Medication History Standards
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The document you are reading is part of *The Connecting for Health Common Framework*, which is available in full and in its most current version at: http://www.connectingforhealth.org/.

The Common Framework will be revised and expanded over time. As of April 2006, the Common Framework included the following published components:

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**The Common Framework: Overview and Principles**

**Policy Guides: How Information is Protected**

- **P1** The Architecture for Privacy in a Networked Health Information Environment
- **P2** Model Privacy Policies and Procedures for Health Information Exchange
- **P3** Notification and Consent When Using a Record Locator Service
- **P4** Correctly Matching Patients with Their Records
- **P5** Authentication of System Users
- **P6** Patients’ Access to Their Own Health Information
- **P7** Auditing Access to and Use of a Health Information Exchange
- **P8** Breaches of Confidential Health Information

**Technical Guides: How Information is Exchanged**

- **T1** The Common Framework: Technical Issues and Requirements for Implementation
- **T2** Health Information Exchange: Architecture Implementation Guide
- **T3** Medication History Standards
- **T4** Laboratory Results Standards
- **T5** Background Issues on Data Quality
- **T6** Record Locator Service: Technical Background from the Massachusetts Prototype Community

**Model Contractual Language**

- **M1** Key Topics in a Model Contract for Health Information Exchange
- **M2** A Model Contract for Health Information Exchange

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One of two use cases we tested in the Connecting for Health Common Framework prototype was the exchange of medication history. In order to do so, we adopted a format for representation in the network that had the best fit with broad adoption and potential standardization. The Medication History schema we used was derived from the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP1) SCRIPT specification, version 8.1, as described by RxHub.2

We generated a schema for use in the prototype using the ZixCorp3 XML implementation. These Medication History schemae, as developed by CSC, are published in two parts:

RxHREQ: medication history request -
https://rls.consult.csc.com/IRB/RxHREQ.xsd

RxHRES: medication history response -
https://rls.consult.csc.com/IRB/RxHRES.xsd

There is considerable work on medication history standards, and we anticipate that there will be future changes to this standard in the near term. Because the Common Framework maintains a separation between data description and transport, updates to the medication history standard will not require re-engineering the network to accommodate the new standard.

* Connecting for Health thanks the Massachusetts prototype team, John Halamka, MD, Vinod Muralidhar, John Calladine, and Gail Fournier for their implementation efforts on this standard.
1 www.ncpdp.org.
2 www.rxhub.net.

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