Introduction to HL7 FHIR Implementation Guides
Workshop
Call for Expression of Interest

Introduction

This two-day workshop, organised by [HL7 Portugal](#) and [e-Mais](#), will take place as part of the [Innovation Health Together Conference](#) – IHT 2025 on 28 and 29 October, 2025.

On the first day, the participants will focus on the development, maintenance, and publication of HL7 FHIR implementation Guides. Participants will also review key published specifications that are crucial for the session, which will dive into detailed discussion about these specifications, proposed improvements, and testing methodologies.

On the second day, the outcomes related to the implementation guides explored during the workshop will be shared with the broader IHT audience.

Upon completion, participants will receive an official HL7 Portugal certification.

Which topics will be covered?

- **Tooling and Implementation Guide Lifecycle**
  Overview of the tools used in the development of HL7 FHIR Implementation Guides (IGs), including IG Publisher, FHIR Shorthand (FSH), and validation utilities. Discussion on the full lifecycle of an IG—from design to publication and maintenance—highlighting best practices and governance aspects.

- **Creating and Maintaining HL7 FHIR IGs**
  Practical guidance and hands-on sessions on how to design, structure, and validate HL7 FHIR IGs. Focus on authoring profiles, managing value sets and examples, and ensuring syntactic and semantic conformance.

- **Real-world Use Cases and National/European Alignment**
  Review and discussion of current and emerging HL7 Implementation Guides relevant to:

  - The **European Health Data Space (EHDS)**

  - HL7 Portugal specifications on **Adverse Drug Reactions**, **Terminologies**, and other national priorities

  - Refer to current HL7 Portugal technical specifications:
    https://www.hl7.pt/recursos/especificacoes-tecnicas

Detailed Program

Day 1 – Capacity Building & Tooling Workshop
The first day is dedicated to training and hands-on activities focused on the HL7 FHIR standard and the tooling required to develop and maintain Implementation Guides (IGs). Participants will learn about the IG lifecycle, available authoring tools, and best practices in creating and validating IGs using real-world examples.

Day 2 – Review, Critique & Strategic Alignment
On the second day, participants will present the outputs of Day 1 and engage in critical review sessions. The focus will be on evaluating the specifications developed, identifying areas for improvement, and discussing alignment with national and European priorities, such as the EHDS. The session will also define possible directions for future collaborative work within HL7 Portugal and e-MAIS.

Track Prerequisites
Minimal knowledge of HL7 FHIR and/or interoperability.

Track Leads
Ricardo Cruz Correia, Director at E-mais
João Almeida, President of HL7
Carlos Sousa, HL7
Liliana Correia, Timestamp
Sandra Dias, HLTSYS

Expected Participants
The following participants are expected to attend this session:
- Interoperability analysts and engineers
- Functional analysts
- Healthcare practitioners involved in digital transformation
- Health informaticians and IT professionals in healthcare settings
- Medical and health informatics students
- Digital health solution providers and startups
- Representatives from public and private health institutions (e.g. hospitals, primary care, national health services)
- Policy makers and technical staff working on national or European health data initiatives
- Researchers and academics working on standardisation, EHRs, or interoperability

Certification
A certification will be issued by HL7 Portugal.

Key Dates
- Open Call: 23 June
- **Deadline: 29 September**

- Workshop – Day 1: 28 October
- Workshop – Day 2: 29 October

Special Conditions

To attend this session, you must be registered for the Innovating Health Together Conference. HL7, E-mais and Health Cluster Portugal members benefit from special conditions.

Contacts

If you have any doubt, please contact:

tech@hl7.pt
geral@e-mais.pt
ihtconference@healthportugal.com