



**For more information contact:**

Liora Alschuler

802/785-2623

[liora@alschulerassociates.com](mailto:liora@alschulerassociates.com)



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## **INTEROPERABLE DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING REPORTS**

*CDA*

*for Common Document Types to assist HL7, DICOM in  
Diagnostic Imaging Report Specification*

CHICAGO, November 26, 2007 - Providers looking for interoperable imaging reports that conform to standards for information exchange can look forward to a new set of implementation guides from DICOM and HL7. These communities of standards developers have worked for years to specify the structure and semantics of imaging reports in the DICOM Structured Reporting standards. In the first quarter of 2008, these groups will bring to ballot two companion documents that describe how to create standard reports using the **Health Level Seven (HL7) Clinical Document Architecture (CDA)**, the same framework used by the ASTM/HL7 Continuity of Care Document (CCD) and many other projects.

The first of the implementation guides describes how to transform DICOM Structured Reports in CDA; the second describes how to create a compatible CDA for diagnostic imaging directly through dictation/transcription or structured entry.

The “**CDA for Common Document Types**” (CDA4CDT) project will donate technical, editorial and logistic support for the CDA implementation guide. CDA4CDT has an excellent track record in this area. Their two initial implementation guides were developed and balloted early this year and will be published soon by HL7 as Draft Standards for Trial Use. The mission of CDA4CDT is a close fit with the goals of the **HL7 Imaging Integration Special Interest Group (IISIG)** and **DICOM Working Group 20** which have developed the technical approach to these companion guides over the past several years. These diagnostic imaging implementation guides will join CDA4CDT guides for History & Physical and Consult Report that have already been balloted..

“Prioritizing the addition of diagnostic imaging to the list of available guidance on CDA makes a great deal of sense,” says **Michael Finke, CEO M\*Modal**. “The CDA for Common Document Types effort is pleased to support this effort which demonstrates the level of integration we can achieve between narrative and structured entry which is in particular relevant in Radiology reporting.”



“We’ve worked for many years to ensure compatibility between the core specifications developed for imaging and for the electronic health record,” says **Fred Behlen, Co-chair of DICOM Working Group 20 and HL7 Imaging Integration SIG and Co-chair of HL7 Imaging Integration SIG**. “With most of the technical work complete and now, facing the logistics of balloting in two standards organizations, we appreciate the support that CDA4CDT can provide to ensure a smooth path to publication.”

“Diagnostic imaging reports is a tremendously important area to our members and we fully support the integration of these reports into the electronic medical record in compliance with HL7 and DICOM. These organizations have done a great job of laying the foundation for interoperability and we are pleased to support them,” stated **Peter Preziosi, Peter Preziosi, PhD, CEO of AHDI and MTIA**.

“This project is very satisfying because it shows how standards organizations can work together and it shows how standards can integrate different types of technology,” says **Liora Alschuler, project manager for CDA4CDT**. “We are very excited at the opportunity to work closely with DICOM and HL7 to deliver a high quality set of specifications in this important area.”

This CDA4CDT project was initiated by M\*Modal, AHIMA and AHDI (formerly AAMT, now associated with MTIA). Spheris, MedQuist, InterFix, Precyse Solutions, Webmedx, MDinTouch, 3M and ImageTek are project Benefactors and Acusis is a project Sponsor. Also supporting the effort through volunteer participation are GE Healthcare, Kaiser Permanente, Mayo Clinical, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and the Military Health System. Alschuler Associates, LLC, provides project leadership and is assuming primary responsibility for IG and collateral development.



Benefactors:

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Founders:

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**About M\*Modal**

M\*Modal offers on-demand conversational documentation services that help healthcare providers capture discrete clinical information from dictation to generate complete and timely electronic medical records. The company's unique speech recognition and understanding technology platform, AnyModal CDS, is a vital tool that empowers physicians to capture clinical facts and orders from dictation without requiring any change to their normal dictation routine. M\*Modal's focus is on providing hospitals and medical transcription service providers with the industry's most comprehensive yet most adaptable solution for creating highly accurate, structured, encoded and shareable medical documents to increase patient safety, promote continuity of patient care, and reduce cost. For more information, please visit [www.mmodal.com](http://www.mmodal.com).

**About AHIMA**

AHIMA is the premier association of health information management (HIM) professionals. AHIMA's 51,000 members are dedicated to the effective management of personal health information needed to deliver quality health care to the public. Founded in 1928 to improve the quality of medical records, AHIMA is committed to advancing the HIM profession in an increasingly electronic and global environment through leadership in advocacy, education, certification, and lifelong learning. For more information about the Association, go to [www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org).

**About AHDI and MTIA**

The Association for Healthcare Documentation Integrity (AHDI), formerly AAMT, has been the professional organization representing medical transcriptionists since 1978. AHDI sets standards of practice and education for medical transcriptionists, administers a certification program, has established a code of ethics, and advocates on behalf of the profession. There are over 135 component associations of AHDI, each of which holds regular educational meetings and symposia. For more information, visit [www.aamt.org](http://www.aamt.org). The Medical Transcription Industry Association is the world's largest trade association serving medical transcription service operators. Its mission is to create an environment in which medical transcription companies can prosper, grow, and deliver the highest level of healthcare documentation services. For more information, visit [www.mtia.com](http://www.mtia.com).