



# HL7 – International Healthcare Information Standards to improve Patient Outcomes



## HL7 (Health Level Seven International)

... is a set of international standards, guidelines, and methodologies designed to facilitate the sharing, integration, and exchange of healthcare information across various systems. HL7 standards are widely used in the healthcare industry to ensure that information systems (such as electronic health records, lab systems, and billing systems) can communicate effectively with each other.

## HL7 International ✓

is a not-for-profit organization that develops these standards. It consists of healthcare providers, vendors, and other stakeholders collaborating to improve interoperability. There are regional HL7 clusters such as HL7 Europe and National so-called Affiliates. They adapt HL7 standards so that they can be used in regional or national context.

**By enabling seamless communication between diverse systems, HL7 plays a crucial role in modernizing healthcare workflows and improving patient outcomes.**

**HL7 Europe** was established as a regional office with the aim to address European standardization requirements in digital health serving as the European office of HL7 International. It works in close cooperation with 22 national HL7 Affiliates across Europe and supports the creation of health information technology standards that are widely and easily used enabling interoperability in healthcare.



Recently, HL7 Europe has experienced significant growth and expects to grow further with the demands of the European Health Data Space (EHDS) and Europeans Electronic Health Record Exchange Format (EEHRxF) to develop and support specifications in the context of European Commission co-funded projects.

# HL7 Community Events

To develop, maintain, test and verify HL7 Specifications, HL7 conducts Working Group Meetings along with events, often associated with technology, healthcare, or community initiatives, where participants come together to collaborate, share ideas, and solve problems and to see if their product's data-exchange capabilities are compatible with other products.



Such an event is the EU-a-thon that focuses on HL7 FHIR Specifications and Terminologies for Europe applicable for the European Health Data Space.

For nascent specifications this event is centered on developing the HL7 FHIR Specification including resources, profiles and implementation guides.

For more mature / balloted specifications this kind of events is an opportunity for vendors to test the interoperability of their products in a structured environment with peer vendors.

## HL7 Europe Working Group Meeting and EU-a-thon

Join us for the next HL7 Europe Working Group Meeting and EU-a-thon **February 10-14, 2025, Lisbon, Portugal**. Located at and hosted by the University Institute of Lisbon, we focus on HL7 EU FHIR Specifications and Terminologies for the European Health Data Space aiming on maturing nascent or existing specifications.

**HL7 Europe  
Working Group  
Meeting 2025**

Visit [hl7europe.org](http://hl7europe.org) for further information and registrations.

