**FHIMS Lab Domain**

August 1, 2011 Meeting Minutes

# Attendees

Robert Crawford, VA

David Bass, VA

Mike Fitch, DoD

Ira Lubin, CDC

Galen Mulroony, VA

Anne Pollock, CDC

Anand Shukla, VA

Cindy Vinion, NG/CDC

Steve Wagner, ONC

# Leadership team

Kosta Makrodimitris, Galen Mulrooney, Cindy Vinion

Website: <https://www.projects.openhealthtools.org/sf/projects/fhims/>

# Summary of Discussion

## Information Modeling

Review of Specimen Area of the Model

* Believe SpecimenCollectEvent seems to be an implicit act and is part of the lab test order. SpecimenCollectPromise is also rather implicit; the promise does not seem to be explicitly done. This makes these classes difficult to model.
* A specimen may be collected by a Doctor in a clinic, office, or hospital; a specimen may be collected by someone other than a Doctor in a clinic, office, or hospital; a specimen may be collected by the lab, etc.
* Specimens are always transported to the lab. Some may be shipped to the lab via courier or other package shipment organization including FedEx and the postal service.
* Specimens expire based on additives, storage conditions, lab conditions, transportation conditions, lab test ordered, and other **specimen handling** conditions. Handling conditions and requirements are determined by protocols.
  + Galen: I like keeping transportation and storage information separate because of the different information needed such as courier vs. freezer &/or tray location.
  + Anne: There may be different handling limits based on which test was ordered and/or being performed.
  + Galen: How much of the transport and storage information needs to be part of FHIMS Lab?
  + Mike: Specimen handling information is part of quality control. These details are rarely reported out and, if they are, they are only reported as exceptions to the normal, expected process. In short, they are reported out through a different lab, quality control, process step.
  + Cindy - Behind the specimen information, there is a known set of business processes the details of which are not important to the FHIMS Lab domain.
* Robert: Why is specimen a role within the model and HL7v3?
  + Mike: the specimen is a stand-in for a patient or the subject. It is a statistical sampling of the subject.
* Specimens are evaluated to determine its appropriateness for testing. The evaluation can happen at many points in the lab processes:
  + At specimen collection &/or patient encounter
  + At receipt of specimen by the lab
  + After the processing & testing process has started
  + During testing
  + Later, after the specimen has been in storage and/or a holding area
* During specimen evaluation, a specimen may be determined to be inappropriate for some tests but not others.
* It may be useful to have a SpecimenEvaluation class tied to the specimen and any act or process step after or during which the specimen is evaluated to determine its suitability for following process steps.

Patients and Subjects within the Model

* Subjects may be related to each other through relationships between subjects; therefore, determinations may be made on one subject through laboratory testing of another subject. For example, determinations/diagnoses of a fetus may be made through testing of the mother; rabies testing of an animal may be used to determine the need to treat a patient for rabies; etc.
  + Galen - We may want to relate lab tests performed on different subjects to each other.