Testing Instructions:

EHR Implementers - eICR Creation

Overview

The following outlines the available resources for testing the Electronic Initial Case Report (eICR) Creation process to confirm your eICR message adheres to the latest HL7 standard. These resources apply to both new development, and implementation of Electronic Case Reporting (eCR) features within an existing Electronic Health Record (EHR) system. Testing will be completed and validated by the EHR Implementer organization.

Testing Resources

eICR Implementation Guide and Supporting Material -

The electronic initial case report (eICR) is a consensus-based HL7 standard developed for use in electronic case reporting. It was constructed in the HL7 Clinical Document Architecture (CDA) almost entirely from C-CDA templates that are certified to be already used by EHRs for other purposes.

HL7 CDA® R2 Implementation Guide: Public Health Case Report, Release 2: the Electronic Initial Case Report (eICR), Release 1, STU Release 1.1 - US Realm, available for download here on the HL7 Website. Or download the Implementation Guide with this direct download link.

Volume 1 of the Implementation Guide provides an overview of eCR, as well as information on how to understand and use the CDA R2 based standard. It also lays out the eICR Data Requirements - including CSTE identified data elements, the eICR data model, and the related CDA template hierarchy.

Volume 2 of the Implementation Guide gets into the specifics of the CDA R2 templates, and how they should be used. This information can be used in building eICR generation capabilities, as well as confirming data from a specific EHR implementation is displayed correctly within the document.

Additional informative XML support files (such as example files and the Schematron validation files) can be downloaded from this GForge link. Please see the "_readme.txt" file included in the STU document download for more details.

On-Line Validation -

It is important while developing the eICR document to ensure it follows both Schema and Schematron validation specifications. AIMS has made a customized on-line validation tool for this purpose. Users can upload eICR files to test validation here. This validation tool is specific to the eICR and the eICR's underlying CDA Schema. The tool produces very specific information to refine the creation of the eICR document.

Validation is also performed on all incoming eICRs in production. Some of the validation information will also be placed in the Reportability Response that is returned to healthcare, when production reports have issues that need to be addressed.