vMR: the HL7 virtual Medical Record Standard

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Background

- A "holy grail" of clinical informatics is scalable, interoperable CDS
- Key requirement for interoperable CDS and re-use of CDS knowledge resources = use of a common patient data model
 - Referred to as a "Virtual Medical Record" or vMR
 (Johnson et al., AMIA Annu Symp Proc, 2001)
- Lack of a common vMR has been a major barrier to sharing knowledge and scaling CDS

Example Challenge without VMR

Observation

Code = BP

Value = 120/80 mmHg

Blood Pressure

Systolic = 120 mmHg

Diastolic = 80 mmHg

Observation

Code = BP

Observation

Code = SBP

Value = 120 mmHg

Observation

Code = DBP

Value = 80 mmHg

Vital Sign

Type = BP

Value = 120/80

Units = mmHg



vMR Goal

 Provide common information model upon which interoperable clinical decision support resources (e.g., rules) can be developed

Project History

- Analysis of data required by 20 CDS systems from 4 countries (Kawamoto et al., AMIA 2010)
- Refinement of vMR via implementation within OpenCDS
- Adopted in September 2011 as Informative Specification



Why Not Just Use the CCDA as the vMR?

- CCDA does not include all needed information
 - E.g., Family history model suitable for CDS
- CCDA is not sufficiently intuitive for direct use by CDS knowledge authors
- CCDA is deeply nested and verbose, which adds performance penalties in volume production

HOWEVER:

 CCDA can be mapped into the vMR, which has a simpler structure that is more conducive to evaluation



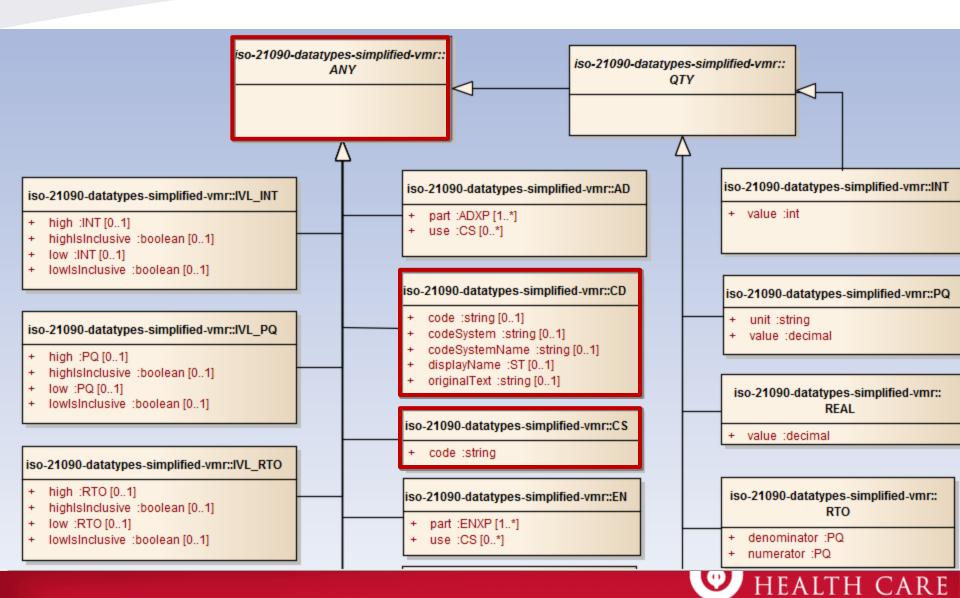
Problem Model – CCD vs. VMR

```
<entry typeCode="DRIV">
<act classCode="ACT" moodCode="EVN">
  <templateld root="2.16.840.1.113883.10.20.1.27"/>
  <!-- Problem act template -->
  <id root="6a2fa88d-4174-4909-aece-db44b60a3abb"/>
  <code nullFlavor="NA"/>
  <entryRelationship typeCode="SUBJ">
     <observation classCode="OBS" moodCode="EVN">
       <template
                  oblem>
       <!-- Proble
                     <id root="6a2fa88d-4174-4909-aece-db44b60a3abb"/>
       <id root="
                     <problemCode codeSystem="2.16.840.1.113883.6.96" code="195967001" displayName="Asthma"/>
       <code cod
                     cproblemEffectiveTime low="1950"/>
       <statusCo
                     <diagnosticEventTime low="20110825" high="20110825"/>
       <effective1
                     codeSystem="2.16.840.1.113883.6.96" code="55561003" displayName="Active"/>
          <low va
                  </problem>
        </effective
       <value xsi:type="CD" code="195967001" codeSystem="2.16.840.1.113883.6.96" displayName="Asthma"/>
       <entryRelationship typeCode="REFR">
          <observation classCode="OBS" moodCode="EVN">
            <templateld root="2.16.840.1.113883.10.20.1.50"/>
            <!-- Problem status observation template -->
            <code code="33999-4" codeSystem="2.16.840.1.113883.6.1" displayName="Status"/>
            <statusCode code="completed"/>
            <value xsi:type="CE" code="55561003" codeSystem="2.16.840.1.113883.6.96" displayName="Active"/>
          </observation>
       </entryRelationship>
     </observation>
  </entryRelationship>
</act>
```

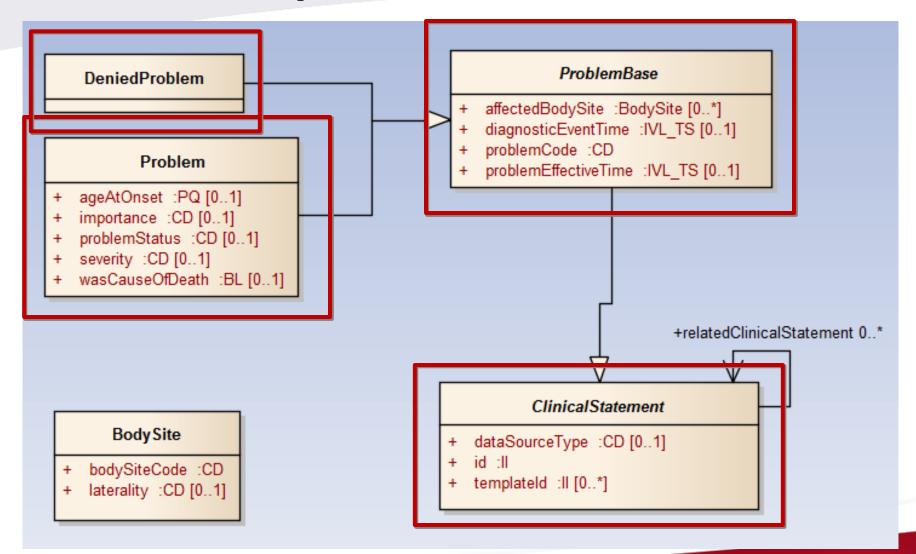
</entry>

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Simplified ISO 21090 Data Types



Example Clinical Statement



vMR: decoded payload

```
<cdsInput>
  <templateId root="2.16.840.1.113883.3.1829.11.1.1.1"/>
  <vmrInput>
      <templateId root="2.16.840.1.113883.3.1829.11.1.2.2"/>
      <patient>
          <templateId root="2.16.840.1.113883.3.1829.11.2.1.1"/>
          <id extension="1234567890" root="2.16.840.1.113883.3.795.5.2.1.1"/>
          <demographics>
              <birthTime value="19920713"/>
              <gender code="F" codeSystem="2.16.840.1.113883.1.11.1"/>
          </demographics>
          <clinicalStatements>
              <encounterEvents>
                  <encounterEvent>
                       <templateId root="2.16.840.1.113883.3.1829.11.4.3.2"/>
                       <id extension="testVMRoneLowHct" root="2.16.840.1.113883.3.795.5.2"/>
                       <dataSourceType code="Administrative"</pre>
                                           codeSystem="2.16.840.1.113883.3.795.12.2.5.1"/>
                       <encounterType code="I" codeSystem="2.16.840.1.113883.3.795.12.2.6.1"</pre>
                                           displayName="Inpatient"/>
                       <encounterEventTime high="" low="20130301"/>
                       <relatedClinicalStatement>
                            <targetRelationshipToSource code="COMP"</pre>
                                           codeSystem="2.16.840.1.113883.3.795.12.1.2"/>
                            <observationResult>
                                <templateId root="2.16.840.1.113883.3.1829.11.6.3.6"/>
                                <id extension="test1" root="2.16.840.1.113883.3.795.5.2.3.4"/>
                                <dataSourceType code="Clinical"</pre>
                                           codeSystem="2.16.840.1.113883.3.795.12.2.5.1"/>
                                <observationFocus code="20570-8" codeSystem="2.16.840.1.113883.6.1"</pre>
                                           displayName="Hematocrit"/>
                                <observationEventTime high="20130329" low="20130329"/>
                                <observationValue><physicalQuantity unit="%" value="45.7"/>
                                           </observationValue>
                            </observationResult>
```

Further Information

vMR:

http://wiki.hl7.org/index.php?title=Virtual_Medical_ Record_(vMR)

