will however be situations of overlap. For example, a response to a question of "have you ever taken illicit drugs" could in principle be represented using MedicationStatement, but most systems would treat such an assertion as an Observation. In some cases, such as when source data is coming from an HL7 v2 (http://www.hl7.org/implement/standards/product_brief.cfm?product_id=185) feed, a system might not have information that allows it to distinguish diagnosis, allergy and other "specialized" types of observations from laboratory, vital sign and other observation types intended to be conveyed with this resource. In those circumstances, such specialized observations may also appear using this resource. Adhering to such convention is an appropriate use of Observation. If implementers are uncertain whether a proposed use of Observation is appropriate, they're encouraged to consult with implementers on chat.fhir.org implementer's stream (https://chat.fhir.org/)

The Media (media.html) resource captures a specific type of observation whose value is audio, video or image data. This resource is used instead of Observation to represent such forms of information as it exposes the metadata relevant for interpreting the information. See Media's boundaries section (media.html#bnr) to see how Media (and Observation) differs from ImagingStudy (imagingstudy.html) and DocumentReference (documentreference.html).

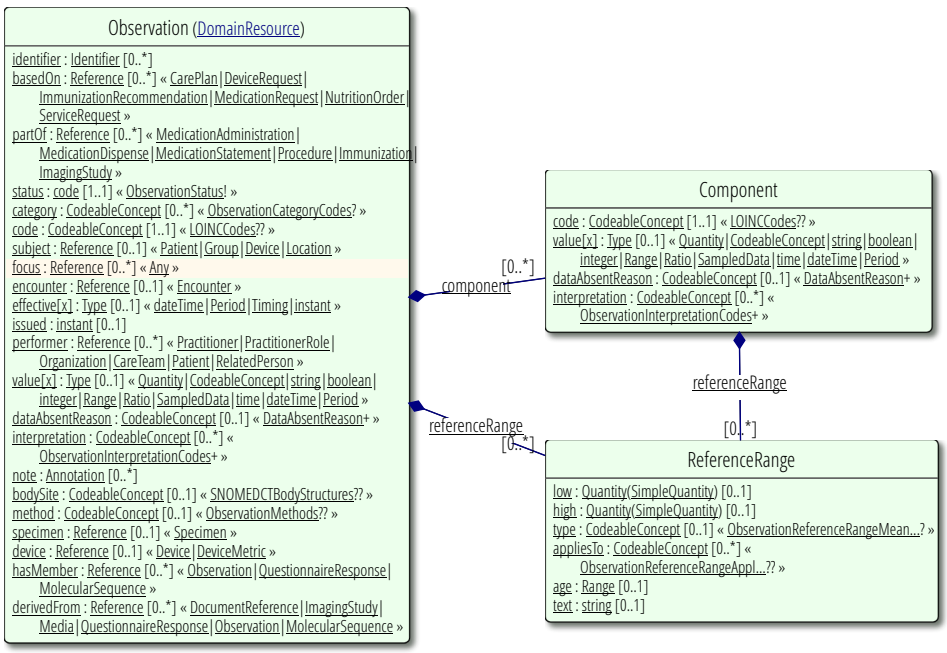
In contrast to the Observation resource, the DiagnosticReport (diagnosticreport.html) resource typically includes additional clinical context and some mix of atomic results, images, imaging reports, textual and coded interpretation, and formatted representations. Laboratory reports, pathology reports, and imaging reports should be represented using the DiagnosticReport resource. The Observation resource is referenced by the DiagnosticReport to provide the atomic results for a particular investigation. "Laboratories routinely have a variable that is summative across a series of discrete variables - these are usually called 'impressions' or 'interpretations'. Sometimes they are algorithmically specified and sometimes they have the imprimatur of pathologists and they are conveyed in Observation or DiagnosticReport instead of the Clinical Impression (clinicalimpression.html) resource. The Observation resource should not be used to record clinical diagnosis about a patient or subject as discussed above.

This resource is referenced by AdverseEvent (adverseevent.html#AdverseEvent), Appointment (appointment.html#Appointment), CarePlan (careplan.html#CarePlan), ChargeItem (chargeitem.html#ChargeItem), ClinicalImpression (clinicalimpression.html#ClinicalImpression), Communication (communication.html#Communication), CommunicationRequest (communicationrequest.html#CommunicationRequest), Condition (condition.html#Condition), Contract (contract.html#Contract), DeviceRequest (devicerequest.html#DeviceRequest), DeviceUseStatement (deviceusestatement.html#DeviceUseStatement), DiagnosticReport (diagnosticreport.html#DiagnosticReport), Encounter (encounter.html#Encounter), FamilyMemberHistory (familymemberhistory.html#FamilyMemberHistory), Goal (goal.html#Goal), GuidanceResponse (guidanceresponse.html#GuidanceResponse), ImagingStudy (imagingstudy.html#ImagingStudy), Immunization (immunization.html#Immunization), MedicationAdministration (medicationadministration.html#MedicationAdministration), MedicationRequest (medicationrequest.html#MedicationRequest), MedicationStatement (medicationstatement.html#MedicationStatement), MolecularSequence (molecularsequence.html#MolecularSequence), itself, Procedure (procedure.html#Procedure), QuestionnaireResponse (questionnaireresponse.html#QuestionnaireResponse), RequestGroup (requestgroup.html#RequestGroup), RiskAssessment (riskassessment.html#RiskAssessment), ServiceRequest (servicerequest.html#ServiceRequest) and SupplyRequest (supplyrequest.html#SupplyRequest)

10.1.3 Resource Content

Structure | **UML** | **XML** | **JSON** | **Turtle** | **R3 Diff** | **All**

UML Diagram (Legend (formats.html#uml))



See the Profiles & Extensions (observation-profiles.html) and the alternate definitions: Master Definition XML (observation.profile.xml.html) + JSON (observation.profile.json.html), XML (xml.html) Schema (observation.xsd)/Schematron (observation.sch) + JSON (json.html) Schema (observation.schema.json.html), ShEx (observation.shex.html) (for Turtle (rdf.html)) + see the extensions (observation-profiles.html) & the dependency analysis (observation-dependencies.html)

10.1.3.1 Terminology Bindings

Path	Definition	Type	Reference
Observation.status	Codes providing the status of an observation.	Required (terminologies.html#required)	ObservationStatus (valueset-observation-status.html)
Observation.category	Codes for high level observation categories.	Preferred (terminologies.html#preferred)	ObservationCategoryCodes (valueset-observation-category.html)
Observation.code Observation.component.code	Codes identifying names of simple observations.	Example (terminologies.html#example)	LOINCCodes (valueset-observation-codes.html)
Observation.dataAbsentReason Observation.component.dataAbsentReason	Codes specifying why the result (`Observation.value[x]`) is missing.	Extensible (terminologies.html#extensible)	DataAbsentReason (valueset-data-absent-reason.html)
Observation.interpretation Observation.component.interpretation	Codes identifying interpretations of observations.	Extensible (terminologies.html#extensible)	ObservationInterpretationCodes (valueset-observation-interpretation.html)