

Australian Standard[®]

**Implementation of Health Level Seven
(HL7) Version 2.5**

**Part 6: Referral, discharge and health
record messaging**



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PREFACE

This Australian Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Technical Committee IT-014, Health Informatics.

The Standards Australia Technical Committee IT-014 recognizes the work of the Standards Australia Working Group IT-014-06-06, Collaborative Care Communications, in the preparation of this Standard.

This purpose of this Standard is to cover implementation of the Health Level Seven (HL7) Version 2.5 protocol, for communication of clinical patient-centred information between health service providers in Australia. It is applicable to clinical communications covering Discharge, Shared Care, Event Summaries, and notification of Shared Electronic Health Record Systems. The original focus was on Discharge Referral, but stakeholder requirements have led to its use in the more general area of patient care messaging.

This Standard supersedes AS 4700.6—2006, *Implementation of Health Level Seven (HL7) Version 2.4, Part 6: Referral, discharge and health record messaging*, which will remain current notwithstanding the publication of this document, in respect of HL7 Version 2.4 implementations. AS 4700.6—2004, *Implementation of Health Level Seven (HL7) Version 2.3.1, Part 6: Referral and discharge summary*, will remain current in respect of HL7 Version 2.3 and Version 2.3.1 implementations.

The HL7 Version 2.5 protocol covers a wide range of data interchange functions. This Standard focuses on the HL7 discharge and referral, shared care and event summary messages. A Discharge Referral message is analogous to a paper-based discharge referral document and has more comprehensive requirements than the less-specific Discharge Summary.

All efforts have been made to minimize divergence from the underlying HL7 Version 2.x protocols (as published by HL7 Inc), in order to ensure maximum compatibility with future versions of HL7 Version 2.x. Nevertheless, some significant enhancements have been proposed in this Standard, where needed to represent patient care related concepts adequately.

The term ‘informative’ is applied in this Standard to content that is provided for information and guidance only and is not to be construed as definitive.

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