



Australian Government

Australian Digital Health Agency

Goals of Care My Health Record Conformance Profile

10 March 2020 v1.0

Approved for use

Document ID: DH-3025:2020

Acknowledgements

Council of Australian Governments

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

HL7 International

This document includes excerpts of HL7™ International standards and other HL7 International material. HL7 International is the publisher and holder of copyright in the excerpts. The publication, reproduction and use of such excerpts is governed by the [HL7 IP Policy](#) and the HL7 International License Agreement. HL7 and CDA are trademarks of Health Level Seven International and are registered with the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Disclaimer

The Australian Digital Health Agency ("the Agency") makes the information and other material ("Information") in this document available in good faith but without any representation or warranty as to its accuracy or completeness. The Agency cannot accept any responsibility for the consequences of any use of the Information. As the Information is of a general nature only, it is up to any person using or relying on the Information to ensure that it is accurate, complete and suitable for the circumstances of its use.

Document control

This document is maintained in electronic form and is uncontrolled in printed form. It is the responsibility of the user to verify that this copy is the latest revision.

Copyright © 2025 Australian Digital Health Agency

This document contains information which is protected by copyright. All Rights Reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or used in any form or by any means – graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, taping, or information storage and retrieval systems – without the permission of the Australian Digital Health Agency. All copies of this document must include the copyright and other information contained on this page.

OFFICIAL

Document information

Key information

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Owner | Director, Conformance and Assurance |
| Contact for enquiries | Australian Digital Health Agency Help Centre |
| | Phone 1300 901 001 |
| | Email help@digitalhealth.gov.au |

Product or document version history

| Product or document version | Date | Release comments |
|-----------------------------|------------|---|
| 1.0 | 10.3.2020 | Approved for external release |
| 1.0 | 13.5.2025 | The document presentation has been enhanced to align with current branding guidelines; however, the content has not been changed. |
| 1.0 | 31.03.2026 | This document has been updated to reflect rebranding from Digital Health Developer Portal to Digital Health Implementer Hub, including updates to referenced URL's. |

Table of contents

1 Introduction.....5

1.1 Purpose5

1.2 Intended audience5

1.3 Scope5

2 Relevant specifications6

3 Conformance requirements for Goals of Care.....7

3.1 Requirements for document producing systems7

3.1.1 Help text during authoring and uploading12

Acronyms14

Glossary15

References17

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

This document summarises the requirements for producing systems of Goals of Care documents that connect to the My Health Record System.

This document lists the specific conformance requirements for Goals of Care documents that are in addition to the Common Conformance Profile for Clinical Documents [DHA2015]. Together, both documents represent the complete conformance requirements for Goals of Care documents.

1.2 Intended audience

The intended audience includes the following:

- Healthcare Providers;
- Vendors and developers of connecting systems; and
- Software test laboratories.

1.3 Scope

The scope of this Conformance Profile is the use of Goals of Care documents in the context of the My Health Record System.

A My Health Record Goals of Care document is created by an authoring Clinical Information System (CIS).

The My Health Record Goals of Care document is a Clinical Document Architecture (CDA) document that contains a single PDF attachment of a copy of the Goals of Care document.

The following roles may be performed by software systems:

- My Health Record Goals of Care Document producing system – A software system used by a healthcare provider to create and upload the Goals of Care CDA document.
- My Health Record Goals of Care Document consuming system – A software system that can download and render a Goals of Care document.

2 Relevant specifications

Related detailed conformance requirements are listed below:

1. *Clinical Documents - Common Conformance Profile* [DH2015] provides common conformance requirements that must be adhered to unless specifically contradicted in this document.
2. *My Health Record Advance Care Information Content Specification* [DH2017a] specifies the data elements and constrained values for a Goals of Care document at a logical level. The Goals of Care clinical document re-purposes the Advance Care Information specification.
3. *My Health Record Advance Care Information CDA Implementation Guide* [DH2017b] specifies the mapping from the structured content specification into a Goals of Care document using an HL7 CDA structure. The Goals of Care clinical document re-purposes the Advance Care Information specification.

3 Conformance requirements for Goals of Care

This document summarises the requirements for producing systems and consuming systems of Goals of Care documents that connect to the My Health Record System. It lists the specific conformance requirements for Goals of Care documents that are in addition to the common conformance profile for clinical documents [DHA2015].

This section describes the conformance requirements specific to Goals of Care documents when used in communication with the My Health Record system.

These Goals of Care requirements focus on the upload of a PDF version of a Goals of Care document.

3.1 Requirements for document producing systems

In this section, the term “producing system” refers to software that creates and prepares the Goals of Care CDA document for upload to the My Health Record System. It is often the same software that uploads the CDA document.

028744 Producing systems

The Producing System SHALL NOT be a:

- Registered Repository
- Registered Provider Portal
- Consumer Portal

Priority Mandatory

Additional Notes Clinical Information System (i.e. a Healthcare Provider CIS) and CSP systems can be document providers by permitting clinical document (PDF) to be attached to a CDA document and facilitating the upload of that CDA package.

023590 Document conformance levels

The document sent to the My Health Record System SHALL conform to the requirements of the following conformance level:

- 3A as defined in the Clinical Documents – Common Conformance Profile [DHA2015].

Priority Mandatory

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 024980 | <p>Confirm individual electronic communication details to be included</p> <p>Software SHALL allow document authors to confirm which (if any) of their individual electronic communication details (e.g. email address, phone number or fax number) may be automatically included. The default SHALL be to include no details.</p> |
| Priority | Mandatory |
| 023513 | <p>Single valid clinical document</p> <p>The software SHALL upload the document to the My Health Record system as a new document and SHALL NOT upload the document as a superseding document.</p> |
| Priority | Mandatory |
| Additional Notes | Updated documents should be uploaded as a new and unique document to alleviate any potential issues regarding currency and validity. |
| 027490 | <p>CDA document as a PDF packaged attachment</p> <p>The document SHALL reference one, and only one, attachment that is an electronic representation of the clinical document. The attachment SHALL be a PDF packaged attachment.</p> |
| Priority | Mandatory |
| Additional Notes | <p>This requirement applies only to attachments that are clinical documents and not to other attachments (e.g. a company logo). The attachment is in PDF format to ensure the presentation and rendering is as expected by the author.</p> <p>The PDF file is expected to be viewable by the healthcare individual and any healthcare provider that is a My Health Record participant. For example, PDF file should not have any of these features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encryption - Password protection - Printing or copying restriction - Embedded fonts (as not all PDF viewers support them) |

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 028630 | Document Author Entity Identifier value When instantiating the document author, the document SHALL contain one and only one personal identifier that is a Healthcare Provider Identifier for Individual (HPI-I), otherwise it SHALL have a value that identifies the document author, and that value SHALL NOT be a nullflavor. |
| Priority | Mandatory |
| Additional Notes | The relaxation of the mandatory requirement to include an HPI-I is only available to specific healthcare provider organisations, at the discretion of the My Health Record System Operator. |
| 027600 | No abnormal values When recording a nullFlavor, the document SHALL only contain absent values according to requirement 27576. |
| Priority | Mandatory |
| Additional Notes | The document is not to contain a nullFlavor value other than those described in requirement 27576. See the structured content specification [DHA2017a] for more information on abnormal and absent values. |
| 027576 | Permissible absent values When including an absent value for any element in the document, the absent value SHALL only be one of the following: NI - No information UNK - Unknown ASKU - Asked but unknown NAV - Temporarily unavailable NASK - Not asked MSK - Masked NA - Not applicable |
| Priority | Mandatory |
| Additional Notes | See section C.4 in the structured content specification for more information [DHA2017a]. |

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 028732 | <p>Mandatory values</p> <p>The following elements SHALL be provided and SHALL NOT contain an absent value:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject of care > Family name • Subject of care > Sex • Subject of care > Date of birth • Subject of care > Indigenous status • CDA document author > Electronic communication details for the organisation • Advance care information > Related document > Document author > Family name |
| Priority | Mandatory |
| Additional Notes | This requirement overrides the CDA Implementation Guide when uploading the document to the My Health Record system. See requirement 27576 for more information about absent values. |
| 027599 | <p>Related document author electronic communication details</p> <p>When instantiating</p> <p>Related document > document author > Electronic communications details</p> <p>the software MAY provide an absent value or omit the element from the document.</p> |
| Priority | Mandatory |
| Additional Notes | <p>This requirement relaxes the CDA Implementation Guide when uploading a document to the My Health Record system.</p> <p>See requirement 27576 for information about abnormal values.</p> |
| 028720 | <p>Goals of Care document title</p> <p>When instantiating the document title, the software SHALL ensure that: ClinicalDocument/title contains the value “Goals of Care Document”.</p> |
| Priority | Mandatory |
| Additional Notes | <p>The Advance Care Information Implementation Guide specifies the following xpath for document title: ClinicalDocument/title</p> <p>This requirement overrides the Implementation Guide.</p> |

028733 Goals of Care Conformance Template

When instantiating ClinicalDocument/templated the software SHALL ensure that:

- one instance of the root attribute of the templated element SHALL be “1.2.36.1.2001.1001.100.1003.100001”; and
- The extension attribute of the templated element SHALL be “1.0”.

Priority Mandatory

028734 Goals of Care document sub-type

When instantiating the document type, the software SHALL ensure that:

Advance Care Information Section > Related Document >
Document Details > Document Type
contains the value “100.32016”.

Priority Mandatory

Additional Notes This requirement over-rides the CDA Implementation Guide by enforcing one and only one permissible value (Goals of Care Document) and is documented in the following link:
<https://healthterminologies.gov.au/fhir/ValueSet/advance-care-planning-document-type-1>

028735 Goals of Care section title

When instantiating the following section title:
ClinicalDocument/component/structuredBody/component/section[code/@code='101.16973']/title
the software SHALL use the value:
“Goals of Care Section”

Priority Mandatory

Additional Notes This requirement overrides the Implementation Guide.

3.1.1 Help text during authoring and uploading

This section describes help text requirements on producing systems.

027489 Displaying help text

If the software is required to display help text, according to this document, then that help text SHALL be displayed at the point of upload and for each and every upload, or prior to each download, depending on the requirement and the action to be performed.

Priority Mandatory

Additional Notes Help text and warnings are to be displayed on each occurrence of document upload and downloads to ensure the uploader/downloader is informed of their legal obligations for uploading and reading Goals of Care documents.

028725 Display text to advise for automated system notifications

If the software is a CIS, the software SHALL provide help text to remind Healthcare Providers to recommend that the healthcare individual opts to receive email or SMS notifications from the My Health Record system when changes are made to the Individual's Goals of Care document on the My Health Record system.

The help text SHALL display:

“Healthcare Providers should recommend patients/clients choose to receive SMS or email notifications whenever Goals of Care documents are uploaded, reinstated or removed from their My Health Record”

Priority Mandatory

Additional Notes Healthcare individuals need to be aware of any changes made to their Goals of Care documents. This is due to the nature of the document (life and death decisions), and the implications it can have to the medical treatment they receive.

028726 Display text to advise the need for an Individual's instruction

If the software is a CIS uploading a Goals of Care document, the software SHALL provide help text and that help text SHALL display:

“Healthcare Providers can only upload Goals of Care documents when instructed by the patient/client”

Priority Mandatory

Additional Notes To ensure Healthcare Providers are aware that, under Rule 32A of the My Health Records Rule 2016, they may only upload advance care planning information where the healthcare individual instructs them to do so.

028747

Display text to advise on recipient's obligations

When authoring the document narrative, the software SHALL insert the following text in the document narrative:

“Healthcare providers may have state and territory-specific legal obligations when reading Goals of Care documents stored on an individual’s My Health Record.”

**Additional
Notes**

This help text will be inserted into the CDA document narrative by the authoring system to ensure Healthcare Providers are aware that they may have state and territory- specific legal obligations when reading Goals of Care documents. This reflects consultation across all jurisdictions when the advance care functionality was introduced.

The software may also include this text in the attachment as well as (not instead of) the CDA document narrative.

Acronyms

| Acronym | Description |
|---------|--------------------------------|
| CDA | Clinical Document Architecture |
| CIS | clinical information system |
| CSP | contracted service provider |
| HL7 | Health Level Seven |

Glossary

| Term | Meaning |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Clinical Document Architecture (CDA) | An HL7 standard intended to specify the encoding, structure and semantics of clinical documents for exchange. |
| Clinical Documents (archived) | These are the documents with clinical information available in the Consumer and provider portals. These include Shared Health Summary, Event Summary and Discharge Summary |
| clinical information system (CIS) | <p>A system that deals with the collection, storage, retrieval, communication and optimal use of health-related data, information, and knowledge.</p> <p>A clinical information system may provide access to information contained in an electronic health record, but it may also provide other functions such as workflow, order entry, and results reporting.</p> |
| conformance | A measurement (by testing) of the adherence of an implementation to a specification or standard. |
| contracted service provider (CSP) | A third-party organisation that supplies health software as a service to healthcare organisations. |
| Health Level Seven (HL7) | HL7 provides standards for the exchange, management and integration of data that supports clinical patient care and the management, delivery and evaluation of healthcare services. Specifically, HL7 creates flexible, cost-effective approaches, standards, guidelines, methodologies which enable healthcare information system interoperability and sharing of electronic health records. |
| healthcare individual | An individual who is, or could be, the subject of care in the context of a healthcare event. |
| producing system | A software system that has the role of generating and issuing conformant clinical documents suitable for use by other digital health participants. |
| registered consumer portal | A third-party portal used by consumers to access information on the My Health Record system that is registered with the My Health Record system as a registered portal operator. |
| registered provider portal | A third-party portal used by healthcare providers to access information on the My Health Record system that is registered with the My Health Record system as a registered portal operator. |
| registered repository | A third-party repository used to store clinical documents and other clinical data that connects to the My Health Record system. A repository may store clinical documents in either a proprietary format or a CDA format. |
| SHALL | <p>This word, or the term REQUIRED, means that the statement is an absolute requirement of the specification.</p> <p>Source: Network Working Group, 1997, <i>RFC2119 - Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels</i>.</p> |

| Term | Meaning |
|--------|--|
| SHOULD | <p>This word, or the term RECOMMENDED, means that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances to ignore a particular item, but the full implications must be understood and carefully weighed before choosing a different course.</p> <p>Source: Network Working Group, 1997, RFC2119 - <i>Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels</i>.</p> |

References

- [DHA2015] *Clinical Documents - Common Conformance*, Version 1.6, Digital Health Agency, 2015
- [DHA2017a] *Advance Care Information Structured Content Specification*, Version 1.0, Digital Health Agency, 2017 <https://implementer.digitalhealth.gov.au/resources/advance-care-information-structured-content-specification-v1-0>
- [DHA2017b] *Advance Care Information CDA Implementation Guide*, Version 1.0, Digital Health Agency, 2017 <https://implementer.digitalhealth.gov.au/resources/advance-care-information-cda-implementation-guide-v1-0>