



# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

## Health Level Seven International

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# HL7 Glossary of Terms

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## A

### **Abstract Message**

The basic level of definition within HL7 is that of the abstract message associated with a particular trigger event. The abstract message definition includes the data fields that will be sent within a message, the valid response messages, and the treatment of application level errors or the failure of the underlying communications system. An HL7 abstract message is defined in terms of HL7 segments and fields, as described in Section 2.4.8.

### **Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1)**

ASN.1 is a data definition language which allows formal definitions of information structures to be expressed in a manner which is independent of any implementation constraints. It may be used to create complex hierarchical structures from basic primitive types.

### **ACK**

General Acknowledgment message. The ACK message is used to respond to a message where there has been an error that precludes application processing or where the application does not define a special message type for the response.

### **Acknowledgment - Accept Level**

The receiving system commits the message to safe storage in a manner that releases the sending system from any obligation to resend the message. A response is returned to the initiator indicating successful receipt and secure storage of the information.

### **Acknowledgment - Application Level**

The appropriate application on the receiving system receives the transaction and processes it successfully. The receiving system returns an application-dependent response to the initiator.

### **ACR/NEMA**

American College of Radiology and the National Electrical Manufacturers Association. The American College of Radiology formed a relationship with the National Electronic Manufacturers' Association in 1982 to develop a standard for Digital Imaging and Communications in Medicine (DICOM). The purpose of the standard was to promote a generic digital image communication format; facilitate the development and expansion of picturing archiving and communication systems (PACS); allow the creation of diagnostic information databases for remote access; and help assure the usability of new equipment with existing systems. The current standard (Version 3.0) defines image data as well as patient, study and visit information necessary to provide the context for the images.

<b>AD</b>	Address data type. The street or mailing address of a person or institution.
<b>Activity Diagram</b>	A UML Diagram that shows a workflow process, particularly focused on communication and the actors involved in that communication. Introduced as part of the HDF as part of the requirements analysis for HL7 standards.
<b>Addendum Document</b>	An appendage to an existing document that contains supplemental information. The parent document remains in place and its content is unaltered.
<b>Admission, Discharge and Transfer (ADT) Transaction Set</b>	Provides for transmitting new or updated demographic and visit information about patients. Generally information will be entered into an ADT system and passed to the nursing, ancillary and financial systems either in the form of an unsolicited update or in response to a record-oriented query.
<b>ADR</b>	ADT response message.
<b>ADT</b>	Admission, Discharge and Transfer (ADT) message.
<b>Adverse Drug Reaction</b>	<p>Pre-marketing: All noxious and unintended responses to a medicinal product related to any dose.</p> <p>Post-marketing/WHO: A response to a drug which is noxious and unintended, and which occurs at doses normally used in man for prophylaxis, diagnosis, or therapy of disease or for the modification of physiologic function.</p> <p>WHO: Any untoward medical occurrence that may present during treatment with a pharmaceutical product but which does not necessarily have a causal relationship with this product.</p> <p>Post-marketing/US: Any undesirable effect reasonably associated with the use of the drug, that may occur as part of the pharmacological action of the drug or may be unpredictable.</p> <p>Post-marketing/European Union: A reaction which is harmful and unintended and which occurs at doses normally used in man for the prophylaxis, diagnosis, or treatment of disease or the modification of physiological function.</p>
<b>Adverse Event/Adverse Experience</b>	<p>Pre-marketing: Any untoward medical occurrence in a patient or clinical investigation subject administered a pharmaceutical product and which does not necessarily have a causal relationship with this treatment.</p> <p>Post-marketing/US: Any adverse event associated with the use</p>

of a drug in humans, whether or not considered drug related, including the following: An adverse event occurring in the course of the use of a drug product in professional practice; an adverse event occurring from drug overdose; an adverse event occurring from drug withdrawal; and any failure of expected pharmacologic action.

Post-marketing/European Union: Any undesirable experience occurring to a patient treated with a pharmaceutical product whether or not considered related to the medicinal product.

### **ANSI**

American National Standards Institute. Founded in 1918, ANSI itself does not develop standards. ANSI's roles include serving as the coordinator for U.S. voluntary standards efforts, acting as the approval body to recognize documents developed by other national organizations as American National Standards, acting as the U.S. representative in international and regional standards efforts, and serving as a clearinghouse for national and international standards development information.

### **ANSI HISPP**

See HISPP.

### **Application**

1. An act of applying or putting to use; a use to which something is put (e.g., "application of HL7".)
2. A software program or set of related programs that provide some useful healthcare capability or functionality.

### **Application Layer**

Layer 7 of the OSI Model. Responsible for information transfer between two network applications. This involves such functions as security checks, identification of the two participants, availability checks, negotiating exchange mechanisms and most importantly initiating the exchanges themselves. See OSI Model.

### **Application Role**

A characteristic of an application that defines a portion of its HL7 interfaces. It is defined in terms of the interactions (messages) that the role sends or receives in response to trigger events.

### **Appointment**

An appointment represents a booked slot or group of slots on a schedule, relating to one or more services or resources. Two examples might include a patient visit scheduled at a clinic, and a reservation for a piece of equipment.

### **ArB**

Architectural review Board

### **Archived Document**

A status in which a document has been stored off-line for long-term access.

### **Arden Syntax**

An HL7, ANSI-approved standard. The Arden Syntax is a

language for representing and sharing medical knowledge among personnel, information systems and institutions. This standard is designed for organizations that require or develop systems that automatically assist physicians in decisions and alerts.

**Artifact**

Any deliverable resulting from the discovery, analysis, and design activities leading to the creation of message specifications.

**ASC X12**

Accredited Standards Committee X12. ASC X12 develops standards for electronic data interchange, is administered by the Data Interchange Standards Association (DISA), and is accredited to submit its documents to ANSI for approval as American National Standards. X12 has developed a number of message standards for purchase order data, invoice data, and other commonly used business documents. The Insurance Subcommittee (X12N) has developed a group of documents related to providing medical insurance claims transmission, including enrollment/maintenance (834), disability insurance claim (837), and claim payment/advice (835). None of these documents are currently approved as American National Standards, although some are currently considered draft standards for trial use. X12 intends to pursue approval of them as American National Standards in the future.

**ASC X3**

Accredited Standards Committee X12. ASC X3 develops generic standards for information technology, is administered by the Computer and Business Equipment Manufacturers Association (CBEMA), and is accredited to submit its documents to ANSI for approval as American National Standards.

**Association**

A type of relationship. An association relationship depicts a reference from one class to another class or itself.

**Association Composition**

See composite aggregation.

**Association Role Name**

An association name. Associations have two names, one on each end of an association. Each name is an association role name. The name is a short verb phrase depicting the role of the class on that end of the association.

**Association, Mandatory**

A mandatory association is an association with minimum multiplicity's greater than zero on both ends.

**ASTM**

American Society for Testing and Materials. ASTM was founded in 1898 and chartered in 1902 as a scientific and technical organization for the development of standards on characteristics and performance of materials. The charter was broadened in

1971 to include products, systems and services, as well as materials. ASTM is the largest non-government source of standards in the U.S., comprised of over 130 committees that publishes 10,000 standards annually.

### **ASTM Committee E31**

ASTM Committee E31 on Healthcare Informatics develops standards for health information and health information systems. E31 has 11 subcommittees in the healthcare area. In 1984, the AAMSI task force became subcommittee E31.11 and published E1238, Standard Specification for Transferring Clinical Observations Between Independent Systems, and is used by most of the referral clinical laboratories. Related data interchange standards include E1394 (Standard Specification for Transferring Information Between Clinical Instruments), and E1467 (Specification for Transferring Digital Neurophysiological Data Between Independent Computer Systems). Subcommittee E31.13 focuses on clinical laboratory result reporting standards. ASTM E31 is accredited by ANSI.

### **Attributes**

Attributes are abstractions of the data captured about classes. Attributes capture separate aspects of the class and take their values independent of one another. Attributes assume data values that are passed in HL7 messages.

### **Attribute Type**

The last part of an attribute name (suffix). Attribute type suffixes are rough classifiers for the meaning of the attribute. See also Data Type for contrast.

### **Authenticated Document**

A status in which a document or entry has been signed manually or electronically by one or more individuals who attest to its accuracy. No explicit determination is made that the assigned individual has performed the authentication. While the standard allows multiple instances of authentication, it would be typical to have a single instance of authentication, usually by the assigned individual.

### **Auxiliary Application**

An auxiliary application neither exerts control over, nor requests changes to a schedule. It is only concerned with gathering information about a particular schedule. It can be considered an "interested third-party," in that it is interested in any changes to a particular schedule, but has no interest in changing it or controlling it in any way. It may gather information passively or actively. An auxiliary application passively collects information by receiving unsolicited updates from a filler application.

## **B**

### **Bag**

An unordered collection of items which need not be unique.

<b>BAR</b>	Add/Change Billing Account message. The BAR message supports data sent from some application (usually a registration or ADT system) to the patient accounting system to establish an account for a patient's billing/accounts receivable record. Many of the segments associated with this message are optional. This optionality allows those systems needing these fields to set up transactions which fulfill their requirements yet satisfy the HL7 requirements.
<b>Base Class</b>	A class that was modified to create a Clone Class in a Refined Message Information Model.
<b>Batteries of Appointments</b>	For example, an activity consisting of an appointment with Radiology, an appointment with a specialist, and an appointment with a primary care physician might be scheduled.
<b>Battery</b>	The word battery is used in this specification synonymously with the word profile or panel. The individual observation elements within a battery may be characteristic of a physiologic system (e.g., liver function tests), or many different physiologic systems.
<b>Benefits</b>	Benefits are the services payable under a specific payor plan. They are also referred to as an insurance product, such as professional services, prescription drugs, etc.
<b>Block</b>	An indication that a slot or a set of slots is unavailable for reasons other than booking an appointment.
<b>Book</b>	The act of reserving a slot or set of slots on a schedule for a service or resource.

## **C**

<b>Canceled (Deleted) Document</b>	A status in which a document has been "removed" from a patient's record with no replacement. This is done when a document has been erroneously created or assigned to the incorrect patient.
<b>Cardinality</b>	The number of elements in a set. See also multiplicity.
<b>Causal Relationship</b>	When an event occurs a product may be suspected as causing the event but rarely can it be proven particularly at an early stage of the product's life. Certain information about the relationship between the product and the event can reinforce the belief in a causal relationship between the product and the event while others can decrease the probability that there is a causal relationship.

<b>Causation</b>	An exposure which truly does increase or decrease the probability of a certain outcome.
<b>CCOW</b>	Clinical Context Object Workgroup
<b>CD</b>	Channel definition data type
<b>C-CDA</b>	Consolidated Clinical Document Architecture. The Consolidated Templated implementation guide (also known as the Consolidated Clinical Document Architecture or C-CDA) contains a library of CDA templates, incorporating and harmonizing previous efforts from Health Level Seven (HL7), Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise (IHE), and Health Information Technology Standards Panel (HITSP). It represents harmonization of the HL7 Health Story guides, HITSP C32, related components of IHE Patient Care Coordination (IHE PCC), and Continuity of Care (CCD), and it includes all required CDA templates in <a href="#">Final Rules for Stage 1 Meaningful Use</a> and <a href="#">45 CFR Part 170 – Health Information Technology: Initial Set of Standards, Implementation Specifications, and Certification Criteria for Electronic Health Record Technology; Final Rule</a> .
<b>CDA</b>	Clinical Document Architecture. A CDA document is comprised of a header, referred to as the "CDA Header", and a body, which at CDA Level One is referred to as the "CDA Level One Body". The CDA Header identifies and classifies the document and provides information on authentication, the encounter, the patient, and the provider. The body contains the clinical report. The CDA Level One Body is comprised of nested containers. There are four types of containers: sections, paragraphs, lists and tables. Containers have contents and optional captions. Contents include plain text, links, and multimedia. Both the header and the body use the data types defined in the HL7 RIM.
<b>CE</b>	Coded Element data type. This data type transmits codes and the text associated with the code. This type has six components, as follows: identifier, text, name of coding system, alternate identifier, alternate text, and name of alternate coding system.
<b>CEN</b>	The Comite European de Normalisation (CEN) is the European Economic Community's (EEC) standards development organization (analogous to ANSI in the U.S.). Technical Committee 251 (TC 251) is CEN's committee to develop standards in Medical Informatics. CEN also sponsors TC 224 (Machine-readable cards, related device interfaces and operations).

<b>CF</b>	Coded Element with Formatted Values data type. This data type transmits codes and the formatted text associated with the code.
<b>Child Appointment</b>	<p>A child appointment is an appointment subordinate to another appointment (called a parent appointment).</p> <p>For example, a single instance of an appointment in a group of recurring appointments is a child to the group. Child appointments can themselves be parent appointments.</p> <p>For example, if a battery of appointments is scheduled, then the atomic units of the battery are children to the battery request. If the battery is scheduled as a repeating appointment, then each instance of the battery of appointments (parent to each of the atomic units) is a child to the original repeating request.</p>
<b>Choice Message Element Type</b>	A message constructed that includes alternative portions of the message.
<b>CK</b>	Composite with Check Digits data type. A composite consisting of four components; an ID number, a check digit, a code showing the check digit scheme employed, and an assigning facility ID.
<b>Class</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A kind or category of things or concepts.</li> <li>2. A definition of objects, in terms of properties (attributes, methods, and relationships) that all objects of the class have in common.</li> </ol>
<b>Clinical Decision Support</b>	Typically used when referring to a type of system that assists health care providers in making medical decisions. These types of systems typically require input of patient-specific clinical variables and as a result provide patient-specific recommendations.
<b>Clinical Information</b>	Refers to the data contained in the patient record. The data may include such things as problem lists, lab results, current medications, family history, etc. For the purposes of this chapter, clinical information is limited to diagnoses (DG1), results reported (OBX/OBR), and allergies (AL1).
<b>Clinical Pathway</b>	A <b>clinical pathway</b> is a standardized plan of care against which progress towards health is measured. A clinical pathway is applied based upon the results of a patient assessment. A clinical pathway shows exact timing of all key patient care activities intended to achieve expected standard outcomes within designated time frames. A clinical pathway includes documentation of problems, expected outcomes/goals, and

	clinical interventions/orders.
<b>Clinical Trial</b>	A scientifically rigorous study of individual outcomes to some process of healthcare intervention. Clinical trials usually involve medical treatments so this document will use the term <b><i>treatment</i></b> , rather than the broader term <b><i>intervention</i></b> . A clinical trial design may randomly assign and compare one treatment approach with another, or generate safety and efficacy data on a single treatment approach. The clinical trial has a protocol for the patient's course of treatment and/or evaluation. There is usually a schedule for collection of data to measure compliance, safety, and outcomes.
<b>Clone Class</b>	In a Refined Message Information Model, a substitute for a class in the Message Information Model. The clone is used to document constraints associated with a specific name.
<b>CM</b>	Composite data type. A field that is a combination of other meaningful data fields. Each portion is called a component.
<b>CMET</b>	See Common Message Element Type.
<b>CN</b>	Composite Number and Name data type. A field identifying a person both as a coded value and with a text name. The first component is the coded ID according to a site-specific table. The second through the sixth components are the person's name as a PN field. The seventh component specifies the source table used for the first component.
<b>CNE</b>	Coded with no exceptions data type.
<b>Collection Data Type</b>	A data type that represents an aggregation of data elements, all of which are represented by one other data type. The forms of collection are Set, Bag and List.
<b>Collection Message Element</b>	A message element type that can include multiple occurrences of some other message element type. Collections are declared as sets (unordered, no duplicates), lists (ordered, duplicates allowed), or bags (unordered, duplicates allowed).
<b>Complex Appointments</b>	For example, recurring batteries of appointments, or batteries of battery appointments.
<b>Component Separator</b>	The component separator is used to separate adjacent components of some data fields. Its use is described in the descriptions of the relevant data fields. The character that represents the component separator is specified for each message as the first character in the Encoding Characters data field of the MSH segment. Absent other considerations it is recommended that all sending applications use `^` as the

component separator. However, all applications are required to accept whatever character is included in the Message Header and use it to parse the message.

**Composite Document** A document which consists of an original document and one or more addenda.

**Computer-Based Patient** CPRI is an organization committed to initiating and coordinating urgently needed activities to facilitate and promote the routine use of computer-based patient records. CPRI was incorporated in January 1992 in response to the Institute of Medicine's Patient Record Study Committee report.

**Conformance (HMD)** A column wherein a technical committee states whether a message element must always be included in an HL7 message. The committee may say that it is required (must be included), optional (may be left out) or not permitted (may never be included). Contrast this with inclusion.

**CORBA** CORBA is the acronym for Common Object Request Broker Architecture, OMG's open, vendor-independent architecture and infrastructure that computer applications use to work together over networks.

**CP** Composite price data type. In version 2.3, replaces the MO data type.

**CQ** Composite Quantity with Units data type. The first component is a quantity and the second is the units in which the quantity is expressed.

**CRM** Clinical study registration message.

**CSU** Unsolicited study data message.

**CWE** Coded with exceptions data type.

**CX** Extended composite ID with check digit data type. Used for specifying an identifier with its associated administrative detail.

## D

**DAF** Data Access Framework

**DAM** Domain Analysis Model

<b>Data Fields</b>	Appendix A, the data dictionary, provides an alphabetical listing of data elements, listings of recommended coded values, and a cross reference from data elements to segments.
<b>Data Schedule</b>	<p>The treatment, diagnostic, and procedural requirements, as well as data collection due dates, scheduled on a timeline for most clinical trials. As data are reported, they may need to reflect the scheduled time point that they satisfy. Clinical trials quality control requires attention to compliance between the protocol's schedule and patient data records.</p> <p>The data schedule will be keyed by time points relative to the study. Some data may be due prior to and at the conclusion of the study and/or one or more of its phases. Some are interim within the study or its phases depending on protocol events such as administration of treatment, arbitrary time intervals instated to make and record assessments, or some clinical milestone such as relapse of disease. Often, multiple data parameters are scheduled at the same time point.</p>
<b>Data Type</b>	HL7 provides a special set of HL7 data types. These are defined in Chapter 2.
<b>Deferred Processing</b>	In this mode the responding system sends an acknowledgment to the initiating system that means the message has been placed in some type of secure environment and the receiving system commits to processing it within a "reasonable" amount of time, if (a) the message contains the necessary information, and (b) nothing causes the message's request for action to be canceled before the responding system processes the request. Both of these conditions are checked at the time of processing, <u>not</u> at the time of the first acknowledgment.
<b>Dependent</b>	Refers to a person who is affiliated with a subscriber, such as spouse or child.
<b>DFT</b>	Detail Financial Transaction message. The DFT message is used to describe a financial transaction transmitted between systems.
<b>DICOM</b>	Digital Imaging and Communications in Medicine. Version 3 of DICOM defines image data as well as patient, study and visit information necessary to provide the context for the images. This version incorporates an object-oriented data model and adds support for ISO Standard communications.
<b>Dictated</b>	A status in which information has been orally recorded but not yet transcribed.
<b>Diet</b>	A diet consists of the diet codes, supplements, and preferences effective at a given time. These three specifications govern

which foods a patient will receive. Diets generally do not have a stated ending time to ensure that the patient always receives food.

**Diet Code**

A diet code defines which foods a patient may receive; a patient must have at least one diet code to receive food.

**Dietary Orders**

An order for a patient diet. A patient may have only one effective diet order at a time.

**DIM**

A working model specific to a project used by a technical committee to capture information requirements. The DIM begins as a subset of the RIM. Changes applied to the DIM are forwarded as change proposals for the RIM.

**DLN**

Drivers' License Number data type. Contains the driver's license information.

**DMP**

Decision Making Practices

**DMIM**

Domain Message Information Model.

**DOC**

Document response message.

**Documented**

A status in which document content, other than dictation, has been received but has not been translated into the final electronic format. Examples include paper documents, whether hand-written or typewritten, and intermediate electronic forms, such as voice to text.

**DR**

Date/time range data type.

**Drug**

Any chemical compound that may be used on or administered to humans or animals as an aid in the diagnosis, treatment or prevention of disease or other abnormal condition, for the relief of pain or suffering, or to control or improve any physiologic condition (Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary 27<sup>th</sup> edition).

**DSR**

Display Response message.

**DSTU**

Draft Standard for Trial Use

**DT**

Date data type. Always in the format YYYYMMDD.

**E**

**EAC**

Automated equipment command message.

**EAN**

Automated equipment notification message.

<b>EAR</b>	Automated equipment response message.
<b>ECCF</b>	Enterprise Conformance and Compliance Framework
<b>ED</b>	Encapsulated data type. Supports ASCII MIME-encoding of binary data.
<b>EDIFACT</b>	<p>The <b>E</b>lectronic <b>D</b>ata <b>I</b>nterchange <b>F</b>or <b>A</b>dministration, <b>C</b>ommerce and <b>T</b>ransport (EDIFACT) is a set of internationally agreed standards, directories, and guidelines for the electronic interchange of structured data related to trade in goods and services between independent computerized information systems.</p> <p>The basic EDIFACT (ISO 9735) syntax standard was formally adopted in September 1987.</p>
<b>Edited Document</b>	A document that alters an existing document which had not been made available for patient care.
<b>EDR</b>	Enhanced display response.
<b>EI</b>	Entity identifier data type.
<b>Eligibility/Coverage</b>	Refers to the period of time a subscriber or dependent is entitled to benefits.
<b>Encoding Rules</b>	To determine the exact representation of an abstract message, one applies the HL7 encoding rules defined in Chapter 2 to the abstract definition from the relevant transaction definition chapter. This level corresponds most closely to ISO layers 5 and 6. In effect, the encoding rules support an established session for each message and its reply.
<b>Encounter</b>	Refers to a face-to-face meeting between a covered person and a health care provider whose services are provided.
<b>EQQ</b>	Embedded query language query.
<b>ERP</b>	Event replay response.
<b>Escape Character</b>	In text fields (Type TX or FT) another special character is allowed, the escape character. Any character allowed in a TX or FT field may serve as the escape character. The single character that represents the escape character is specified differently for each message as the third character in the Encoding Characters data field of the MSH segment. This field is optional. Applications that do not need to use an escape character may omit this character. Absent other considerations it is recommended that

all sending applications use ` ` as the escape character. However, all applications are required to accept whatever character is included in this field and use it to parse text fields within the message.

**ESR** Automated equipment status update acknowledgement message

**ESU** Automated equipment status update message.

**EUCLIDES** EUCLIDES, an acronym derived from **EU**ropean **CL**inical **D**ata **E**xchange **S**tandard, provides a standard for clinical laboratory data exchange between independent and heterogeneous medical information systems. EUCLIDES is supported by the Commission of the European Communities (CEC DGXIII) within the framework of the Advanced Informatics in Medicine (AIM) Program.

**Expected Adverse Product Reaction**

Expected events are those which prior experience has demonstrated to be probabilistically linked to the product and are generally included in product labeling.

Pre-marketing: An adverse reaction, the nature or severity of which is not consistent with the applicable product information (e.g., Investigator's Brochure for an unapproved investigational product).

Post-marketing/US (current): Unexpected means an adverse drug experience that is not listed in the current labeling for the drug product and includes an event that may be symptomatically and pathophysiologically related to an event listed in the labeling but differs from the event because of greater severity or specificity.

Post-marketing/US (proposed): The applicant's core safety data sheet shall be a document prepared by the applicant that contains all relevant safety information, including adverse drug experiences, which the applicant believes should be listed for the drug in all countries where the drug is marketed. It may be used by the applicant as the reference document by which an adverse drug experience is judged to be expected or unexpected for purposes of this post-marketing periodic report.

Post-marketing/European Union: This relates to an adverse reaction which is not mentioned in any ECsummary of product characteristics (SPC). In the absence of any European SPC, an international document prepared by the marketing authorization holder containing all relevant safety information which the marketing authorization holder considers should be listed for the

medicinal product in all countries where the medicinal product is marketed (Care Data Sheet).

Post-marketing/WHO: An adverse reaction, the nature or severity of which is not consistent with domestic labeling or market authorization, or expected from characteristics of the drug.

## F

**FC** Financial class data type. Used to assign a financial class to a person.

**FHIR®** Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR®) is a next generation standards framework created by HL7. FHIR combines the best features of HL7's [v2](#) , [HL7 v3](#)  and [CDA](#)  product lines while leveraging the latest web standards and applying a tight focus on implementability.

FHIR solutions are built from a set of modular components called "Resources". These resources can easily be assembled into working systems that solve real world clinical and administrative problems at a fraction of the price of existing alternatives. FHIR is suitable for use in a wide variety of contexts – mobile phone apps, cloud communications, EHR-based data sharing, server communication in large institutional healthcare providers, and much more.

**Field** An HL7 field is a string of characters defined by one of the HL7 data types.

**Field Components** A field entry may also have discernable parts or components. For example, the patient's name is recorded as last name, first name, and middle initial, each of which is a distinct entity separated by a component delimiter (sub-subfield in astm e1238-94).

**Field Separator** The HL7 field separator separates two adjacent data fields within an HL7 segment. It also separates the segment ID from the first data field in the segment. The value that represents the field separator may be defined differently for each message. Whatever character is the fourth character of the MSH segment serves as the field separator for all segments in the message.

Absent other considerations, it is recommended that all sending applications use "|" as the field separator. However, all receiving applications are required to accept whatever character is included in this position and use it to parse the message.

**Filler**

Person, or service, who produces the observations (fills the order) requested by the requestor. The word is synonymous with "producer" and includes diagnostic services and clinical services and care providers who report observations about their patients. The clinical laboratory is a producer of lab test results (filler of a lab order), the nursing service is the producer of vital signs observations (the filler of orders to measure vital signs), and so on. The application responding to, i.e., performing, a request for services (orders) or producing an observation.

Another definition for the filler is that the fill can also originate requests for services (new orders), add additional services to existing orders, replace existing orders, put an order on hold, discontinue an order, release a held order, or cancel existing orders. Referred to as Producer in ASTM terminology.

**Filler Application**

The filler application role in the scheduling model is very similar to the filler application concept presented in Chapter 4, Order Entry. A filler application, in the scheduling model, is one that "owns" one or more schedules for one or more services or resources. It fulfills requests to book slots for the services or resources over which it exerts control. It also notifies other applications of activity related to appointments, such as new bookings, modifications, cancellations, etc.

**FN**

Family name data type. This data type allows full specification of the surname of a person. Where appropriate, it differentiates the person's own surname from that of the person's partner or spouse, in cases where the person's name may contain elements from either name. It also permits messages to distinguish the surname prefix (such as "van" or "de") from the surname root.

**FT**

Formatted Text data type. This data type is derived from the string data type by allowing the addition of embedded formatting instructions. These instructions are limited to those that are intrinsic and independent of the circumstances under which the field is to be displayed, FT supports width-independent and device-independent text display.

**G**

**Goal**

A **goal** refers to an objective to be achieved as a consequence

of health care interventions applied to an individual. Goals are set in many areas of the health care system, and include educational, behavior modification, and clinical goals such as reduced discomfort, improved circulation. Goals are documented by a variety of health care professionals including physicians, nurses, and respiratory and other therapists. Goals are defined during patient visits and they may span one or multiple visits, encounters, or episodes of care.

**Guarantor**

Refers to a person who has financial responsibility for the payment of a patient account.

## H

**HDF**

HL7 Development Framework

**HD**

Hierarchic designator data type

**Health Care Provider**

Refers to a person licensed, certified or otherwise authorized or permitted by law to administer health care in the ordinary course of business or practice of a profession, including a health care facility.

**HIMSS**

Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society

**HISB**

The American National Standards Institute's Healthcare Informatics Standards Board (ANSI HISB) provides an open, public forum for the voluntary coordination of healthcare informatics standards among all United States' standard developing organizations. Every major developer of healthcare informatics standards in the United States participates in ANSI HISB. The ANSI HISB has 38 voting members and more than 100 participants, including ANSI-accredited and other standards developing organizations, professional societies, trade associations, private companies, federal agencies, and others.

**HL7**

Health Level Seven (HL7) is an application protocol for electronic data exchange in health care environments. The HL7 protocol is a collection of standard formats which specify the implementation of interfaces between computer applications from different vendors. This communication protocol allows healthcare institutions to exchange key sets of data amount different application systems. Flexibility is built into the protocol to allow compatibility for specialized data sets that have facility-specific needs.

**HL7 Batch Protocol**

Protocol utilized to transmit a batch of HL7 messages. The protocol uses FHS, BHS, BTS and FTS segments to delineate the

	batch.
<b>HMD</b>	Hierarchical Message Descriptor
<b>Holder of Marketing Authorization (HMA)</b>	The organization which holds the authority to market a product. This will often be the organization which manufactures the product.
<b>HSSP</b>	Healthcare Services Specification Project
<b>HTTP</b>	Hypertext Transfer Protocol – HTTP is a protocol with the lightness and speed necessary for a distributed collaborative hypermedia information system. It is a generic stateless object-oriented protocol, which may be used for many similar tasks such as name servers, and distributed object-oriented systems, by extending the commands, or “methods”, used. A feature of HTTP is the negotiation of data representation, allowing systems to be built independently of the development of new advanced representations. HTTP is a W3C protocol, and the above definition was taken from their website.

## I

<b>ID</b>	Coded Value data type. The value of such a field follows the formatting rules for a ST field except that it is drawn from a table of legal values. Examples of ID fields include religion and sex.
<b>IEEE</b>	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. IEEE is accredited by ANSI to submit its documents for approval as American National Standards. IEEE subcommittee P1073 develops standards for healthcare informatics: MEDIX (P1157) and MIB (P1073).
<b>IEEE MEDIX</b>	IEEE P1157 Medical Data Interchange (MEDIX) Committee. MEDIX was organized in 1987 to draft a standard for the exchange of data between hospital computer systems. The MEDIX committee, is committed to developing a standard set of hospital system interface transactions based on the ISO standards for all seven layers of the OSI reference model. The committee proposes to use the ASN.1 standard to specify message content as well as encode standard messages. IEEE is also developing the standard medical information bus (MIB; IEEE P1073) for communicating among critical care devices and computers.
<b>IEEE MIB</b>	IEEE Medical Information Bus Committee. IEEE subcommittee (P1073) to develop standards for communications between patient monitoring devices and computer systems.

<b>In Progress/Assigned Document</b>	A workflow status change in which the recipient has assigned the material to personnel to perform the task of transcription. The document remains in this state until the document is transcribed.
<b>Incomplete Document</b>	A status in which information is known to be missing from a transcribed document.
<b>INR</b>	Automated equipment inventory request message.
<b>Interaction</b>	A single, one-way information flow that supports a communication requirement expressed in a scenario.
<b>Interaction Diagram</b>	A graphical representation of communications between application roles. An interaction diagram may also be referred to as a ladder diagram, sequence diagram, or storyboard interaction diagram.
<b>INU</b>	Automated equipment inventory update message.
<b>IS</b>	Coded value for user defined tables data type.
<b>ISO</b>	International Organization for Standardization. A voluntary, non-treaty organization established in 1949 to promote international standards. Developers of the ISO Reference Model for Open Systems Interconnection (OSI Model), a standard approach to network design which introduces modularity by dividing the complex set of functions into more manageable, self-contained, functional slices (layers).
<b>ITS</b>	Implementation Technology Specification
<b>J</b>	
<b>JCC</b>	Job class/code data type. This contains the person's job code.
<b>L</b>	
<b>Legally Authenticated Document</b>	A status in which a document or entry has been signed manually or electronically by the individual who is legally responsible for that document or entry. This is the most mature state in the workflow process.
<b>Level Seven</b>	Level Seven refers to the highest level of International Standards Organizations (ISO) communications model for Open Systems Interconnection (OSI)—the application level. Issues within the application level include definition of the data to be exchanged, the timing of the interchange, and communication of certain

errors to the application.

The seventh level supports such functions as security checks, identification of the participants, availability checks, negotiating exchange mechanisms and, most importantly, structuring the data exchanges themselves.

**Local-Area Network (LAN)**

A user-owned, user-operated, high-volume data transmission facility connecting a number of communicating devices (e.g., computers, terminals, word processor, printers, and mass storage units) within a single building or campus of buildings.

**LSR**

Automated equipment log/service request message.

**LSU**

Automated equipment log/service update message.

**M**

**MA**

Multiplexed array data type.

**Master Files**

A set of common reference files used by one or more application systems. These common reference files need to be synchronized across the various applications at a given site. The Master Files Notification transactions provide a way of maintaining this synchronization.

**Master Files Notification transactions**

The Master Files Notification transactions support the distribution of changes to various master files between systems in either on-line or batch modes, and allow the use of either original or enhanced acknowledgment modes, as well as providing for a delayed application acknowledgment mode.

**MCF**

Delayed Acknowledgment message. This message remains in the specification only for reasons of backwards compatibility. It is used as a part of the protocol which creates a generic form of an asynchronous application level acknowledgment.

**MDM**

Medical Document Management message.

**Medical Device:**

Something contrived for or used in the diagnosis (vascular catheters), treatment (thermotherapy units) or prevention of disease or other abnormal condition, for the relief of pain or suffering or to control or improve any physiologic condition, including instrumentation and implanted devices (prosthetic cardiac valves, pacemakers, hip prostheses).

**MEDIX**

See IEEE MEDIX

**Message**

A message is the atomic unit of data transferred between

systems. It is comprised of a group of segments in a defined sequence. Each message has a message type that defines its purpose. For example, the ADT Message type is used to transmit portions of a patient's ADT data from one system to another. A three character code contained within each message identifies its type.

### **Message Delimiters**

In constructing a message certain characters are used. These include the Segment Terminator, the Field Separator, the Component Separator, the Sub-Component Separator, Repetition Character, and the Escape Character.

### **Message Type**

Each message has a message type that defines its purpose. For example, the ADT Message Type is used to transmit portions of a patient's ADT data from one system to another. A 3-character code contained within each message identifies its type.

### **MFD**

Master Files Delayed Application Acknowledgment message.

### **MFK**

Master files application acknowledgement

### **MFN**

Master Files Change Notification message.

### **MFQ**

Master Files Query message allows a system to query for a particular record in a particular master file.

### **MFR**

Master Files Response message.

### **MIB**

See IEEE MIB

### **MLLP**

Minimal Lower Layer Protocol.

### **MO**

Money data type. The first component is a quantity and the second is the denomination in which quantity is expressed. See also **CP** data type.

### **MSDS**

Message Standards Developers Subcommittee of the ANSI HISPP.

### **MT**

Message Type.

## **N**

### **NA**

Numeric array data type.

### **NCPDP**

#### **National Council for Prescription Drug Programs, Inc.**

This ANSI-accredited Standards Development Organization was named in HIPAA.

NCPDP Standards are used in the pharmacy industry for the billing of claims and services, for manufacturer rebates processing, and prescriber to pharmacy interface transactions. Other standards include a professional pharmacy services

<b>New or Original Document</b>	<p>implementation guide, a common billing unit standard, a Medicaid Subrogation reporting standard, and a standardized pharmacy ID card implementation guide. These standards are used by pharmacy providers, processors, pharmacy benefit managers, third party administrators, prescriber software systems, manufacturers and other interested parties.</p> <p>The first version of a document. The original may or may not be final or authenticated. An original document should have a set of associated statuses to define its current condition.</p>
<b>NIB</b>	<p>Notification of Intent to Ballot. A form to collect information for balloting a standard and for its eventual submission to ANSI.</p>
<b>NM</b>	<p>Numeric data type. A number represented as a series of ASCII numeric characters consisting of an optional leading sign (+ or -), the digits and an optional decimal point.</p>
<b>NMD</b>	<p>Network Management Data message. One system creates an unsolicited update (UU) Network Management Data message (NMD) to transmit network management information to another system.</p>
<b>NMQ</b>	<p>Network Management Query message. One system needs network information from another system. The NMQ is used by one system to make system-level requests for information or action to another system.</p>
<b>NMR</b>	<p>Application Management Response message.</p>
<b>Non-Proprietary (Generic) Name</b>	<p>Drug name that are not protected by a trademark, usually descriptive of its chemical structure; sometimes called a public name. In the US, most generic drug names are assigned by the US adopted name council (USAN). Other generic names in common use are the national formulary (NF) and the US pharmacopoeia (USP) names.</p>

## O

<b>Observation</b>	<p>A measurement of a single variable or a single value derived logically and/or algebraically from other measured or derived values. A test result, a diastolic blood pressure, and a single chest x-ray impression are examples of observations. In certain circumstances, tracings and images may be treated by HL7 as individual observations and sent as a single OBX. These include waveform data and encapsulated data aggregates using the ED data type (which can represent actual images, audio data, etc.).</p>
<b>Obsolete Document</b>	<p>A status in which a document has been replaced by a document that contains revised content.</p>

<b>OBX</b>	Observation/result message. OBX is intended to cover all types of patient specific observation reports except pharmacy.
<b>ODS</b>	(New with Version 2.2) Dietary orders, supplements and preferences segment.
<b>ODT</b>	(New with Version 2.2) Diet tray instructions segment.
<b>OMD</b>	Dietary order message.
<b>OMG</b>	General clinical order message.
<b>OML</b>	Laboratory order message.
<b>OMN</b>	Non-stock requisition order message
<b>OMP</b>	Pharmacy/treatment order message.
<b>OMS</b>	Stock requisition order message.
<b>ORD</b>	Dietary order - General order acknowledgement message.
<b>Order</b>	An order is a request for a service from one application to a second application. The second application may in some cases be the same, i.e., an application is allowed to place orders with itself. Usually orders are associated with a particular patient.
<b>Order Detail Segment</b>	One of several segments that can carry order information. Examples are OBR and RXO.
<b>Order Group</b>	See Placer Order Group.
<b>ORF</b>	Query for results of observation message.
<b>ORG</b>	General clinical order acknowledgement message.
<b>ORL</b>	Laboratory acknowledgement message (unsolicited)
<b>ORM</b>	General Order message. The function of this message is to initiate the transmission of information about an order. This includes placing new orders, cancellation of existing orders, discontinuation, holding, etc. ORM messages can originate also with a placer, filler or an interested third party.
<b>ORN</b>	Non-stock requisition - General order acknowledgement message.
<b>ORP</b>	Pharmacy/treatment order acknowledgement message.
<b>ORR</b>	General Order Response message. The function of this message is to respond to an ORM message.

<b>ORS</b>	Stock requisition - General order acknowledgment message.
<b>ORU</b>	Unsolicited Transmission of an Observation. For each patient order (OBR segment) more results may be transmitted depending upon the number of observations generated by the order.
<b>OSI Model</b>	<p>Open Systems Interconnection Model. A standard approach to network design developed by the International Standards Organization (ISO) that introduces modularity by dividing the complex set of functions into more manageable, self-contained, functional slices. The seven layers, from the innermost layer, are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Physical Layer - concerned with the mechanical and electrical means by which devices are physically connected and data is transmitted.</li><li>2. Link Layer - concerned with moving data reliably across the physical data link.</li><li>3. Network Layer - provides the means to establish, maintain and terminate connections between systems; concerned with information switching and routing.</li><li>4. Transport Layer - concerned with end-to-end data integrity and quality of service.</li><li>5. Session Layer - standardizes the task of setting up and terminating a session; it coordinates interaction between end application processes.</li><li>6. Presentation Layer - relates to the character set and data code used, and to the way data is displayed on a screen or printer.</li><li>7. Application Layer - concerned with the higher-level functions that provide support to the application or system activities.</li></ol>
<b>OSQ</b>	Query response for order status message.
<b>OSR</b>	Query response for order status message.
<b>OUL</b>	Unsolicited laboratory observation message.

**P**

<b>Parent Appointment</b>	<p>A parent appointment is an appointment that consists of one or more subordinate appointments (called child appointments). A parent appointment is used to relate or group multiple appointments together in various ways. Examples of kinds of parent scheduled activities include, but are not limited to, the following.</p> <p>Parent appointments can themselves be children to other appointments.</p>
<b>Patient Accounting Message Set</b>	<p>The Patient Accounting message set provides for the entry and manipulation of charge, payment, adjustment, demographic, insurance, and other related patient billing and accounts receivable information. The specification includes all the data defined in the National Uniform Billing Data Element Specifications (UB-82 and UB-92).</p>
<b>Payor</b>	<p>Indicates a third party entity who pays for or underwrites coverage for health care expenses. A payor may be an insurance company, a health maintenance organization (HMO), a preferred provider organization (PPO), a government agency or an agency such as a third party administrator (TPA).</p>
<b>PEX</b>	<p>Product experience message.</p>
<b>PGL</b>	<p>Patient goal message.</p>
<b>Pharmacy Order Messages</b>	<p>A series of messages used to convey pharmacy order information. Messages include ORM (general order; proposed as RDO), RDE (pharmacy encoded order), RDS (pharmacy dispensing information), RGV (pharmacy give) and RAS (pharmacy administration).</p>
<b>Phase of a Clinical Trial</b>	<p>The phase structure serves several purposes in the clinical trials messages. Other computer systems may need to know that the patient has begun a phase with a particular treatment regimen or diagnostic schedule, such as the pharmacy or order entry systems. When reporting study data, observations and variables often describe particular phase instances. For example, each course of treatment may have its own values for the same set of observations or variables. Phase instances may also have distinct data schedules that need to be linked to submitted data.</p>
<b>PIN</b>	<p>Patient insurance information message.</p>
<b>PKI</b>	<p>Public Key Infrastructure. This allows you to conduct business electronically with the confidence that the person sending the transaction is actually the originator. The person receiving the transaction is the intended recipient. Data integrity has not been</p>

	compromised.
<b>PL</b>	Patient location data type.
<b>Placer</b>	Person or service that requests (places order for) an observation battery, e.g., the physician, the practice, clinic, or ward service, that orders a lab test, x-ray, vital signs, etc. The meaning is synonymous with, and used interchangeably with, requestor. Placer is also considered the application (system or individual) originating a request for services (order).
<b>Placer Application</b>	The role of the placer application in the scheduling model is also very similar to its counterpart in the Order Entry chapter. A placer application must request the booking, modification, cancellation, etc., of an appointment for a service or resource because it cannot exert any control over that service or resource on the schedule. In requesting that these appointments be booked or modified in some way, the placer application is asking the filler application to exert its control over the schedule on the placer application's behalf.
<b>Placer Order Group</b>	A list of associated orders coming from a single location regarding a single patient; usually representing a single session by an ordering provider. A group is established when the placer supplies a placer group number with the original order.
<b>PMU</b>	Add personnel record message.
<b>PN</b>	Person Name data type. A name includes multiple free text components: family name, given name, middle initial or name, suffix, prefix, and degree.
<b>PPG</b>	Patient pathway message (goal-oriented)
<b>PPN</b>	Performing person time stamp data type. This data type is the equivalent of an XCN data type joined with a TS data type. However, since HL7 does not support subcomponents in Version 2.3, the XCN data type has been flattened.
<b>PPP</b>	Patient pathway message (problem-oriented).
<b>PPR</b>	Patient problem message.
<b>PPT</b>	Patient pathway goal-oriented response.
<b>PPV</b>	Patient goal response message.
<b>PRA</b>	Patient Record Architecture.
<b>Pre-Authenticated</b>	A status in which a document is transcribed but not

<b>Document</b>	authenticated.
<b>Pre-Authorization</b>	Refers to the process of obtaining prior approval as to the appropriateness of a service. Pre-authorization does not guarantee coverage.
<b>Preferences</b>	(related to Dietary Orders) Preferences consist of likes, dislikes, substitutions, and complementary foods. Preferences are diet orders, effectively from the patient, but transmitted from the ward. They are subject to change. Preferences are independent of the diet order and do not change when the order changes.
<b>Primary Care Provider</b>	Indicates the provider responsible for delivering care as well as authorizing and channeling care to specialists and other providers in a gatekeeper system. The provider is also referred to as a case manager or a gatekeeper.
<b>PRM</b>	Response to request for Personnel data message.
<b>Problem</b>	A <b>problem</b> of a given individual can be described by formal diagnosis coding systems (such as DRG's, NANDA Nursing Diagnosis, ICD9, DSM, etc.) or by other professional descriptions of health care issues affecting an individual. Problems can be short or long term in nature, chronic or acute, and have a status. In a longitudinal record, all problems may be of importance in the overall long term care of an individual, and may undergo changes in status repeatedly. Problems are identified during patient visits, and may span multiple visits, encounters, or episodes of care.
<b>Product</b>	A drug or medical device.
<b>Product Manufacturer</b>	The organization which is responsible for the manufacture of a product. This will usually be the entity which will hold the marketing authorization for the product.
<b>Protocol</b>	A set of procedures for establishing and controlling data transmission.
<b>Protocol Conversion</b>	The process of translating the protocol native to an end-user device (e.g., a terminal) into a different protocol (e.g., ASCII to BSC), enabling that device to communicate with another device (e.g., a computer) with which it would otherwise be incompatible. Protocol conversion
<b>PRR</b>	Patient problem response message.
<b>PT</b>	Processing type data type. This data type indicates whether to process a message as defined in HL7 Application (level 7) Processing rules.
<b>PTR</b>	Patient pathway problem-oriented response message.

**Purged Document** A status in which a document is no longer available in this system.

## Q

**QBP** Query by parameter.

**QCK** Deferred query.

**QCN** Cancel query.

**QIP** Query input parameter list data type. Contains the list of parameter names and values to be passed to the stored procedure.

**QRDA** Quality Reporting Document Architecture. A QRDA report is an aggregate quality report. Each report contains calculated summary data for one or more measures for a specified population of patients within a particular health system over a specific period of time.

**QRY** Query message.

**QSB** Create subscription message.

**QSC** Query selection criteria data type. Indicates the conditions that qualify the rows to be returned in the query response.

**QSX** Cancel subscription/acknowledge message.

**Querying Application** A querying application neither exerts control over, nor requests changes to a schedule. Rather than accepting unsolicited information about schedules, as does an auxiliary application, the querying application actively solicits this information using a query mechanism. It will be driven by a person wanting information about schedules, and may be part of an application filling the placer application role as defined in this chapter. The information that the querying application receives is valid only at the exact time that the query results are generated by the filler application. Changes made to the schedule after the query results have been returned are not communicated to the querying application until it issues another query transaction.

**QVR** Query for previous events.

## R

**RAR** Pharmacy/treatment administration information.

<b>RAS</b>	Pharmacy Administration message.
<b>RCD</b>	Row column definition data types. Specifies the format of a column in terms of a segment field name, a data type, and a maximum length.
<b>RCI</b>	Return clinical information.
<b>RCL</b>	Return clinical information.
<b>RCnL</b>	Refinement, Constraints and Localization
<b>RDE</b>	Pharmacy Encoded Order message.
<b>RDO</b>	Pharmacy Prescription message.
<b>RDR</b>	Pharmacy/treatment dispense information.
<b>RDS</b>	Pharmacy Dispense message. The RDS message may be created by the Pharmacy application for each instance of dispensing drugs to fill an existing order(s).
<b>RDY</b>	Display based response.
<b>Recurring (Repeating) Appointments.</b>	For example, a physical therapy appointment may be scheduled every Tuesday at 4:00 PM for three months.
<b>REF</b>	Patient Referral message.
<b>Referral</b>	Means a provider's recommendation that a covered person receive care from a different provider.
<b>Referred-to-Provider</b>	Typically indicates a specialty care provider who provides services at the request of a primary care provider or another specialty care provider .
<b>Referring Provider</b>	Indicates the provider who requests services from a specialist or another primary care provider. A referring provider may, in fact, be a specialist who is referring a patient to another specialist.
<b>Regulatory Agency</b>	Many geopolitical entities have established agencies/authority responsible for regulating products used in health care. The agencies are collectively referred to as regulatory agencies.
<b>Repeated Value</b>	Some fields may contain many repeat fields. For example, the diagnoses field may contain many different diagnoses.
<b>Repetition Separator</b>	The repetition separator is used in some data fields to separate multiple occurrences of a field. It is used only where specifically authorized in the descriptions of the relevant data fields. The character that represents the repetition separator is specified for each message as the second character in the Encoding

Characters data field of the MSH segment. Absent other considerations it is recommended that all sending applications use "~" as the repetition separator. However, all applications are required to accept whatever character is included in the Message Header and use it to parse the message.

<b>Replacement Document</b>	A document that replaces an existing document. The original document becomes obsolete, but is still retained in the system for historical reference.
<b>RER</b>	Pharmacy/treatment encoded order information.
<b>Resource</b>	A resource is any person, place or thing that must be reserved prior to its use.
<b>Restricted Document</b>	A status in which access to a document has institutionally assigned limitations.
<b>Revised Document</b>	This is not a supported trigger event. When a document has not been made available for patient care, the "Edit" trigger event (T07) may be used to accomplish this function. Once a document has been made available, revision is not allowed. Instead, a replacement is issued (T010) which contains the revised content, together with a notice that the original document, which it supersedes) remains but is now obsolete.
<b>RGV</b>	Pharmacy Give message. The RGV message can communicate drug administration instructions and/or dispensing information.
<b>RGR</b>	Pharmacy/treatment dose information message.
<b>RHIO</b>	Regional Health Information Office
<b>RI</b>	Repeat interval data type. Contains the interval between repeating appointments.
<b>RIM</b>	Reference Information Model
<b>RMIM</b>	Refined Message Information Model
<b>Role</b>	A <b>role</b> refers to the function or responsibility assumed by a person in the context of a health care event. Role information documents a person's association with an identified healthcare activity. Examples include primary care provider, transcriptionist, reviewer, and consulting physician.
<b>ROR</b>	Pharmacy/treatment order response.
<b>RP</b>	Reference Pointer data type. This data type transmits information about data stored on another system.

<b>RPA</b>	Return patient authorization message.
<b>RPI</b>	Return patient information message.
<b>RPL</b>	Return patient display list.
<b>RPR</b>	Return patient list.
<b>RQ1</b>	One of several segments related to supply orders. Contains additional information of detail for each requisitioned item. It is required for all non-stock orders (and is paired with the RQD in this case).
<b>RQA</b>	Request patient authorization.
<b>RQC</b>	Request clinical information.
<b>RQD</b>	One of several segments related to supply orders. Contains the detail for each requisitioned item. It is required for all stock orders. It is assumed that this is enough information for the application receiving the message to identify the item.
<b>RQI</b>	Request patient information.
<b>RQP</b>	Request patient demographics.
<b>RQQ</b>	Event replay query.
<b>RRA</b>	Pharmacy/treatment administration acknowledgement message.
<b>RRD</b>	Pharmacy/treatment dispense acknowledgement message.
<b>RRE</b>	Pharmacy/treatment encoded order acknowledgement message.
<b>RRG</b>	Pharmacy/treatment give acknowledgement message.
<b>RRI</b>	Return referral information message.
<b>RS-232C</b>	A technical specification published by the Electronic Industries Association (EIA) that establishes mechanical and electrical interface requirements among computers, terminals and communications lines.
<b>RSP</b>	Segment pattern response.
<b>RTB</b>	Tabular response
<b>S</b>	
<b>SAD</b>	Street address data type. This data type appears only as part of the XAD data type.
<b>SAIF</b>	Service Aware Interoperability Framework

<b>Schedule</b>	A schedule is the sum of all of the slots related to a service or resource.
<b>SCV</b>	Scheduling class value pair data type. Used to communicate parameters and preferences to the filler application regarding the selection of an appropriate time slot, resource, location, or filler override criterion for an appointment. Used only with the scheduling chapter.
<b>Segment</b>	An HL7 segment is a logical grouping of data fields. Segments of a message may be required or optional. They may occur only once in a message or they may be allowed to repeat. Each segment is identified by a unique three character code known as the Segment ID.
<b>Segment (Record)</b>	<p>A typed aggregate of fields (fields) describing one complete aspect of a message. For example, the information about one order is sent as type of segment (OBR), the information related to an observation is sent as another segment (OBX).</p> <p>The segment in a message is analogous to a record in a database, and in previous versions of the standard we used record in place of the word segment. We have changed the nomenclature to be consistent with HL7 and other standards organizations in this version.</p>
<b>Segment Terminator</b>	The segment terminator is the last character of every segment. It is always the ASCII CR character (hex 0D).
<b>Sequence Number Protocol</b>	An extension to the basic HL7 message protocol used for certain types of data transactions between systems where the issue of keeping the data bases synchronized is critical. Although the sequence number protocol is limited to the use of sequence numbers on a single transaction stream between two applications, this sequencing protocol is sufficiently robust to allow the design of HL7-compatible store-and-forward applications.
<b>Serious Adverse Product Reaction</b>	<p>An adverse product reaction which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• is fatal (results in death)</li><li>• is life threatening</li><li>• requires hospitalization or prolongation of a hospitalization</li><li>• results in persistent or significant disability/incapacity</li><li>• results in a congenital anomaly/birth defect.</li></ul> <p>Medical and scientific judgment should be exercised in deciding</p>

whether expedited reporting is appropriate in other situations, such as important medical events that may not be immediately life-threatening or result in hospitalization but may jeopardize the patient or may require intervention to prevent one of the other outcomes listed in the definition above. These should also be considered serious.

<b>Service</b>	A service is any activity that must be scheduled prior to its performance.
<b>SI</b>	Sequence ID data type. A positive integer in the form of a NM field.
<b>SIG</b>	Special Interest Group
<b>SIU</b>	Schedule information unsolicited message.
<b>Slot</b>	A slot is one unit on a schedule. A slot represents the smallest unit of time or quantity that a service or resource may be booked. Depending on the nature of the service or resource, there may be more than one defined slot at a given instant of time. For example, if a service is an open group therapy session with twelve available seats, then there are twelve slots for the given block of time.
<b>SN</b>	Structured numeric data type.
<b>SNOMED</b>	Systemized Nomenclature of MEDicine Clinical Terms
<b>Specialist</b>	Means a provider of services which are beyond the capabilities or resources of the primary care provider. A specialist is also known as a specialty care provider who provides services at the request of a primary care provider or another specialty care provider.
<b>SPQ</b>	Stored procedure request.
<b>SQM</b>	Schedule query message.
<b>SQR</b>	Schedule query response.
<b>SRM</b>	Schedule request message.
<b>SRT</b>	Sort order data type. Specifies those parameters by which the response will be sorted and by what method.
<b>SSR</b>	Specimen status update message.
<b>SSU</b>	Specimen status update message.

<b>ST</b>	String data type. String Data is left justified with trailing blanks optional. Any printable ASCII characters are allowed.
<b>Storyboard</b>	A narrative of relevant events defined using interaction diagrams or use cases. The storyboard provides one set of interactions that the modeling committee expects will typically occur in the domain.
<b>Subcomponent Separator</b>	The subcomponent separator is used to separate adjacent subcomponents of some data fields. Its use is described in the descriptions of the relevant data fields. The character that represents the subcomponent separator is specified for each message as the fourth character in the Encoding Characters data field of the MSH segment. Absent other considerations it is recommended that all sending applications use "&" as the subcomponent separator. However, all applications are required to accept whatever character is included in the Message Header and use it to parse the message.
<b>Subscriber</b>	Refers to a person who elects benefits and is affiliated with an employer or insurer.
<b>Supplements</b>	Supplements provide a mechanism for giving any additional desired foods to a patient. Supplements are foods given to a patient regardless of their diet codes. These foods are part of the patient's diet without being restricted by any other part of the order.
<b>Supply Order Segment</b>	One of several segments that can carry supply order information. Supply order segments include RQD (stock orders) and RQ1 (non-stock orders)
<b>Supply Orders</b>	Supply Orders are used to order medical and surgical supplies, both stock and non-stock. Stock Orders are supplies stocked in the hospital in designated areas, such as the warehouse, central supply, nursing floors, or operating room. Nonstock Orders are supplies are not stocked anywhere in the hospital that must be ordered from an industry distributor or manufacturer. A supply order may or may not be associated with a patient.
<b>SUR</b>	Summary product experience report.
<b>T</b>	
<b>TBR</b>	Tabular data response
<b>TC 224</b>	Technical Committee 224. Established by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN), TC 224 focuses on the development of standards for machine-readable cards, related

	device interfaces and operations.
<b>TC 251</b>	Technical Committee 251. Established by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN), TC 251 focuses on the development of standards for healthcare informatics. A major goal of this committee is to develop standards for communication among independent medical information systems so that clinical and management data produced by one computer system could be transmitted to another system.
<b>TCP/IP</b>	Transaction Control Protocol/Internet Protocol. A set of protocols for Layers 3 (Network) and 4 (Transfer) of the OSI network model. TCP/IP has been developed over a period of 15 years under the auspices of the Department of Defense. It is a de facto standard, particularly as higher-level layers over ethernet. Although it builds upon the OSI model, TCP/IP is not OSI-compliant.
<b>TCR</b>	Automated equipment test code settings request message.
<b>TCU</b>	Automated equipment test code setting update message.
<b>Test</b>	Observations/results that are done on specimens and those that are standard measurements are typically referred to as tests.
<b>TM</b>	Time data type. Always in the format HHMM[SS[.SSSS]] using a 24 hour clock notation.
<b>TN</b>	Telephone Number data type. For use in the U.S. and conforming countries.
<b>TQ</b>	Timing/Quantity data type. Describes when a service should be performed and how frequently.
<b>Trade (Brand) Name</b>	Proprietary names that are registered to protect the name for the sole use of the manufacturer holding the trademark.
<b>Transcription</b>	A process of transforming dictated or otherwise documented information into an electronic format.
<b>Trigger Event</b>	The event that initiates an exchange of messages is called a trigger event. The HL7 Standard is written from the assumption that an event in the real world of health care creates the need for data to flow among systems. The real-world event is called the trigger event. For example, the trigger event "a patient is admitted" may cause the need for data about that patient to be sent to a number of other systems. There is a one-to-many relationship between message types and trigger event codes. The same trigger event code may not be associated with more than one message type.

<b>TS</b>	Time Stamp data type. Contains the exact time of an event, including the date and time.
<b>TSC</b>	Technical Steering Committee
<b>TX</b>	Text data type. String data meant for user display on a terminal or printer.

## U

<b>UDM</b>	Unsolicited Display Message. The UDM describes a display-oriented message. It is the unsolicited version of the generalized Response display message. It is acknowledged by a generic ACK message.
<b>UI</b>	Universal identifier data type.
<b>Unsolicited Update</b>	When the transfer of information is initiated by the application system that deals with the triggering event, the transaction is termed an unsolicited update.

## V

<b>Variance</b>	<b>Variances</b> are documented deviations, either positive or negative from a pre-defined standard. Variances are documented against expected outcomes, orders, or the patient's progress in general.
<b>VH</b>	Visiting hours data type. Contains the hours when a patient location is open for visiting.
<b>VID</b>	Version identifier data type. Used to identify the HL7 version being used.
<b>VQQ</b>	Virtual table query.
<b>VXQ</b>	Query for vaccination record.
<b>VXR</b>	Vaccination record response.
<b>VXU</b>	Unsolicited vaccination record update.
<b>VXX</b>	Response for vaccination query with multiple PID matches.

## W

<b>W3C</b>	Word Web Consortium
<b>WEDI</b>	Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange.

## X

<b>X12</b>	See ASC X12.
<b>XAD</b>	Extended address data type. In version 2.3, replaces the AD data type.
<b>XCN</b>	Extended composite ID number and name data type. In version 2.3, use instead of the CN datatype.
<b>XON</b>	Extended composite name and ID number for organizations data type.
<b>XML</b>	Extensible Markup Language. A WC3 standard, it is the universal format for structured documents and data on the web.
<b>XPN</b>	Extended person name data type. In version 2.3, replaces the PN data type.
<b>XTN</b>	Extended telecommunications number data type. In version 2.3, replaces the TN data type.

## Z

<b>Z Segment</b>	All message type and trigger event codes beginning with Z are reserved for locally defined messages. No such codes will be defined within the HL7 Standard.
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