

American Dental Association
Technical Report No. 1069

SCDI Standard Terms, Definitions and Acronyms

A Technical Report prepared by the American Dental Association and registered with ANSI.

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AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION TECHNICAL REPORT NO. 1069 FOR SCDI STANDARD TERMS, DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

The Council on Dental Practice and Council on Scientific Affairs of the American Dental Association have approved American Dental Association Technical Report No. 1069 for SCDI Standard Terms, Definitions and Acronyms. Working Groups of the ADA Standards Committee on Dental Informatics (SCDI) and ADA Standards Committee on Dental Products (SCDP) formulate this and other specifications and technical reports for the application of information technology and other electronic technologies to dentistry's clinical and administrative operations. The ADA SCDI and SCDP have representation from appropriate interests in the United States in the standardization of information technology and other electronic technologies used in dental practice. The ADA SCDI confirmed approval of ADA Technical Report No. 1069 on January 7, 2015.

Publication of this technical report that has been registered with ANSI has been approved by the American Dental Association, 211 E. Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL 60611. This document is registered as a technical report according to the *Procedures for the Registration of Technical Reports with ANSI*. This document is not an American National Standard and the material contained herein is not normative in nature. Comments on this document should be sent to the American Dental Association, 211 E. Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL 60611.

The ADA Standards Committee on Dental Informatics thanks the members of Working Group 13.5 on Standard Terms and the organizations with which they were affiliated at the time the specification was developed:

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FOREWORD

(This Foreword does not form a part of ADA Technical Report No. 1069 for SCD Standard Terms, Definitions and Acronyms.)

In 1992, there was interest in the standardization of clinical information systems related to electronic technology in the dental environment. After evaluating current informatics activities, a Task Group of the ANSI Accredited Standards Committee MD156 (ASC MD156) was created by the ADA to initiate the development of technical reports, guidelines, and standards on electronic technologies used in dental practice. In 1999, the ADA established the ADA Standards Committee on Dental Informatics (SCDI). The ADA SCDI is currently the group that reviews and approves proposed American National Standards (ANSI approved) and technical reports developed by the standards committee's working groups. The ADA became an ANSI accredited standards organization in 2000.

The scope of the ADA SCDI is:

"The ADA SCDI shall develop informatics standards, technical reports and guidelines and interact with other entities involved in the development of health informatics standards aimed at implementation across the dental profession."

This document was prepared by researching comparable terms, acronyms and definitions used or published by other health informatics Standards Developing Organization's (SDO) and selecting or modifying these to fit the needs of dental informatics standards. Individual terms, acronyms and definitions can then be used for the development of SCDI standards and technical reports.

The list of Acronyms, Descriptions, and Terms will continue to have additions as new technologies, new regulations and new knowledge about healthcare informatics are generated. In the reaffirmation process of this Technical Report the list will be expanded and / or edited to reflect the current terminology. Please send suggestions for additions of new terms and acronyms to standards@ada.org.

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SCOPE

This technical report is an ADA SCDI (Standards Committee on Dental Informatics) reference document containing standardized terms, acronyms, and definitions for dental informatics.

TERMS

Term	Description
ADA Standards Committee on Dental Informatics (SCDI)	ANSI-accredited standards consensus body of the American Dental Association. The scope of the ADA SCDI is: The ADA SCDI shall develop informatics standards, technical reports and guidelines and interact with other entities involved in the development of health informatics standards aimed at implementation across the dental profession
Standards Committee on Dental Products / (SCDP) **	ADA committee accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) for the purpose of coordinating dental standards development activities in the United States.(Formerly ASC MD 156).
Advance Directive	A healthcare proxy made by the care recipient.
Agent	Computer software constructed to operate with a degree of autonomy from its user, e.g., an agent may search the Internet for information based upon loose specifications provided by its use.
Algorithm	A set of instructions to programmatically carry out some task. In clinical practice, algorithms usually but not always, involve some form of numerical calculation.
ANS	American National Standard.
Application	Synonym for a computer program that carries out a specific type of task. Word-processors or spreadsheets are common applications available on personal computers.
Architecture	As used in information systems, the architecture is the high level or general overview of the system or system components, their function and external properties, and the relationships among these components.
Attribute	An attribute is a data model structure that represents a type of characteristic or property associated with an entity.
Client	A computer connected to a network that does not store all the data or software it uses, but retrieves it across the network from another computer that acts as a server.
CD-ROM **	Compact Disk – Read only memory. A class of storage media used in computers and other electronic devices.
Client	A computer connected to a network that does not store the data or all the software, but retrieves it from another computer, the server.
Column	A column is a structure found in physical data models or relational databases and is analogous to the attribute of logical data models.
Concept Data Model	A concept model is an abstract representation any subject that identifies the principal components and relationships while avoiding unnecessary or confounding detail and without

	consideration of technology or constraints of implementation.
Concept Model	A concept model presents a textual and graphic description of activities and data without consideration of technology or constraints of implementation.
Conceptual Schema	A conceptual schema or conceptual model is a description of the structure of data independent of technology assumptions or physical requirements.
Data Dictionary	A data dictionary is a listing, usually in tabular form, of metadata for a physical schema/model or database design.
Data Model	A description of the organization of data in a manner that reflects an information structure.
Database	A structured repository for data, consisting of a collection of data and their associated data model, and usually stored on a computer system. The existence of a regular and formal indexing structure permits rapid retrieval of individual elements of the database.
Database Schema	A database schema is a plan for a database; conceptual, logical or physical model are graphical/textual representations of the database schema.
Denormalization	Denormalization is the process of selectively reducing the Normal Form of entity-relationships for the purpose of optimizing operational performance of an implemented database.
Dental Operatory **	Room or workspace furnished and supplied with all, or almost all, of the equipment, instruments, materials and medication a dentist might assemble for providing general dentistry or specialty treatment.
Dependent Entity	An entity that inherits one or more identifying attributes from another entity.
Disinfection **	Process of treating pathogenic microorganisms so they cannot reproduce.
DICOM DIR **	Directory file that provides index and summary information for a DICOM dataset.
Electronic Dental Record	The subset of EHR data specific to the dental and oral healthcare domain.
Electronic Dental Record System	The automated processes and technology that operate on the electronic dental record.
Electronic Health Record	The collected body of an individual's health information stored in electronic form.
Electronic Health Record System	A computerized or automated system or sub-system component that operates on the electronic health record data.
Electronic Medical Record	A combination of processes and data structures, used by the medical practitioner and patient, for purposes of documenting, conveying, etc., clinical facts, diagnoses, treatment plans and services provided.
Enterprise Data Architecture	For purposes of informatics specifications, the data architecture is the identification of the essential entities supporting a function or the enterprise as a whole, their attributes, and the relationships among these entities.

Electronic Medical Record System	The automated processes and technology that operate on data in the electronic medical record and interact with user.
Entity	An entity that does not inherit identifying attributes from another entity.
Foreign Key	A foreign key is an attribute that has migrated through a relationship from a parent entity to a subordinate or child entity and is used as a secondary key to reference the contents of the child entity.
Formula **	Specific statement, using numerals and other symbols, of the composition of, or of the directions for preparing, a compound, such as a medicine, or a procedure to follow for obtaining a desired value or result; a simplified statement, using numerals and symbols of a single concept.
Glare **	Condition of vision in which there is a discomfort or a reduction in the ability to see significant objects, or both, due to an unsuitable distribution or range of luminance as to extreme contrasts in space and time.
Graphical User Interface (GUI)	Component of the software application based on visual structures for performing program functions.
Hazard **	Potential source of physical injury and/or damage to health or property.
Independent Entity	An independent entity contains data that may exist without the existence of data contained in other entities.
HTTP **	Hypertext Transfer Protocol. Application Layer protocol for distributed, collaborative, hypermedia information systems.
HTTPS **	Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS) is a combination of the Hypertext Transfer Protocol with the SSL/TLS protocol to provide encryption and secure identification of the server.
Health Level Seven (HL7)	Standards organization responsible for developing medical data communications and interoperability standards.
Integration Definition Language (IDEF)	Originally called ICAM Definition, IDEF is a standardized modeling language, also a standardized modeling notation described in Federal Information Processing Standards 183 and 184, maintained by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).
Intended use **	Purpose planned for a product, process, or service at the time it was developed.
IP Protocol	Internetworking Protocol - computer communication protocols that let computers to communicate.
ISO Standard **	Document published by the International Organization for Standardization to specify the requirements and test procedures for determining whether a particular category of products is fit for the purpose intended, specify a particular test procedure, or set of test procedures that can apply in the evaluation of two or more categories of products, and establish a standardized general practice for developing a particular aspect of an ISO standard.
ISO Technical Report **	Document published essentially according to the format prescribed for ISO standards, to provide interim guidance about the evaluation and use of a particular category of products, or processes, pending accumulation of a body of knowledge on which to base development of a creditable ISO standard for the product or process. It is abbreviated as

	ISO TR. See Annex G of ISO Directive Part 1, Procedures for the technical work for the three Types of TRs.
JPEG**	Image format and compression standard named after the Joint Photographic Experts Group who created the standard. This is a commonly used method of compression for photographic images. The degree of compression can be adjusted, allowing a selectable tradeoff between storage size and image quality. It is the most common format for storing and transmitting photographic images on the World Wide Web.
JTPC**	Joint Technical Programming Committee. A committee of ISO/IEC
Key Attribute	A key attribute is a type of attribute that constitutes the means to identify the data detail contained in one instance of an entity.
Key Inheritance	Key inheritance is the migration of primary keys from parent to child entities in a data model, where the child entity inherits all primary keys of the parent entity.
L-member**	SCDP Liaison or Information Member is a classification of an SCDP member having no vote.
Level of Safety**	Level of how far safety is to be pursued in a given context, assessed by reference to an acceptable risk, based on the current values of society.
Logical Data Model	A logical data model is a normalized and fully attributed data model that, like the concept data model, is independent of technology or implementation considerations
Luminance**	Quotient of luminous intensity by area. SI unit of luminance is candela per square meter. The symbol is cd/m ² .
Main Entry**	(for a vocabulary). Any designation of a concept heading a terminological record.
Medical Device**	Instrument, apparatus, appliance, material, or other article, whether used alone or in combination, including the software necessary for its proper application, intended for use in diagnosis of disease or other conditions, or in the cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease, in man or other animals.
Metadata	Metadata is literally data about data, often presented as a table that may range in detail from a simple list of entities and definitions (as in a concept model or conceptual schema), through the data elements required of ISO11179 and ANSI X3.285, to the intricacies of a physical model or schema for a data warehouse.
Model Migration	The process of an orderly transition from one form of model to another, typically from a concept model to a logical data model and ultimately to a physical data model.
Non-Key Attribute	A type of attribute that constitutes the data detail that is not part of the key structure of an entity.
PINS**	Project Initiation Notification System utilized by ANSI to initiate New Work items or Revisions of existing specifications and public comment.
Object	Following object-oriented methodologies, an object is a discrete item that includes data and the procedures necessary to operate on that data. As used in this specification, an object can be a large data stream and associated procedures that conveys an image or other representation of a real structure or process.
Observer**	(of a working group). Person having an interest in attending working group meetings and participating otherwise in working group activities. Observers are not considered to be full