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ATS 4888.1—2013

Australian Technical Specification

Electronic transfer of prescriptions

Part 1: Platform independent (logical) information model to support electronic transfer of prescriptions

STANDARDS Australia

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This Australian Technical Specification was prepared by Committee IT-014, Health Informatics. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 29 April 2013.
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The following are represented on Committee IT-014:

- Aged Care Association Australia
- Allied Health Professions Australia
- Australasian College of Health Informatics
- Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists
- Australian College of Nursing
- Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association
- Australian Industry Group
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- Australian Institute of Health & Welfare
- Australian Institute of Radiography
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- Royal Australian College of General Practitioners
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- Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia
- The Pharmacy Guild of Australia
- The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists
- University of Western Sydney

Additional Interests:

- ACT Health
- ArgusConnect
- Australian Healthcare Messaging Laboratory
- British Telecom Australasia
- BT Global Services Australasia
- CAL2CAL Australia
- Casprel
- Commonwealth Department of Veterans' Affairs
- DH4
- Equipose International
- eRx Script Exchange
- Health Communication Network
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- HL7 Systems & Services
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- Pharmaceutical Society of Australia
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- Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia
- South Eastern Sydney Local Health District
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Standards Australia wishes to acknowledge the participation of the expert individuals that contributed to the development of this Technical Specification through their representation on the Committee.

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Part 1: Platform independent (logical) information model to support electronic transfer of prescriptions

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PREFACE

This Australian Technical Specification was prepared by the Standards Australia Technical Committee IT-014, Health Informatics.

The Standards Australia Technical Committee IT-014 recognizes the work of the Standards Australia Working Group IT-014-06-04, Prescription Messaging, in the preparation of this Technical Specification.

The purpose of this document is to define the information model for documents used for technical specifications relating to the electronic transfer of prescriptions (ETP).

This document is the first in a series of six Technical Specifications that collectively define a method for ETP in Australia. The series comprises the following parts:

ATS		
4888		Electronic transfer of prescriptions
4888.1	Part 1:	Platform independent (logical) information model to support electronic transfer of prescriptions
4888.2	Part 2:	Platform independent (logical) services model to support electronic transfer of prescriptions
4888.3	Part 3:	Platform implementation specific e-prescription HL7 Clinical Document Architecture implementation guide
4888.4	Part 4:	Platform implementation specific dispense record HL7 Clinical Document Architecture implementation guide
4888.5	Part 5:	Platform implementation specific prescription request HL7 Clinical Document Architecture implementation guide
4888.6	Part 6:	Platform implementation specific web service

These Technical Specifications support the transfer of legal electronic prescriptions, dispense records and prescription requests between prescribers (e.g. medical practitioners, nurse practitioners) and dispensers (e.g. community pharmacists), where the dispensing pharmacy is not within the same organization as the prescriber. The most common scenario is the General Practitioner to Community Pharmacy transaction. Other examples include, but are not limited to, the following:

(a) Public Hospital outpatient clinic to Community Pharmacy.

(b) Medical Specialist to Community Pharmacy.

(c) Hospital discharge prescription to Community Pharmacy.

(d) General Practice to Public Hospital Pharmacy.

Prescribers and Dispensers need to be registered healthcare practitioners legally authorized to undertake the prescribing and dispensing roles under the relevant state, territory and Commonwealth legislation.

These Technical Specifications are not specifically designed to support intra-organization prescribing and dispensing processes such as inpatient medication orders; however, this does not preclude the use of these Specifications in other settings, should they meet the organization's needs.

These Specifications do not replace AS 4700.3, *Implementation of Health Level Seven*, Part 3: *Electronic messages for exchange of information on drug prescription*.

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The term 'informative' has been used in this Technical Specification to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. An 'informative' appendix is for information and guidance only.

This publication has been developed with assistance from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing. The Australian Government makes no representation or warranty that the information in this publication is correct and accurate.

Standards Australia wishes to thank the Department of Health and Ageing for its continued financial support in helping to develop this Australian Technical Specification.

NOTE: This document is an Australian Technical Specification; it is not an Australian Standard. An Australian Technical Specification is a normative document that has been subject to a limited form of transparency and does not have the support of the full consensus process normally associated with an Australian Standard.

An Australian Technical Specification is often prepared in a field where the subject matter, or a related aspect such as the regulatory environment, is undergoing rapid change and where speed of delivery, rather than full consensus, is of paramount importance. In such cases, it would normally be expected that an Australian Standard would eventually be developed to supersede the Technical Specification.

An Australian Technical Specification is subject to, at least, limited peer review, with the option of going to full Public Comment if this is deemed warranted.

It is the goal in the coming years for these Specifications to progress to Australian Standards; however, the Working Group acknowledges that, for this to occur, a number of these 'external factors' will need to mature and that these factors may also augment the content of the Specification prior to its progression to a Standard.

Given the large number of stakeholders involved in ETP (including at least two existing Prescription Exchanges, at least 40 software vendors, and more than 5000 pharmacies and 40 000 prescribers), it is clear that a pathway for transition to this Specification by the key stakeholders will need to be agreed upon.

The support and management of the stakeholders in this transition will be a key element in the adoption of this Specification across the sector; however, the responsibility for transition is outside the scope of work for the Working Group which has prepared these documents.

This transition is also likely to affect any assessment of conformance against these Specifications and it should be noted that any conformance assessment should take into consideration 'real world' maturity and an ability to conform fully to this Specification. In this regard a conformance profile may be required to differ from this Specification; however, the producers of that profile should be explicit as to where those differences lie and why they are present.

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