

Introduction to HL7 FHIR Implementation Guides

Workshop

Call for Expression of Interest

Introduction

This 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 Portugal

Carlos Sousa, HL7 Portugal

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
- Presentation Results – Day 2: 29 October

*The number of registrations is limited. Additionally, only 2 registrations can be submitted per entity.

**Or until the maximum number of registrations has been reached.

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:

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