications or components. A CSP system may perform some or all of the functions of a clinical information system.
healthcare consumer	A person who is the subject of care. (For the software system, see 'consumer'.)
MAY	When appearing in a conformance requirement, the verb **MAY** indicates an optional requirement.
PAI-R	PCEHR assigned identifier for repositories
PCEHR	personally controlled electronic health record.
producer	In this document 'producer' refers to a software system that creates Observation Views.
registered consumer portal	A third-party[1] portal used by healthcare recipients to access information on the PCEHR system.
registered provider portal	A third-party portal used by healthcare providers to access information on the PCEHR system.
registered repository	A third-party repository used to store clinical documents and other clinical data that connects to the PCEHR system. A repository may either store clinical documents in a proprietary format or a CDA format.
SHALL	When appearing in a conformance requirement, the verb **SHALL** indicates a mandatory requirement. Its negative form **SHALL NOT** indicates a prohibition.

[1] Third-party refers to a software system developed independently of the national PCEHR System and intended to connect to the national PCEHR system. The portals provided by the national PCEHR system are not Registered Consumer or Registered Provider Portals.

Term	Definition
SHOULD	When appearing in a conformance requirement, the verb **SHOULD** indicates a recommendation. Its negative form **SHOULD NOT** indicates an option that is not recommended.

References

[COM2012] *Personally Controlled Electronic Health Records* Act 2012, Australian Government ComLaw, 2012, http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/C2012A00063

[NEHTA2014a] *Common Conformance Profile for Clinical Documents, Version 1.5*, NEHTA, 2014, https://developer.digitalhealth.gov.au/resources/clinical-documents-common-conformance-profile-v1-5

[NEHTA2014b] *PCEHR Document Exchange Service Using the IHE XDS.b Platform - Technical Service Specification v1.5.1*, NEHTA, 2014. Available from, https://developer.digitalhealth.gov.au/resources/pcehr-document-exchange-service-technical-service-specification-v1-5-1