HL7 V2.8 Errata Sheet

HL7 International has discovered several issues with the final version of the Version 2.8 standard. The errata below identify those issues and, when possible, suggest how the issues should be addressed by implementers. Please note as well that HL7 has determined that the presentation of segment groups in various chapters through the standard is ambiguous. The next release of this standard will include additions to Chapter 2 to clarify the syntax used to represent the segment groups. The first two items below should be referenced if the user has any question about the use of optional segments in segment groups or about the use of angle brackets in segment groups.

Issue: Use of "etc." in various segment choices

Resolution: The "etc." is used as a placeholder for various choice alternatives that may be represented in the abstract message syntax (AMS). "Etc." should be interpreted as meaning any segment can be used in this location; that is, "etc." does not limit your choice of segment or segment groups, except for MSH and other transmission control segments. In the future, explanation will be added to Chapter 2, section 12 proposing the use of "Hxx" as a formal representation in circumstance where a choice of any segment or segment group is allowed.

Issue: Use of Opening and Closing Angle Brackets around Segment Groups

Resolution: In the standard, we have named required and non-repeating segment groups. The standard uses opening and closing angle brackets to delineate these segment groups. This is used to indicate that you have a choice of "one of one" in these representations, effectively making them required, named segments. This formalism allows for a better representation of the standard in languages such as XML and solves the problem of attaching a name to a group.

Issue: Incorrect Element Definition for REL-12 Negation Indicator in Chapter 12, Section 12.4.5.12

Currently the definition for this element reads "This field contains the date range relevant to the assertion of the relationship." However, this is incorrect. The correct definition should read "This field, if populated and set to true, indicates that the given relationship is not true or does not exist."

Resolution: As this change is substantive, a proposal to formally change the definition will be brought forward in Version 2.9. Until this correction can be made, users of the standard are advised to consider the alternate definition above when using this element.

Issue: Ambiguous Use of CWE Data Type in Element Definition for TCC-15 Test Criticality in Chapter 13, Section 13.4.9.15

Currently the definition for this element indicates that a CWE data type is used; however, the definition also advises that the element can be populated with "a sequential number of the test sorted according to the criticality assigned by the lab". In general practice, the CWE data type references a table of assigned values, recognizing that those values are often assigned by the user. It is expected that the definition for this element will be reviewed and revised with the next release.

Errata Carried Forward from Version 2.7

HL7 International has discovered a backwards compatibility issue in Versions 2.6 and 2.7 related to the fields provided in the table below. Each of these fields is a telephone number, is of XTN data type and is repeating. The <preference order> component was added to the XTN data type in Version 2.6 to allow for an entity having multiple telecommunication addresses to indicate which is the "most preferred" (lowest number) to "least preferred" (highest number). In addition, the new XTN data type allows entry of more than telephone number (e.g., email address).

To be fully backwards compatible the following fields, shall:

- Be populated with data that is consistent with the field usage as described in the text (i.e., the business phone number field must identify business phone as the most preferred phone number)
- Include only phone numbers; other information such as email addresses shall not be entered.

#	Version	Section	Field to be Correction	Item # in V2 Online DB	Type of Correction
1	**2.6 /2.7**	3.4.5.5	NK1-5 - Phone Number	00194	Phone number must be set to 1 for <preference order> component. To maintain backwards compatibility for V2.6 and V2.7, this field shall send only telephone number. Non-telephone number data such as email addresses shall not be sent via this field. In V2.8, NK1-5, NK1-6 and NK1-31 will be deprecated in favor of NK1-40- and NK1-41.
2	**2.6/2.7**	3.4.5.6	NK1-6 - Business Phone Number	**00195**	Business phone number must be set to 1 for

					<preference order> component. To maintain backwards compatibility for V2.6 and V2.7, this field shall send only telephone number. Non-telephone number data such as email addresses shall not be sent via this field. In V2.8, NK1-5, NK1-6 and NK1-31 will be deprecated in favor of NK1-40- and NK1-41.
3	**2.6/2.7**	3.4.5.31	NK1-31 - Contact Person's Telephone Number	00749	Phone number must be set to 1 for <preference order> component. To maintain backwards compatibility for V2.6 and V2.7, this field shall send only telephone number. Non-telephone number data such as email addresses shall not be sent via this field. In V2.8, NK1-5, NK1-6 and NK1-31 will be deprecated in favor of NK1-40- and NK1-41.
4	**2.6/2.7**	3.4.2.14	PID-14 - Phone Number – Business	00117	Business phone number must be set to 1 for <preference order> component. To maintain backwards compatibility for V2.6 and V2.7, this field shall send only telephone number. Non-telephone number data such as email addresses shall not be sent via this field. In V2.8, PID-13 and PID-14 will be deprecated in favor of PID-40.
5	**2.6/2.7**	3.4.2.13	PID-13 - Phone Number – Home	00116	Phone number must be set to 1 for <preference order> component.

					To maintain backwards compatibility for V2.6 and V2.7, this field shall send only telephone number. Non-telephone number data such as email addresses shall not be sent via this field. In V2.8, PID-13 and PID-14 will be deprecated in favor of PID-40.