Standards Version Advancement Process

Approved Standards for 2020

The Office of the National Coordinator for
Health Information Technology

The Standards Version Advancement Process (SVAP) permits health IT developers to voluntarily update health IT products certified under the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) Health IT Certification Program to newer versions of adopted standards and implementation specifications. ONC has established an annual process to receive public input on eligible standards and implementation specifications that could be adopted through SVAP. For more information on the annual process, public comment, and how health IT developers can take advantage of the SVAP flexibility, please see the ONC Standards Bulletin 2021-1 and the SVAP Page.

ONC has completed the review and assessment of comments for the 2020 SVAP Cycle and the following standards and implementation specifications versions have been approved for use in the ONC Health IT Certification Program. Health IT developers can begin voluntarily incorporating the standards and implementation specifications, listed in the table below, into their certified health IT products 60 days after this posting, or beginning on March 12, 2021.

Certification Criteria	2015 Cures Update Edition Version(s)*	2020 SVAP Version(s) Approved	Regulatory Text Citation
§ 170.315(c)(3) - Clinical quality measures (CQMs) — report	CMS Implementation Guide for Quality Reporting Document Architecture: Category I; Hospital Quality Reporting; Implementation Guide for 2020	CMS Implementation Guide for Quality Reporting Document Architecture: Category I; Hospital Quality Reporting; Implementation Guide for 2021	§ 170.205(h)(3)
	CMS Implementation Guide for Quality Reporting Document Architecture: Category III; Eligible Clinicians and Eligible Professionals Programs; Implementation Guide for 2020	CMS Implementation Guide for Quality Reporting Document Architecture: Category III; Eligible Clinicians and Eligible Professionals Programs; Implementation Guide for 2021	§ 170.205(k)(3)
§ 170.315(e)(1) - View, download, and transmit to 3rd party	Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0, December 11, 2008	Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1, June 05, 2018	§ 170.204(a)(1) – Level A Conformance § 170.204(a)(2) – Level AA Conformance
§ 170.315(f)(7) - Transmission to public health agencies — health care surveys	HL7 Implementation Guide for CDA® Release 2: National Health Care Surveys (NHCS), Release 1 - US Realm, HL7 Draft Standard for Trial Use, Volume 1 - Introductory Material, December 2014	HL7 CDA® R2 Implementation Guide: National Health Care Surveys (NHCS), R1 STU Release 3 - US Realm	§ 170.205(s)(1)

Standards required for (c)(3) criteria were updated in the Interim Final Rule with Comment released October 2020.

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