

NHS DIGITAL TERMINOLOGY SERVER GOES LIVE

Helping to drive a shared language of health

15 June 2021 NHS Digital's Terminology Server, a solution which enables healthcare IT systems to speak the same language, is now live and demonstrating the value of collaboration within the health economy when exchanging data.

NHS Digital are the first organisation to go live with a solution from the national framework which was awarded in September 2020 to Dedalus and their partner CSIRO, the creators of Ontoserver. The framework was created to make the adoption of standards much simpler, easier and more cost effective and enables healthcare organisations to use NHS Digital's service or procure and manage their own solution.

The Terminology Server, which is [FHIR®](#) conformant, transforms the way in which data is captured, shared and analysed across the health and care system. At the heart of the solution is the ability to translate items into a common 'language of health' when professionals describe something using different terms. For example, a symptom could be described as "back-ache" or equally referred to as "lower lumbar pain". When such information is recorded and shared across the health and care system the Terminology Server can be used to match the disparate descriptions so that all the organisations and software

involved in a patient's journey can 'talk' to each other and the patient data can be reconciled and compared effectively.

The benefits of the terminology solution are far reaching. Organisations from across the system can rapidly receive national code sets and updates, such as SNOMED CT, clinicians can code in the same language and input the data easier, researchers can use the improved coded data to facilitate better research and organisations can innovate and create new apps without the need to maintain large code sets, through a single API.

NHS Digital's terminology server, which is now live, together with the national framework, creates a collaborative ecosystem and a hub of central infrastructure that reduces the cost to organisations wanting to benefit from a common health language.

Nicholas Oughtibridge, Lead Data Architect, NHS Digital said: "Having consistent codes makes life easier for clinicians and researchers, and ultimately patients. The Terminology Server facilitates faster data capture and record keeping at the clinical coalface and enables those records to be reused not only in a single clinical setting but in other similar or very different settings as a patient moves around the health and care system. The Terminology Server also opens the opportunity to reuse data for population analysis, research or for regulating providers."

Colin Henderson, Regional General Manager, Dedalus Group, UK & Ireland said: "Enabling healthcare systems to speak the same language is a key component in driving interoperability. The Terminology Server provides a real opportunity to

create an ecosystem and a community of users across the UK that can benefit from accurate, consistent and up-to-date data.”

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About Dedalus

Dedalus is the leading healthcare and diagnostic software provider in Europe and one of the largest in the world, employing more than 5,500 highly skilled qualified people. It has the largest software R&D team in the industry in Europe with more than 2000 staff. Dedalus covers the entire spectrum of healthcare professionals’ needs, and today we support over 6,100 hospitals and 5,300 laboratories worldwide.

In the UK and Ireland Dedalus has over 170 active clients and 315 individual product installations across the NHS, the HSE in Ireland and numerous private providers. Its software solutions include Electronic Patient Records and Patient Administration Systems in Acute, Mental Health & Community Health hospitals, Laboratory Information Management Systems, enterprise scheduling, interoperability and data platforms and key specialist systems such as electronic prescribing and theatre management.

CONTACT:

Dedalus UK & Ireland Press Office

Joanne Davis

Email: jdavis62@dedalus.group

Phone: +44 (0)7799 476532

NHS Digital Press Office

Email: media@nhsdigital.nhs.net

Phone: +44 (0) 300 30 33 8

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Learn how the NHS Digital Terminology Server enables Healthcare IT systems to speak the same language <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bOT-PbR84mM>

[Terminology Services – Dedalus UK](#)

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