

The SPHN SHACLer

Automatic generation of SHACL rules based on the SPHN RDF Schema

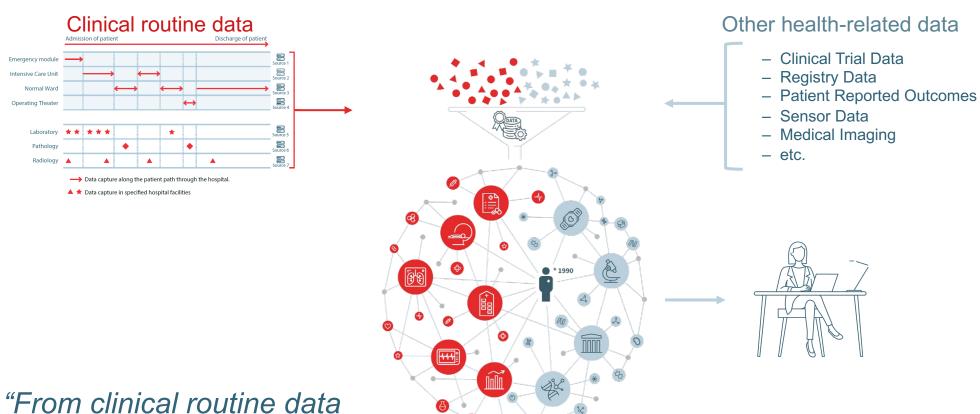
Dr. Vasundra Touré, Scientific Coordinator Personalized Health Informatics, SIB Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics







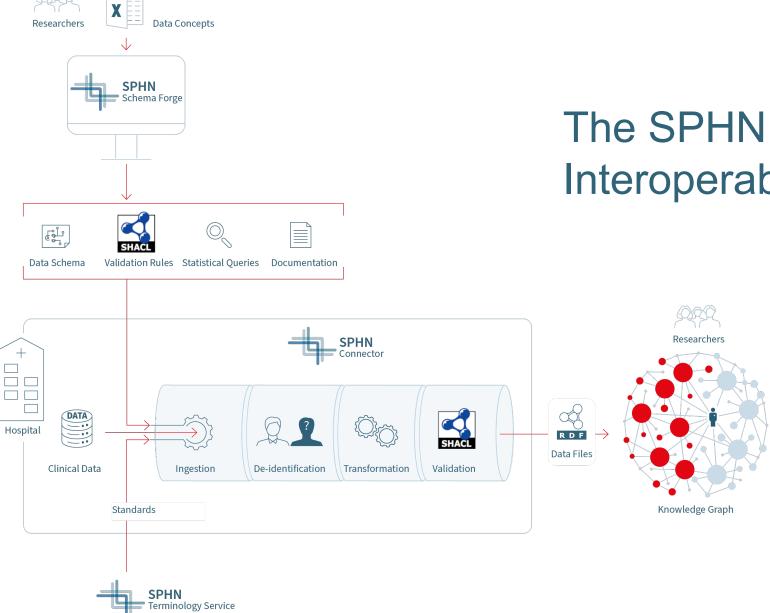
Swiss Personalized Health Network at a glance



Integrated FAIR research data

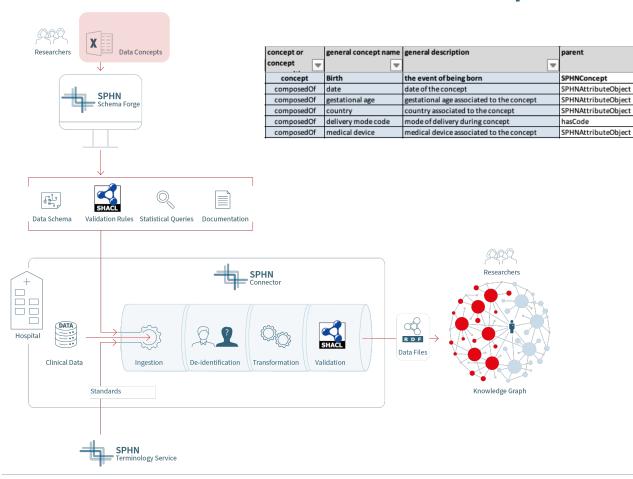
"From clinical routine data to FAIR research data"

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The SPHN Dataset Semantics defined in Excel

SNOMED CT

value set or subset

descendant of: 118215003 | Delivery finding

excluded type descendants

Access Device: Lab Analyzer: Implant

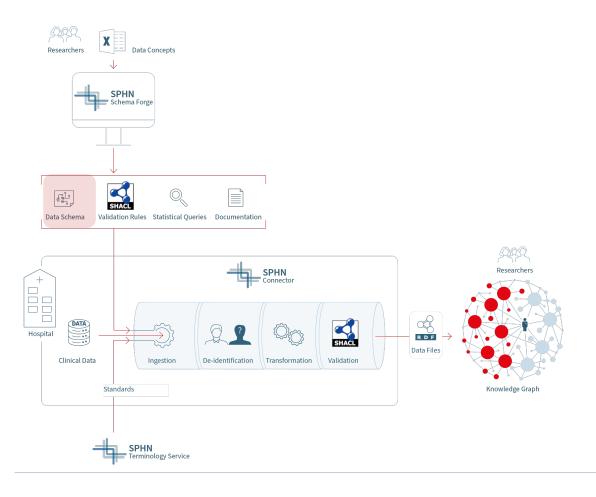
Gestational Age At Birth

Country

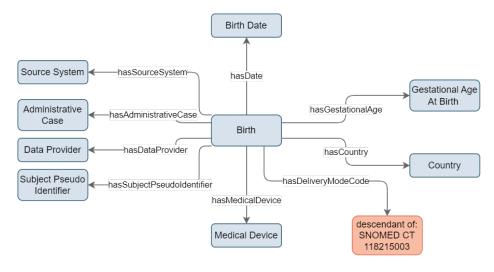
Medical Device

Code

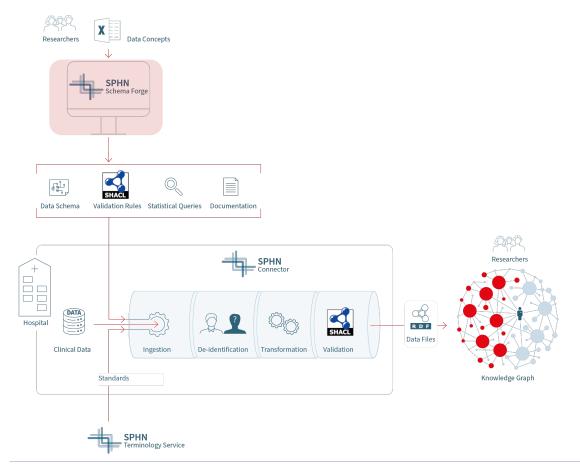




SPHN RDF Schema is the blueprint

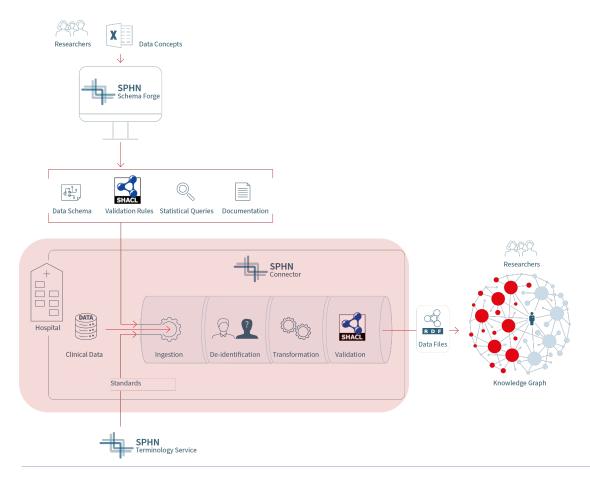






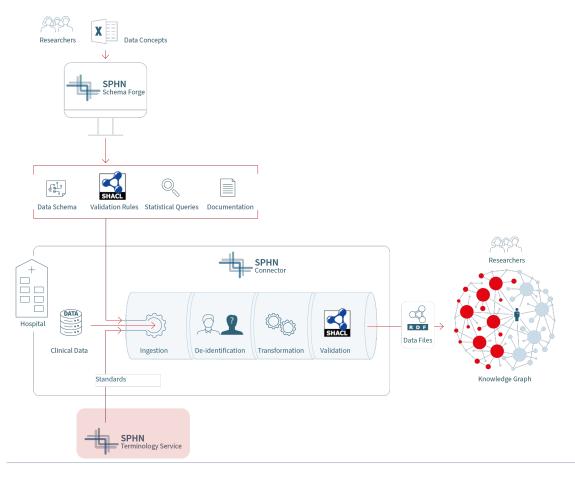
 SPHN Schema Forge builds the RDF Schema





- SPHN Schema Forge builds the RDF Schema
- SPHN Connector builds validated data in RDF

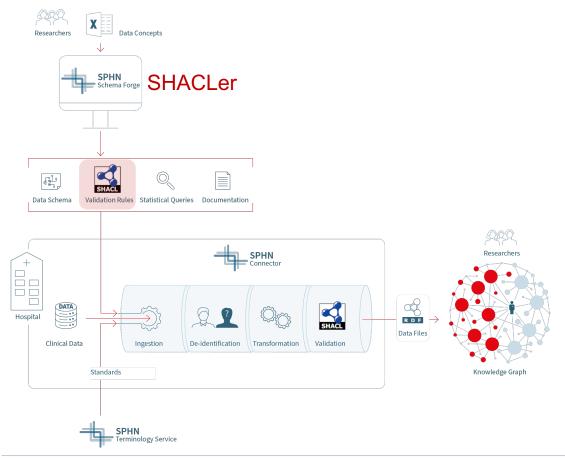




- SPHN Schema Forge builds the RDF Schema
- SPHN Connector builds validated data in RDF
- SPHN Terminology Service generate RDF versions of external terminologies

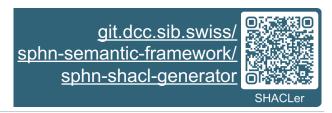


The SHACLer – Validator for SPHN-related data



SHACL rules automatically built with the SHACLer (Python script, uses rdflib)

→ SHACLer integrated in the SPHN Schema Forge





Why put so much effort on validation?

Many stakeholders involved, with different systems generating data

One single point of truth needed to check and validate data





Data validity & severity levels

The generated SHACL constraints (384) raise different levels of severity

ERROR (184)

Violation of the schema definitions (e.g. cardinality, value sets, ranges)

Start Datetime > End
Datetime



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WARNING (198)

Instances violating recommended naming conventions

Unversioned code instance which had a change in the meaning





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WARNING (198)

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Unversioned code instance which had a change in the meaning

INFO (2)

Old versioned code which is still valid

Old versioned code which is not valid anymore



General information about SHACLs

- Shapes are open for the SPHN RDF Schema but closed for project-specific schemas
- Projects are free to extend the SHACLs to add finer rules relevant to their projects (their own pipeline / manual)



SHACL rules generated with the SHACLer

Examples of SHACL rules built for data validation

Disclaimer

The SHACLs snippets in upcoming slides may be simplified for the purpose of readability

Find more here:

sphn-semantic-framework.readthedocs.io/ en/latest/sphn_framework/ schemaforge.html#shacler





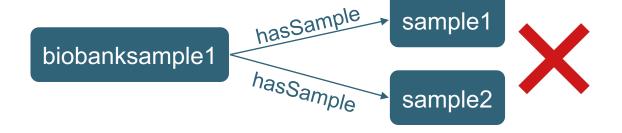


Cardinality Constraints



Cardinality Constraints







Class Constraints



Class Constraints





Class Constraints with SPARQL expression

skos:scopeNote "sphn:hasCode no subclasses allowed" gets interpreted in the SHACLer as:



Sequence path constraints



Gets interpreted as:



Validity of old versioned codes

```
constraints:OldVersionedCodeHasBeenValid a sh:NodeShape ;
    sh:severity sh:Info;
    sh:sparql [ a sh:SPARQLConstraint ;
              sh:message "The versioned code is not valid anymore due to code meaning change.";
              sh:select """PREFIX rdf: <a href="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns">http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns</a>
                            PREFIX sphn: <https://biomedit.ch/rdf/sphn-schema/sphn#>
                            SELECT ?this (rdf:type as ?path) (?type as ?value)
                            WHERE {
                                  ?this rdf:type ?type .
                                 }""" 1 ;
    sh:target [ a sh:SPARQLTarget ;
              sh:select """PREFIX rdf: <a href="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#">http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#</a>
                            PREFIX sphn: <https://biomedit.ch/rdf/sphn-schema/sphn#>
                            PREFIX xsd: <a href="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#">http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#</a>
                            SELECT ?this
                            WHERE {
                                  ?type sphn:hasMeaningValidityInCurrent ?validity .
                                 FILTER(?validity = false) .
                                            ?this rdf:type ?type .
```

ATC 2023 vs ATC 2022 ATC 2022 vs ATC 2021 ATC 2021 vs ATC 2020

sphn_atc_2023-2016-1.ttl

Checks if an old versioned code used, which has been valid, is not valid anymore

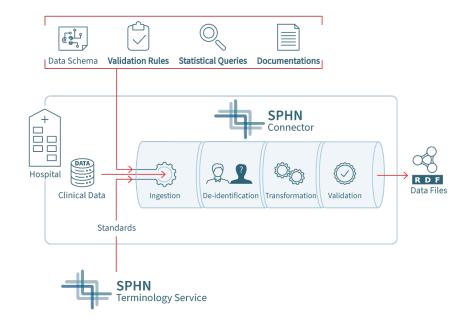


Data validation in practice

Generated SHACLs rules are integrated in the SPHN Connector pipeline

Possibility to filter for SHACL rules based on severity levels (error, warning, info)

Ex: 270K patients (with 63K having violations) 1/3 of time is spent on validation (i.e. 2days)







Data validation in practice: performance

Benchmark on 100 mock patients:

	Structural check (Schema compliance)	Syntactic check (Naming convention)	Terminology check (Meaning change)
Mean time (10 runs)	50s	80s	1000s
Type of severity	Error	Warning	Info



Conclusion



SPHN SHACLs checks:

- compliance with RDF Schema
- compliance with naming convention
- validity of codes



SPHN SHACLs do not check:

clinical correctness

Is it the end of PhD students manually validating data? Maybe not. But we are getting there...



Acknowledgements

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Back up slides











Foreseen improvements

SHACL targetClass entails

```
SELECT DISTINCT ?this
WHERE { ?this rdf:type/rdfs:subClassOf* ?targetClass .
}
```

SPARQLTarget





Why not SHACL as model instead of RDF Schema?

- Complexity of the SPHN semantics
 - Semantics are intertwined not disjoint
 - Inheritance has challenges in SHACL
 - SHACL has some simplifications assumptions which do not fit SPHN
- Audience/Stakeholders of SPHN







Why not use FHIR, openEHR, OMOP, XYZ format?

- Tool stack from the Semantic Web technologies
- SPHN aims to be FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable)
- Inference, validation and analytics capabilities
- Triplestores (open source & commercial)
- Complex components can be represented and interconnected

