

Federal Health Information Model (FHIM)

Goal

The goal of the FHIM is to produce a logical health information model that supports semantic interoperability and harmonize information requirements from federal partners and standards organizations to produce a logical health information model that supports semantic interoperability.

Scope

The scope of the FHIM information model is all health information (including, healthcare, research, regulatory, public health, payor etc.). This includes eligibility information but not billing; care planning but not resource planning.

Description

A logical health information model will be developed and expressed in the Unified Modeling Language (UML) notation. The model can be made available in other formats as requested by the Federal partners and as time allows. At a minimum the model will also be made available in an HTML format. The model is in the public domain, freely available and easy to access at www.FHIMS.org.



The FHIM is not dependent on, but leverages the HL7 Reference Information Model (RIM) as a reference model. (The FHIM can also leverage other reference models.) The FHIM will be designed to meet all Federal partner semantic interoperability needs for the exchange of information with other organizations and will support existing national health standards.

The FHIM also includes a sub-project to accomplish terminology modeling and value set definition work in support of the FHIM.

Modeling Process

The broad set of health information that falls within the scope of the FHIM is sub-divided into over 40 different [information domains](#). Information domains are prioritized and modeled essentially in order of their priority. A temporary work effort is established to model an information domain. Federal partners who participate in the work effort bring their use cases and information requirements to the effort. Additionally, the information requirements of standards organizations are addressed. The modeling process that produces the FHIM harmonizes the information requirements across the federal partners and standards organizations to produce a single, harmonized information model.

Terminology

Terminology and value set requirements are discussed concurrently with the information modeling effort and are formally modeled and defined once the information model is essentially complete. Currently we are binding terminology to the FHIM. This includes content from the Public Health Information Network's (PHIN) [Vocabulary Access and Distribution System](#) (PHIN VADS). This is a terminology server maintained by the CDC.