§ 170.207


§170.205 Content exchange standards and implementation specifications for exchanging electronic health information.

The Secretary adopts the following content exchange standards and associated implementation specifications:

(a) * * * 


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(d) * * *


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The Secretary adopts the following code sets, terminology, and nomenclature as the vocabulary standards for the purpose of representing electronic health information:

(a) Problems—(1) Standard. The code set specified at 45 CFR 162.1002(a)(1) for the indicated conditions.


(b) Procedures—(1) Standard. The code set specified at 45 CFR 162.1002(a)(2).

(2) Standard. The code set specified at 45 CFR 162.1002(a)(5).

(c) Laboratory test results. Standard. Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes (LOINC®) version 2.27, when such codes were received within an electronic transaction from a laboratory (incorporated by reference in §170.299).

(d) Medications. Standard. Any source vocabulary that is included in RxNorm,
a standardized nomenclature for clinical drugs produced by the United States National Library of Medicine.


EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 77 FR 54284, Sept. 4, 2012, §170.207 was amended by adding paragraphs (a)(3), (b)(3), (b)(4), revising paragraphs (c), (d), (e), and (f) and adding paragraphs (g) through (l), effective Oct. 4, 2012. For the convenience of the user, the added and revised text is set forth as follows:


The Secretary adopts the following code sets, terminology, and nomenclature as the vocabulary standards for the purpose of representing electronic health information:

(a) * * *

(1) Standard. HL7 Version 3. Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes (LOINC®) version 2.27, when such codes were received within an electronic transaction from a laboratory (incorporated by reference in §170.299).


(3) Standard. The code set specified at 45 CFR 162.1002(c)(3) for the indicated procedures or other actions taken.

(c) Laboratory tests. (1) Standard. Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes (LOINC®) version 2.27, when such codes were received within an electronic transaction from a laboratory (incorporated by reference in §170.299).

(2) Standard. Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes (LOINC®) Database version 2.40, a universal code system for identifying laboratory and clinical observations produced by the Regenstrief Institute, Inc. (incorporated by reference in §170.299).

(d) Medications. (1) Standard. Any source vocabulary that is included in RxNorm, a standardized nomenclature for clinical drugs produced by the United States National Library of Medicine.


(g) Preferred language. Standard. As specified by the Library of Congress, ISO 639-2 alpha-3 codes limited to those that also have a corresponding alpha-2 code in ISO 639-1. (incorporated by reference in §170.299).

(h) Smoking status. Standard. Smoking status must be coded in one of the following SNOMED CT® codes:

(1) Current every day smoker. 44966002

(2) Current some day smoker. 428041000124106

(3) Former smoker. 8517006

(4) Never smoker. 266927001

(5) Smoker, current status unknown. 77176002

(6) Unknown if ever smoked. 266927001

(7) Heavy tobacco smoker. 428071000124103

(8) Light tobacco smoker. 428061000124105

(i) Encounter diagnoses. Standard. The code set specified at 45 CFR 162.1002(c)(2) for the indicated conditions.


§ 170.210 Standards for health information technology to protect electronic health information created, maintained, and exchanged.

The Secretary adopts the following standards to protect electronic health information created, maintained, and exchanged:


(2) Exchange. Any encrypted and integrity protected link.

(b) Record actions related to electronic health information. The date, time, patient identification, and user identification must be recorded when electronic health information is created, modified, accessed, or deleted; and an