



February 1, 2021

Dear healthcare colleagues across the world,

As 2021 has started, I'd like to take this opportunity to share with you the Joint Initiative Council's progress and achievements during these unprecedented times.

Since its inception, the Joint Initiative Council for Global Health Informatics Standardization ([JIC](#)) has worked to strengthen the important role of health informatics standards to enable interoperability of information and processes across health domains. Our goal is to support the timely, efficient delivery of safe, coordinated, accountable, high-quality health services to individuals, communities and populations and to facilitate effective global markets for health information systems.

As researchers, manufacturers, government agencies, regulators and healthcare providers joined together to restore the world's health, standards development organisations (SDOs) of the Joint Initiative Council have collaborated to deliver standards that address many real-world issues. It is these coordinated (not competitive) standards that help define the JIC's commitment to the healthcare industry— the JIC members provide standards that enable the digital transformation and interoperability of global healthcare systems and processes.

Consider that **SNOMED International** and **LOINC** worked together to help global care teams code and track SARS-CoV-2 testing and COVID-19 cases, supporting clinicians and researchers in their efforts to address monitoring and containment. The Clinical Data Interchange Standards Consortium (**CDISC**) released the Interim User Guide for COVID-19 that addresses how to represent research data in COVID-19 studies and CDISC standards specify how to structure research data for regulatory submissions.

Another key achievement was the International Patient Summary (IPS), a collaboration that began between **CEN/TC251** and **HL7 International**, but was soon expanded to include **ISO/TC 215**, **IHE International** and **SNOMED International**. The IPS provides essential data about a patient's healthcare, that can be made available whenever and wherever it is needed for treatment ...even across jurisdictional borders locally, regionally or internationally. It effectively provides an information "bridge" from the patient's home healthcare system to another for seamless continuity of care.



Joint Initiative Council: Setting the stage for the future

Since a medicine's product name, as well as how it is administered and measured, may differ from country to country it can cause confusion and cost valuable time, pain and lives. In response, the Identification of Medicinal Products (IDMP) project was initiated by members of the global healthcare industry and regulators, and implemented by **CDISC , CEN TC251, GS1, HL7 International, ISO TC215, and SNOMED International**. The IDMP suite of standards delivers a uniform way for digitalising and sharing key product information about pharmaceuticals—their ingredients, strengths, forms of presentation, routes of administration and packaging.

These are just a few examples of JIC's forward looking initiatives to realise a digital healthcare system that can make high-quality data available to the right people, at the right place and at the right time. These projects were further explained in the [White Paper](#) published in July of last year.

I would like to conclude this update with an invitation to join our first [JIC open Forum](#) on **February 23** when we will host compelling discussions about our activities and how we will reinforce our continued collaboration in support of a healthcare system that is highly effective, efficient and safe.

Sincerely,

Ulrike Kreysa
Current Chair, Joint Initiative Council
Senior Vice-President, GS1 Healthcare



JIC open Forum

23 February 2021

Agenda

Transcending national boundaries and organizations, the Joint Initiative Council’s standards development organizations work collaboratively to provide global, coordinated—not competitive—standards that address real-world healthcare issues. In its recently released white paper, the JIC explores the desired future of a digital health ecosystem where high-quality data is available to the right people, at the right place and at the right time for high-quality decisions and care.

Morning Session – Enabling the digital transformation of healthcare

AEDT 5pm-6:30pm | PST 10pm-11:30pm |
EST 1am-2:30am | CET 7am-8:30am

- > **Introduction** – Ulrike Kreysa, Chair JIC, GS1 Global Office, Belgium
- > **COVID-19 case** – Jane Millar, SNOMED International, UK
- > **International Patient Summary (IPS)** – Robert Stegwee, CEN TC 251, Netherlands, and Catherine Chronaki, HL7 Europe, Greece
- > **Identification of Medicinal Products (IDMP)** – Christian Hay, GS1 Global Office, and ISO TC 215, Switzerland
- > **Genomics** – Speaker to be confirmed

Register >

Afternoon Session – Enabling the digital transformation of healthcare

AEDT 3am-4:30am | PST 8am-09:30am |
EST 11am-12:30pm | CET 5pm-6:30pm

- > **Introduction** – Mike Nussbaum, past Chair JIC, IHE International, Canada
- > **COVID-19 case** – Speaker to be confirmed
- > **International Patient Summary (IPS)** – Robert Hausman, HL7 International, US, and Steve Kay, CEN TC 251, UK
- > **Identification of Medicinal Products (IDMP)** – Speaker to be confirmed
- > **Genomics** – Bron Kisler, ISO TC 215, SC 1, US

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