

Operating Policy and Procedure

Subject: OPP#15 Hub Message Transformation Inventory		
Status: FINAL	Policy #: OPP- #15	
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I. Purpose

This document establishes the policy and procedure to help ensure the eHealth Exchange Hub message transformations, including intent, are transparent to all eHealth Exchange Participants and those supporting and exchanging with those Participants such as their technology partners and other networks.

II. Policy

To address interoperability challenges caused by Performance and Service Specifications ambiguities, policy discrepancies, technical discrepancies, and technical flaws, when specifically directed by eHealth Exchange Participants and other trusted networks requesting or providing data, eHealth Exchange may configure the eHealth Exchange Hub to adjust messages sent to the eHealth Exchange Hub. All eHealth Exchange Hub inbound messages that are intentionally modified by an eHealth Exchange Hub transformation process must be documented in the *eHealth Exchange Hub Message Transformation Inventory* (the “*Inventory*”) which must be published by eHealth Exchange staff and made available for review by Participants, those supporting Participants’ interoperability, and other trusted members of the interoperability community. The *Inventory* must be maintained by eHealth Exchange staff as described in the following procedure. Entries must be maintained in the *Inventory* permanently for the following reasons:

1. Requested transformations impact certain log files;
2. Requested transformations may impact record keeping; and
3. To help illustrate the modifications to PKI-based chain-of-trust between a message as-received by the ultimate receiver, and the associated transformed message as-transmitted by the original sender.

Examples of Why a Participant may request a Message Transformation

Example 1	Example 2	Example 3	Example 4
Ambiguous Standard	Technical Interoperability	Policy or Technical Differences	Defect or Design Flaw

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No agreement regarding how to interpret the standard e.g. WSA:To issue	e.g. eHealth Exchange uses "Emergency" purpose of use code, but Carequality "Emergency" is a sub-"Treatment" purpose of use code	e.g. Carequality requires use of their certificates	A Carequality Implementer requires non-standard SOAP header e.g. Responding Gateway requires extra signature
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III. Procedure

Transformations performed by the Hub will be documented by eHealth Exchange Staff, and that documentation will be made available in the *Inventory*, which will be accessible to Participants via the eHealth Exchange website or at other specified location(s) as needed. The *Inventory* will contain at least the following columns (See *Hub Message Transformation Inventory - TEMPLATE*):

1. Transformation Start Date and Time
2. Transformation Stop Date and Time
3. Title
4. Brief Description (including purpose)
5. Sample Message Pre-Transformation
6. Sample Message Post-Transformation
7. Complete or Partial Message Pre-Transformation
8. Complete or Partial Message Post Transformation
9. Relevant Participants Defined
10. Relevant Sources – Network name and connection group or subset
11. Relevant Targets – Network name and connection group or subset
12. Trigger Event
13. Message Types
14. Comments

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Each of the above columns must be populated by eHealth Exchange staff with the exception of the “Comments” and “Transformation Stop Date & Time” fields.

The “Transformation Stop Date & Time” field is populated when any given transformation becomes inactive.

The “Brief Description” column must include the reason (intent) for the transformation, such as to achieve technical interoperability or due to a policy requirement.

The “Relevant Participants” column should document under what conditions the transform is invoked. For example, the transformation is invoked if a message is destined for a certain gateway.

The “Trigger Event” column should be populated with the conditions under which the transformation is invoked. For example, trigger a transformation if the source HCID and target HCID matches certain OID values.

The “Message Types” column should indicate which message types are transformed (e.g., Patient Discovery, Query for Documents, Retrieve Documents, Push, or all message types).

All intentional transformations made by the eHealth Exchange Hub are to be documented in this *Inventory*. Once an entry has been made into the *Inventory*, the entry is never deleted. This allows for a permanent record of intentional transformations and enables historical correlations to occur between messages (potentially many years old) and any associated transformations.

The *Inventory* should be made available to any organization sending or receiving messages to or from an eHealth Exchange Participant where the message is subject to transformation. Viewers of the *Inventory* include: a) all eHealth Exchange Participants, b) Participants’ technology providers, and c) members of other networks, such as those participating in Carequality. Other individuals and organizations (such as standards bodies, academic researchers, and Participant vendor sub-contractors) may be viewers of the *Inventory* as determined by eHealth Exchange staff.

eHealth Exchange staff will provide regular updates to the Coordinating Committee to inform them of notable Participant requests, categories, and trends.

IV. Definitions

See *OPP Glossary of Terms* document

All other capitalized terms, if not defined, shall have the same meaning as set forth in the DURSA.

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V. References

“Restatement II of the Data Use and Reciprocal Support Agreement (DURSA)”, Version Date: August 13, 2019

- Section 15.08, Accuracy of Message Content
- Section 15.10, Use of Message Content
- Section 17, Disclaimers

VI. Related Policies and Procedures

- OPP#4 – Change Process –Performance and Service Specifications
- OPP#9 – eHealth Exchange Digital Credentials

VII. Version History

	Date	Author	Comments
1	12/4/2020	Eric Heflin & Jay Nakashima	Original Version
2	9/2023	Pat Russell, Mike McCune	All definitions moved to OPP Glossary of Terms; Moved Transformation definition out of Purpose section to the OPP Glossary of Terms; Updated the Procedure section to reflect minimum inventory information necessary to be populated and language to reflect current processes; Clarified how the Inventory information to eHealth Exchange Participants is made available; Appendix template moved to external template document and appendix examples moved up into the body of the policy section.

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