

HEALTH STORY | PROJECT

Integrating Narrative Notes and the EHR

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Our Vision

All of the clinical information required for good patient care, administration, reporting and research will be readily available electronically, including information from narrative documents – supporting comprehensive electronic records that offer a patient's complete health story

Integrating Narrative Notes and the EHR

Approximately 1.2 billion clinical documents are produced in the United States each year. These documents comprise around 60% of all clinical data. This tremendous source of clinical information is underutilized in today's computer-based record systems.

Health Story is an alliance of healthcare vendors, providers and associations that pooled resources over the previous three years in a rapid-development initiative to produce data standards for the flow of information between common types of healthcare documents and electronic medical record (EMR) systems.

Health Story has an Associate Charter Agreement with the HL7 data standards organization. Using HL7 Clinical Document Architecture (CDA), the group developed the following technical implementation guides, several of which are referenced in Healthcare Information Technology Standards Panel (HITSP) Interoperability Specifications:

- Consultation Note
- History and Physical
- Operative Note
- Diagnostic Imaging Reports
- Discharge Summary (in publication)
- Procedure Note (in publication)
- Unstructured Documents (in publication)

The Health Story Pathway

Adoption of these standards will unlock the valuable data from clinical notes and make possible an unrestricted flow of this narrative-source data into EMR systems and expedite the development of interoperable clinical document databases for use within healthcare enterprises and health information exchanges.

Health Story is working to define and publish data standards for additional document types, to support their implementation, and to inform industry about the availability and benefits of the Health Story pathway.

Health Story is particularly appealing to providers looking for a glide path to interoperability that allows clinicians to move toward EMR adoption and to meet early ARRA Meaningful Use targets while retaining their preferred methods of care. The Health Story approach is available and in use today. Your participation is welcome.

Call to Action

Require that certified EMR systems accept Health Story supported HL7 standards for integration of narrative notes and the EHR.

Compliance language is available in the data standards section of www.healthstory.com.

Founding Members



