Enrolment Nominations Discussion Paper

Version1.2

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# Introduction

The HIP Team at Te Whatu Ora have a fairly urgent need to create a FHIR interface to allow Enrolment nomination requests for new-borns to be sent to PMS Practice systems and receive an asynchronous Response. HealthLink will be providing a translation service to convert from FHIR to HL7 v2 for consumption by the PMS (an existing channel), and to send the PMS response back to us as a FHIR request.

Our time frames are tight, we are looking to have this functionality operational in Production by August 2023

There are two questions which we are seeking feedback on

1. What is the correct FHIR resource to use when modelling an enrolment?

2. What is the best FHIR mechanism for creating a message which requests an enrolment (i.e. an enrolment nomination request)

Note that given the time frames we would like feedback within the next couple of weeks. We recognize that is probably not enough time for a full discussion, so there is a risk that whatever approach we take it may not align with the long-term approach agreed by the HL7 NZ community. The mitigation is that this is a point solution between HIP and HealthLink so the impact is limited.

## Some Background

### Enrolment

In HIP we have a SOAP service for recording GP enrolments. We define an enrolment as “a relationship between a health consumer and a health provider for the provision of a health service”. We use a generic schema which could accommodate other kinds of enrolment e.g., enrolment with a WellChild provider, but none have been implemented to date. GP Enrolment however is integrated in all GP PMS systems and is used as the basis for calculating capitation-based funding. It is also used by other parties to locate a patient’s GP for sending them communications eg Discharge Letters

If we had a generic concept of Enrolment in FHIR, here are some possible ways we health provider/consumer/service associations we might want to model as kinds of enrolments

* WellChild
* Dentist
* Midwife
* b4schools
* Screening programmes
* NCHIP
* Pharmacist

#### Other definitions of Enrolment in current use

HSAAP : “Enrolment creates a link between a HSU and a provider or facility so that they can participate in health and disability services delivered by that provider or at that facility”

HIRA: “Registration for inclusion in a particular health service or programme.  For example  this could be with a General Practice  a Dentist  or a programmes such as the National Breast Screening  National Cervical Screening  National Bowel Screening programmes”

#### Related concepts

[healthcare\_mandate (contsys)](https://contsys.org/concept/healthcare_mandate):  
mandate (commission) based on a [commitment](https://contsys.org/concept/commitment" \o ") and either an [informed consent](https://contsys.org/concept/informed_consent" \o ") or an [authorization by law](https://contsys.org/concept/authorization_by_law" \o "), defining the rights and obligations of one [healthcare actor](https://contsys.org/concept/healthcare_actor" \o ") with regard to his involvement in [healthcare processes](https://contsys.org/concept/healthcare_process" \o ") performed for a specific [subject of care](https://contsys.org/concept/subject_of_care" \o ")

### Enrolment Nomination

An enrolment nomination is a **request** by a party, eg the Lead Maternity Carer LMC that their patient is considered for enrolment with a particular service provider eg a GP practice.

### Eligibility

In HIP we have treated Eligibility and Enrolment as separate concepts, but they can be linked. For GP enrolment for example, a criteria for enrolment is that a person must be eligible for publicly funded health care. In general though we think of eligibility as being the set of rules by which a person’s eligibility for some Entitlement or Enrolment is established, and from which we could establish a fact like “this person is eligible for this <entitlement/enrolment>”

### Entitlement

We think of an entitlement as a verified assertion that a person is eligible to receive some benefit, normally a healthcare subsidy, that applies across healthcare services and is not limited to a particular provider. It is generally represented by a physical token like a CSC card or an HUHC card. There would normally be some backing agreement between the party responsible for verifying the eligibility (e.g. MSD for CSC), and the party providing the benefit (e.g. a health care subsidy paid by Te Whatu Ora).

# Candidates

The candidates we have identified so far are listed below

#### Candidate Resource for Enrolment

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Resource | Comment |
| Patient | The Patient resource already has the enrolled GP, it is not clear if we need anything more (i.e. to cater for other kinds of enrolment). But if we did we probably don’t want Patient to be the parent of all patient/provider relationships, it would risk blowing out patient too much |
| Coverage | We use this for Entitlement, (CSC and HUHC). If we accept that an entitlement and enrolment are not the same thing, then enrolment probably deserves its own resource. Coverage does not describe the provider, so would probably require an extension. |
| CareTeam | PHO/GP enrolment is essentially a contract between a patient and their GP practice for on-going first level services. By signing an enrolment form the patient is requesting that the team of practitioners and health workers in that GP practice provide them with first level services. The PHO could be considered a member of the care team as well. |
| [EpisodeOfCare](https://www.hl7.org/fhir/episodeofcare.html) | FHIR Definition : An association between a patient and an organization / healthcare provider(s) during which time encounters may occur. The managing organization assumes a level of responsibility for the patient during this time.  From a medical point of view, an episode of care is made up of encounters related to a given condition  From <https://contsys.org/concept/episode_of_care> “[health related period](https://contsys.org/concept/health_related_period" \o ") during which [healthcare activities](https://contsys.org/concept/healthcare_activity" \o ") are performed to address one [health issue](https://contsys.org/concept/health_issue" \o ") as identified by one [healthcare](https://contsys.org/concept/healthcare" \o ") professional[“ |
| **[Basic resource](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hl7.org%2Ffhir%2Fbasic.html%23scope&data=05%7C01%7Cpat.ryan%40health.govt.nz%7Cea764614a8c14f12b6d908db57220ee0%7C23cec7246d204bd19fe9dc4447edd1fa%7C0%7C0%7C638199576011543651%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=99DJFsIOeR%2BZsFYm5R98Y27PrspFWKYKxUZNPse0KJ8%3D&reserved=0)** | The Basic resource is intended for use in three circumstances:   1. When an implementer needs a resource concept that is likely to be defined by HL7 in the future but they have not yet done so (due to bandwidth issues, lack of sufficient requirements, lower prioritization, etc.) 2. … |

#### Candidate Methods for an Enrolment Nomination

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Resource** | Comment |
| [SeviceRequest](https://build.fhir.org/servicerequest.html) | Seems more intended for one-off requests like a referral rather than a long-term relationship like an enrolment |
| [Message](https://build.fhir.org/messaging.html) | Looks like a good fit. Allows us to create a bundle with the resources linked to the event - for us that would be Patient (the baby), Location (GP Facility), and next of kin (perhaps RelatedPerson). The event type in the messgae tells the recipient the context – in our case “enrolment nomination”  see : [https://hl7.org/fhir/R4/messageheader-examples.html](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fhl7.org%2Ffhir%2FR4%2Fmessageheader-examples.html&data=05%7C01%7Cpat.ryan%40health.govt.nz%7C543fe212c059442b6d5308db56cf9e2c%7C23cec7246d204bd19fe9dc4447edd1fa%7C0%7C0%7C638199221940602496%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=sBHvkDy0qgv6%2BoN3E6QI%2FDaO7eyFtJyuGZNZNHnEpjo%3D&reserved=0" \t "_blank) |
| Custom operation | We could consider adding a custom operation to whatever the agreed the Resource for enrolment is |
| [EnrollmentRequest](https://build.fhir.org/enrollmentrequest.html) | Looks great, but unfortunately just an R5 stub |
| CoverageEligibilityRequest | Its insurance based, and its about eligibility not enrolment |
| [Task](https://www.hl7.org/fhir/task.html) | Could create a task to create an enrolment…. |