

PACIO Poster

ASHA Convention 11.2025

In Person:

- Approximately 20 views
- Great conversations,
- Lots of interest & understanding of the importance

Virtual:

- 29 views
 - 8 Downloads of the Poster / Handout
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- ❖ Thank you to all who helped with the poster.
 - ❖ Special Shout Out to:
 - ❖ Uba and Yolanda for pushing this through with CMS!
 - ❖ Dave for his recording skills!



Redefining Boundaries: Leveraging Interoperability to Improve Patient Care



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Summary:

- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) sponsored the Post-Acute Care Interoperability (PACIO) Project which is providing a standardized method to exchange health information between Post-Acute Care (PAC) and other settings
- Concepts within PACIO-developed profiles include cognitive status, functional status (including speech-language-cognitive communication-swallowing-hearing), advance care planning, standardized medication lists, and identification of reassessment timepoints

Background

Post-Acute Care (PAC) Needs

- 45% of Medicare beneficiaries require PAC services after hospitalization
- Home Health Agencies (HHAs) and Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs) were the most utilized services
- Thus, there is a need to be able to transmit information to/from PAC setting – however, few PAC systems can do this exchange

PACIO Project

- Established February 2019 and supported by CMS
- A collaborative effort between industry, government, and others
- Goal: Establish a framework for the development HL7® FHIR® implementation guides (IGs) that electronic health record (EHR) vendors will use to build their systems, ultimately facilitating health information exchange

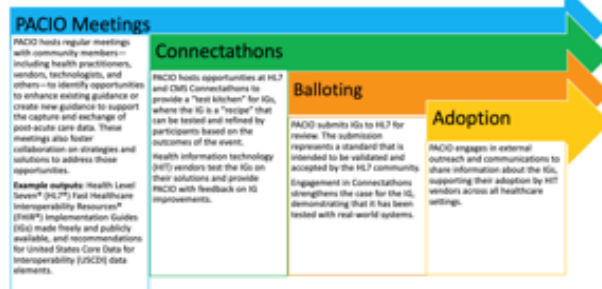


F – Fast (to design & implement)
H – Healthcare
I – Interoperability
R – Resources (building blocks)

Provides a standardized method of exchanging health information across healthcare settings

PACIO's Approach

Overall Process



Use Existing Standards & Terminologies

CMS PAC Assessments

- LCDS, RAI-MDS, OASIS, IRF-PAI, HIS, FASI
- Use as a starting point for data content to be exchanged

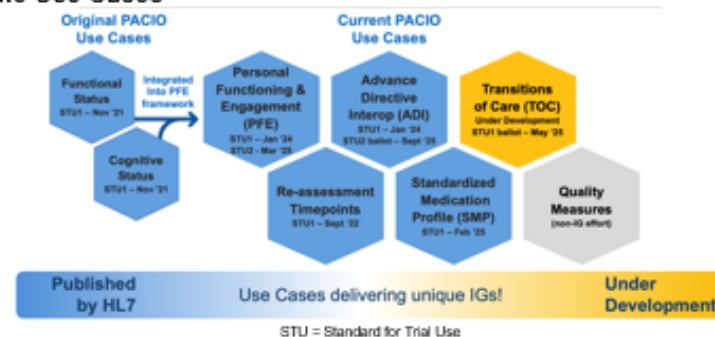
CMS Data Element Library (DEL)

- A centralized resource for CMS assessment data elements (e.g., questions and response options)
- Mapped to nationally accepted health IT standards
- Used to identify PAC-related data elements that can be more easily integrated into an EHR system

Determine Framework to Ground Content Domains

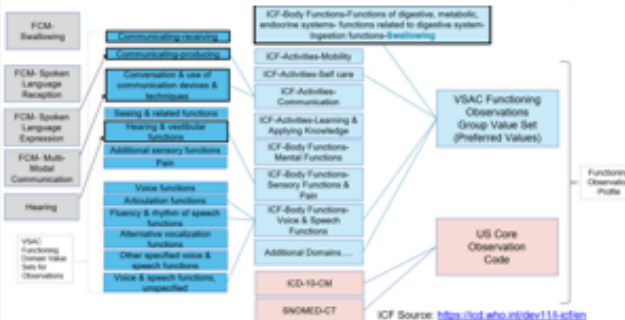
- Leverage the approach used by an HL7 FHIR project (Gravity: hl7.org/gravity/) to identify specific domains to organize information exchange in PACIO's FHIR IGs
- Domains grounded in the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF; <https://apps.who.int/classifications/icfbrowser/>)

Define Use Cases



Findings

Mapped functioning to ICF & Integrated into IG



Successfully demonstrated use of IGs to exchange data

Example: July 2025 HL7 Connectathon

- 7 participants representing PAC, acute care, and a state health department created, exchanged, and queried information between disparate health IT systems
- Demonstrated 4 PACIO and other FHIR® IGs working together across various system roles to allow data to follow a patient and be available for use at all points of care

Part of the demo when a Medication Action Plan was developed and shared with another system



What's Next?

Address challenges and opportunities:

- Healthcare ecosystem will need workflows and support for reconciling data from various contributors to determine the "source of truth"
- Cross-collaboration and cross-pollination across the health eco-system

Share PACIO experience and promote adoption of FHIR® standard
Explore impact of consolidation of meaning across LOINC codes (in DEL) for similar clinical concepts
Pilot the PACIO IGs with implementers through using the IGs in real-world practice settings using real patient data

Contact PACIO at info@pacioproject.org if you would like to participate in IG development or piloting!

Resources

- pacioproject.org
- info@pacioproject.org
- <https://confluence.hl7.org/display/PC/PACIO+Project>
- github.com/paciowg
- youtube.com/pacioproject

