



## **E-health XML secured payload profiles**



This Australian Standard® was prepared by Committee IT-014, Health Informatics. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 3 December 2013.

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Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

## **E-health XML secured payload profiles**

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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Technical Committee IT-014, Health Informatics, to supersede ATS 5821—2010, *E-health XML secured payload profiles*.

This Standard is designed to be compatible with implementations of ATS 5821—2010. The XML namespaces are unchanged and there have only been minor corrections and clarifications to the conformance points and the XML Schemas. The changes are not expected to impact communications between implementations of ATS 5821—2010 and this Standard.

The objective of this Standard is to define a common set of interoperable mechanisms for representing secured XML fragments for e-health. Security here refers to the use of digital signatures, cryptographic encryption, or a combination of these. This includes multiple levels of signing and multiple levels of encryption, if necessary.

Mechanisms for representing secured XML have been defined by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) with XML Signature and XML Encryption. However, those specifications cover a broad range of situations, so they contain optional and implementation defined features.

This Standard defines four XML elements for representing secured XML fragments. One or more of these XML elements can be used whenever there are XML fragments to be secured and represented as XML. For example, these XML elements can be used to define the contents of SOAP Web services messages or static XML documents that contain secured XML fragments.

The XML elements are based on XML Signature and XML Encryption, clarifying the optional and implementation defined features defined therein. Two of the XML elements are strict profiles (i.e. subsets) of those specifications. The other two XML elements are new elements, which extend as well as incorporate a profile of those specifications.

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