

Case Study: HL-7 Electronic Health Record Functional Model Compliance Assessment



Abstract:	Through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, the Obama administration has set the goal for every American's healthcare records to be stored in a certified electronic health record system (EHR-S) by the year 2014. The VHA has had an EHR-S in place since the 1980s and it is widely considered to be one of the world's best. BI analysts were tasked to conduct an assessment of the VHA's Electronic Health Record-System's (VistA) conformance to the HL-7 EHR functional model.
Outcomes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better planning data and needs prioritization to improve health IT ROI • Detailed analysis of EHR-S compliance with HL-7 functional model • Recommendations for changes to EHR-S to achieve full compliance • Recommended next steps for additional FM audits
Lessons Learned:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to tailor the functional model to address the client's unique circumstances • Audit team must include both EHR-S and HL-7 expertise • When EHR-S documentation or internal experts are lacking, the audit team will need a lab or test installation to use to assess compliance • Access to internal experts is critical to validate the audit findings
Challenges:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Out-dated and incomplete system technical documentation • Fragmented Institutional knowledge about the EHR-S • Limited subject matter expert availability
Client:	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Healthcare Administration, Emerging Health Technologies office
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This case study describes work Business Intelligence, Inc. (www.bii-va.com) performed under contract GS-35F-0195T to the Veterans Health Administration's Emerging Health Technologies office during 2007-2009.

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