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Health informatics — Messages and communication — Web access reference manifest

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National foreword

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The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee IST/35, Health informatics.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

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*Informatique de santé — Messages et communication — Manifeste de
référence d'accès à Internet*



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Foreword

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ISO 10159 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 215, *Health informatics*.

Introduction

Web access technology is increasingly being used to enable clinicians to share clinical documents, including the results of healthcare procedures such as diagnostic imaging procedures, which can reference image data objects. This can be supported by means of one or more document and data object repositories which enable clinical documents, and any data objects that they reference, to be made available to authorized clinicians who are subject to the same governance rules regarding access to such clinical documents and referenced data objects. A clinician might wish to make clinical documents available to other clinicians whose systems have access to the servers to which his or her system has access.

Several different use cases exist regarding the way in which a clinical document, in the form of e.g. a web page, can be made available by a source clinician to clinicians within a target computational domain in such a way that any objects referenced by the clinical document can be retrieved and presented to the target clinicians. Different use cases exist, depending on whether or not the target clinicians reside in the same computational domain as the clinician who wishes to share documents, which determines whether or not the target clinicians have access to the same servers as the source clinician. The following are some examples.

- a) The clinicians work in the same computational domain.

The source clinician makes the document available to the target domain clinician by making a pointer to the clinical document available to them. The systems used by the target clinicians can display the clinical document text content and any referenced data objects since they have access to the same servers as the source clinician.

- b) The target domain clinicians work in another computational domain with indirect access to the originating computational domain servers by means of agreed mechanisms.

The clinician in the originating computational domain makes the document available to the target clinicians by means of a pointer to the clinical document. The system used by the target clinician can display the clinical document text content and the referenced objects since it has indirect access to the servers referenced by the pointers within the document by agreed means.

- c) The target clinicians work in another computational domain within which no access to the originating computational domain servers has yet been implemented.

In this case, the clinical document can be made available to the target clinicians so that the data objects and clinical document text can be displayed in similar ways to those available in the originating computational domain only by sending copies of the clinical document and referenced objects to the target computational domain where they are stored in target computational domain servers.

Since the pointers in the clinical document point to servers that are not accessible in the target computational domain, the system that receives the copy files in the target computational domain will be unable to display the referenced files unless some appropriate provisions are made.

There are two possibilities:

- 1) the pointers in the clinical document are changed to point to the appropriate servers in the target computational domain;
- 2) the clinical document cannot be changed since it has been digitally signed and requires that a mechanism be implemented to enable the pointers to be changed in real time, i.e. some mechanism to detect pointers that will fail and replace them with the appropriate pointers for use in the target computational domain.