OntarioMD Inc.

Electronic Medical Records

EMR SPECIFICATION

FINAL

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Ontario
eHealth Ontario

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1.   ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

1.1   ACRONYMS

General terminology referred to in this section applies throughout EMR Specification v4.0, except where identified within a specific section. Where the terminology for a specific section varies, the terminology in the section will apply.

Acronym/Abbreviation	Description
AN	Alphanumeric
ASP	Application Service Provider
CDS	Core Data Set
CMS	Clinical Management System – Referred to as EMR starting from Specification v4.0
CPP	Cumulative Patient Profile
CPSO	The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario
DIN	Drug Identification Number
DP	Data Portability
ECG	Electrocardiogram
EDT	Electronic Data Transfer
EHR	Electronic Health Record
EMR	Electronic Medical Record – May refer to the actual patient medical record, or the software used to manage medical records.
HCN	Health Card Number
HISCA	Health Information Standards Committee for Alberta
ISO	International Standards Organization
IT	Information Technology
M	Mandatory
MOHLTC	Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
MPN	Managed Private Network
MRI	Machine Readable Input
MRO	Machine Readable Output
NM	Not Mandatory
NUM	Numeric
ODB	Ontario Drug Benefit Program
OHIP	Ontario Health Insurance Program
OHISC	Ontario Health Informatics Standards Council
OHN	Ontario Health Number
OLIS	Ontario Laboratories Information System
OMA	Ontario Medical Association
PHIPA	Personal Health Information Protection Act
PMS	Practice Management System
RA	Remittance Advice
RFP	Request for Proposals

Acronym/Abbreviation	Description
SNOMED	Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine
TSP	Transition Support Program
VPN	Virtual Private Network
W	Weighted
WSIB	Workplace Safety Insurance Board
XML	Extensible Mark-up Language

1.2   TERMINOLOGY

Baseline Requirements means those elements of the EMR Specification that are identified herein as the Baseline Requirements applicable to a particular type of Offering.

Certificate means the document issued by OntarioMD to the vendor, following the successful completion of the Validation of the Offering, confirming that such Offering met or exceeded, as of the date of completion of the Validation process, the applicable Baseline Requirements.

Customer Agreement means, collectively, the Vendor's forms of agreements with subscribers for an Offering (including lease agreements, subscription agreements and other Ontario physician-facing agreements).

EMR means an automated Electronic Medical Records System capable of providing the required practice and clinical management functionality set out in the EMR Specification. The EMR includes both medical records and practice management components. Previous versions of the Specification referred to EMR as Clinical Management Systems (CMS).

EMR Certification Agreement means the agreement between OntarioMD and the EMR Vendor with respect to their certified EMR Offering. This agreement governs the ongoing certification status of an EMR Offering against the EMR Specification.

EMR Offering means the combination of EMR software, services, and support offered by a vendor.

EMR Specification means the baseline requirements that are applicable to a particular type of Offering. The Offering must meet or exceed the requirements of the EMR Specification to gain a Certificate.

Interface Owner means the 3rd party (E.g. MOHLTC) or vendor which: provides specifications for the interface, defines and conducts testing of the interface; and authorizes other entities such as EMR vendors to implement an interface and make it operational.

Managed Private Network means the network provided by eHealth Ontario that may be used to deliver EMR functionality to a Subscriber.

Mandatory Requirement ("M") means an Offering must have this function or provide this service.

OntarioMD means OntarioMD Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of the OMA.

Physician Group means a group of funding eligible physicians.

Primary Care IT Funding Plan is the plan that provides MOHLTC funding to Physician Groups.

Specification means the OntarioMD EMR Specification, as amended from time to time and developed by OntarioMD in partnership with eHealth Ontario.

Subscriber means the physician, Physician Group, clinic, other healthcare provider, or representation of any of the foregoing, who is the signatory to the Subscriber Agreement.

Validation refers to the activities of OntarioMD, as carried out according to the EMR Certification Agreement.

Weighted Requirement ("W") means the Offering will receive a point value if the requirement is met.

2.   BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

2.1   THE EMR ADOPTION PROGRAM

In October 2009, eHealth Ontario and OntarioMD initiated the EMR Adoption Program. The EMR Adoption Program is a provincially-funded initiative of eHealth Ontario designed to increase the adoption of electronic medical record systems within physician practices. The program enables physicians to electronically create, access, and share medical information to enhance patient care, improve health outcomes and increase patient safety. OntarioMD Inc. manages the EMR Adopter funding provided by eHealth Ontario.

EMR Adopter funding is intended to promote and enable physician office transformation from paper-based to Electronic Medical Records, increasing timely access to patient information when and where it is needed. In addition to EMR funding, the program also includes transition support services to assist physician practices in the necessary organizational changes when advancing information technology. These services are provided by OntarioMD at no cost to program participants.

Prior to the launch of the EMR Adoption Program, EMR funding was tied to the Primary Care IT Program, which concluded in March 2009.

For more information about the EMR Adoption Program, please visit www.ontariomd.com.

2.2   ONTARIOMD

OntarioMD, a subsidiary of the Ontario Medical Association, acts as eHealth Ontario's delivery partner. OntarioMD is building on its existing capacity and experience in the delivery of programs and services to physicians. It provides practice change management support, co-manages Electronic Medical Record specifications, manages vendor certification and offers valuable tools and content to physicians via the Physician Portal at OntarioMD.ca.

2.3   ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORD (EMR) SYSTEMS

An EMR supporting both clinical and practice management requirements is a critical component of information technology for Physician Groups. An EMR is a computer-based medical record that is specific to one physician, practice or organization. It is the record that a doctor maintains for his or her own patients which details demographics, medical and drug history, and diagnostic information such as laboratory results and findings from diagnostic imaging. In Ontario, it is integrated with other software that manages activities such as billing and scheduling.

EMR Offerings are available through both an Application Service Provider ("ASP") model and a Local model. Offering both models lets physicians select different service and payment options that best fit their practice. For more information regarding certified EMR offerings, please visit the EMR Advisor site at www.emradvisor.ca.

2.4   THE EMR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

OntarioMD is publishing this EMR Specification in partnership with eHealth Ontario, within the context of the EMR Certification Program. The EMR Certification program details requirements for vendors who wish to make their EMR Offerings funding eligible.

The following are key program activities:

- Determining, through OntarioMD's Validation process, if an Offering meets or exceeds the Baseline Requirements documented in the EMR Specification;

- Publishing Specifications and withdrawing published Specifications;

- Specifying future and/or ongoing requirements for an Offering that OntarioMD and eHealth Ontario determine, after completion of the Validation process, must be implemented as part of the terms of a Certificate for such Offering;

- Issuing and withdrawing, if applicable under the provisions of this Specification and the Validation process, the Certificate in respect of an Offering;

- Validating a certified Offering for ongoing qualification where there is any Change to such Offering to determine whether a Certificate should be retained by the Offering or withdrawn by OntarioMD;

- Validating a certified Offering for qualification against another published Specification to determine whether a Certificate should be issued under that Specification for such Offering;

- Withdrawing certification for an Offering if, over time:

    a) The Offering no longer meets the Baseline Requirements set out in the applicable Specification;

    b) There is non-compliance with the Vendor Obligations;

    c) The Specification under which an Offering was certified has been withdrawn by OntarioMD; or

    d) Certain other events, set out in the Specification.

EMR Vendors must apply to have offerings Validated under the EMR Certification Program.

To have an Offering certified under EMR Specification v4.0 Vendors will be required to successfully complete the Validation of their Offering against the specification and meet all requirements contained in the EMR Certification Agreement.

A EMR Specification (usually identified by a version number) can be withdrawn by OntarioMD at any time. As part of the process to withdraw a Specification, OntarioMD will also indicate the effective withdrawal date. Please refer to http://www.ontariomd.ca/emr for more details on the process and the withdrawal date for EMR Specification v4.0. (As of the withdrawal date for a Specification, Offerings will no longer be certified under that Specification).

2.5   EMR CERTIFICATION

EMR Certification means:

- The Offering satisfies the minimum requirements documented in this specification.

- The Offering is funding-eligible under the EMR Adoption Program.

Certification of an EMR Offering does NOT mean:

- The Offering is endorsed by OntarioMD or eHealth Ontario.

- Functionality of the EMR is limited to the requirements documented in this Specification. In many cases, EMRs offer functionality which serve to differentiate the Offerings.

- The elimination of the need for due diligence in the EMR selection process. Although similar functionality may exist in different EMRs, the design and workflow of some medical practices may be more appropriate for some Offerings versus others. Potential customers should engage with their EMR vendors and ask questions to evaluate the fit of an EMR with their practice profile and workflow.

- The EMR vendor is certified. Certification refers to one version of an EMR Offering. Vendors may offer other products which have not gone through the Certification process. Only the certified version of an EMR Offering is funding-eligible under the EMR Adoption Program.

3.   EMR SPECIFICATION V4.0

Gaining and maintaining Certification of an Offering against the EMR Specification must occur in order for Vendors to provide EMR Offerings to physicians who qualify for the EMR Adoption Funding Program.   For more information about the EMR Certification Program, please visit www.ontariomd.com/emr.

3.1   OVERVIEW OF REQUIREMENTS

EMR Specification v4.0 includes several components, as described in the following sections.

New EMR Specifications may be published by OntarioMD and eHealth Ontario.

3.1.1   EMR BASELINE REQUIREMENTS

EMR Baseline Requirements specify the requirements for all certified EMR Offerings.

The Baseline Requirements have been updated to reflect the needs of the health provider community, changes in standards and technology.   Please see Appendix A – EMR Baseline Requirements, for the full list of requirements.

Some of the functional requirements refer to MOHLTC guidelines.   Ministry set guidelines are available through various sources. These include:

- http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/ohip/bulletins/bulletin_mn.html;

- http://www.health.gov.on.ca/; and

- http://www.ontariomd.ca/emr

OntarioMD will make reasonable efforts to post information received from the MOHLTC on its web site(s), however vendors are responsible for obtaining the necessary information to meet the Baseline Requirements. OntarioMD shall not be responsible for the accuracy of the web-site links that are contained in this document or for any information contained on such web-sites. Respondents must contact the appropriate party to access the required information if links to these web sites are no longer available or if there is any doubt about accuracy.

Functional requirements must be in line with all of the legal requirements under:

- Ontario Regulation 114/94 (*Medicine Act*, 1991)

  http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_91m30_e.htm

  and all policies published by the

- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario's (CPSO) – including the policy on Medical Records. http://www.cpso.on.ca/Policies/medicalrec.htm.

  This policy references various other legislative requirements, including those that may apply depending on the context within which a physician is practicing. Medical records are also a

fundamental component of regulatory functions carried out by the CPSO under the authority of the *Regulated Health Professions Act*, 1991.

http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_91r18_e.htm

3.1.2 DATA PORTABILITY REQUIREMENTS

Data Portability Requirements define export-import standards and include:

(i)   Data Export Requirements

(ii)   Data Import Requirements

(iii)   A EMR Core Data Set schema;

(iv)   Data and media format requirements for data transfer from one EMR to another; and

(v)   Export and import event logs.

Please see Appendix B – Data Portability Requirements, for the full list of requirements.

3.1.3 CHRONIC DISEASE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Chronic Disease Management requirements were created to align with the chronic disease prevention and management programs. OntarioMD worked in conjunction with a clinical user working group to identify requirements that support best practices for the management of Ontarians with chronic diseases.

Please see Appendix C – Chronic Disease Management Requirements, for the full list of requirements.

3.1.4 DIABETES REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Diabetes Reporting Requirements were created in conjunction with the MOHLTC to report on information about Ontarian's with diabetes. Reporting requirements utilize the data portability requirements, and Core Data set as documented in Appendix B.

Please see Appendix D – Reporting of Diabetes Data Requirements, for the full list of requirements.

3.1.5 ONTARIO LABORATORIES INFORMATION SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Requirements to interface EMRs to OLIS were created for Specification v4.0 and will allow providers to receive laboratory reports from the OLIS respository in a consistent format. Some providers will now receive additional laboratory reports electronically.

Please see Appendix E – EMR-OLIS Interface Requirements, for the full list of requirements.

3.1.6 CIHI DATA EXTRACT REQUIREMENTS

These requirements provide preliminary support for the Pan-Canadian Primary Health Care (PHC) Electronic Medical Record (EMR) Content Standards which was led by the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI). The document provides a mapping of OntarioMD's Core Data Set to the Pan-Canadian PHC EMR Content Standards 106 data elements and provide an overview of the soon to be published PHC EMR Vendor Extract Specifications.

Please see Appendix G – Preliminary CIHI Health System Use Data Extract, for the full list of requirements.

3.1.7 E-PRESCRIBING DATA ELEMENTS

Included in this Specification are changes to existing and inclusion of new data elements in support of ePrescribing. This work is being undertaken to better position EMRs to participate in upcoming ePrescribing initiatives.

3.1.8 HOSPITAL REPORT MANAGER REQUIREMENTS

OntarioMD's Hospital Report Manager (HRM) requirements were created for Specification v4.0 to facilitate providers connecting to the HRM solution to receive hospital reports directly into the EMR in a consistent format.

Please see Appendix F – Hospital Report Manager Requirements for the full list of requirements.

3.2 EMR CERTIFICATION AGREEMENT

The EMR Certification Agreement defines the ongoing obligations of the EMR vendor necessary to gain and maintain certification for their product(s).

All vendors will be required to sign a EMR Certification Agreement before beginning the validation process against EMR Specification v4.0.

3.3 SUBSCRIBER AGREEMENT

The Subscriber Agreement defines the business arrangement between a physician, group of physicians or corporation on behalf of physicians (i.e. a "Subscriber") and the vendor.