



Interoperability – Help guide

Interoperability refers to the ability of two or more systems to share, communicate and co-operate and achieving interoperability can be considered as two problems that need to be solved:

i. Technical interoperability – the “how”

This is the process of moving data between two systems. It is not dependent on the type of the information being moved or the distance between systems; it is concerned with the orchestration of a reliable delivery of information between systems.

ii. Semantic interoperability – the “what”

Semantic interoperability is the process of ensuring the each system can understand the information received from the others. It must ensure that information can be used and interpreted without ambiguity. Critical to this is the need for aligning both data models as well as terminology. This involves the use of specific coding and messaging schemes and is at the core of health and social care integration. It also requires storing information using a common way of organising the stored data. Semantic Interoperability is core to the success of health and social care interoperability programmes.

Solutions for data sharing are technically and semantically complex as the sharing solution needs some knowledge of the use and meaning of individual data elements from each system. This “interpretation” can be handled by an integration engine such as the Infor Cloverleaf Integration Suite. Greatly simplified by the use of standard data models and messaging e.g. HL7 and FHIR. In order to simplify the process of connecting multiple systems to one another, the Infor Cloverleaf Integration Suite can be used to provide message routing and transformation, allowing more advanced orchestration, workflow & event control as well as security and other features including exception handling.

Taking this approach provides a robust way to map between different, incompatible system Interfaces, provides a consistent and reliable delivery of messages between systems and, when implemented correctly, reduces the amount of re-work required when a single system is replaced.

In addition to the systems necessary to achieve interoperability it is essential that the supplier of your integration system is able to support the vision of their clients and offer advice and guidance where needed to allow them to plan and develop the key activities that will be required to implement their interoperability strategy.

For over 35 years Enovation have been supporting healthcare organisations on their digital journey by deploying our platforms to which more than 24,000 healthcare organizations and more than 500 different systems and devices are connected.



More information?

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