



National Standards Authority of Ireland

IRISH STANDARD

I.S. CEN/TS 15211:2006

ICS 35.240.80

**HEALTH INFORMATICS - MAPPING OF  
HIERARCHICAL MESSAGE DESCRIPTIONS  
TO XML**

National Standards  
Authority of Ireland  
Glasnevin, Dublin 9  
Ireland

Tel: +353 1 807 3800  
Fax: +353 1 807 3838  
<http://www.nsai.ie>

**Sales**  
<http://www.standards.ie>

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TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION  
SPÉCIFICATION TECHNIQUE  
TECHNISCHE SPEZIFIKATION

**CEN/TS 15211**

November 2006

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ICS 35.240.80

English Version

**Health informatics - Mapping of hierarchical message  
descriptions to XML**

Informatique de santé - Carte des descriptions de message  
hiérarchique en XML

Medizinische Informatik - Mapping von hierarchischen  
Nachrichtenbeschreibungen nach XML

This Technical Specification (CEN/TS) was approved by CEN on 8 August 2005 for provisional application.

The period of validity of this CEN/TS is limited initially to three years. After two years the members of CEN will be requested to submit their comments, particularly on the question whether the CEN/TS can be converted into a European Standard.

CEN members are required to announce the existence of this CEN/TS in the same way as for an EN and to make the CEN/TS available promptly at national level in an appropriate form. It is permissible to keep conflicting national standards in force (in parallel to the CEN/TS) until the final decision about the possible conversion of the CEN/TS into an EN is reached.

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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION  
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

**Management Centre: rue de Stassart, 36 B-1050 Brussels**

**CEN/TS 15211:2006 (E)**

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## **Foreword**

This document (CEN/TS 15211:2006) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 251 “Health Informatics”, the secretariat of which is held by NEN.

This document includes material first defined in draft standards of HL7 (an ANSI accredited Standards Development Organisation) for which HL7 holds the copyright.

The descriptions in this document are partly different due to the fact that the CEN rules for drafting and presentation of standards are different.

CEN/TC 251 wishes to express its gratitude towards HL7 experts for generously sharing their work with the expert team and to thank the HL7 organisation for allowing the reproduction of their material in this document.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to announce this CEN Technical Specification: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

## CEN/TS 15211:2006 (E)

### Introduction

Additional standards for representing CEN/TC 251 specifications may be developed for various technological approaches, e.g. for XML. These standards are called "Implementable Technology Specification" (ITS).

In developing this document for an XML ITS there has been the wish to harmonise with HL7 specifications, so that the health informatics industry in Europe and the USA can more easily be aligned. To this end a collaboration agreement was entered into in March 2000 between CEN/TC 251 and HL7. The goal was set for a maximum degree of alignment while maintaining their independence and need to serve the business requirements of the respective markets but also to make the results available to ISO for possible international standardisation.

This document differs from HL7 specifications in several areas:

- the CEN Data Types specification CEN/TS 14796 varies from the HL7 specifications in a number of respects. Some Data Types are not supported, while others are modified. The CEN/TS lists such changes where they have been identified;
- this document supports the CEN GPICs specification. Although comparable to HL7 CMETs in some ways, there are essential differences to be noted;
- this document supports CEN message specifications such as those used in the service messages specification;
- this document also supports an earlier version of CEN message specifications. This is an independent specification not linked to the three areas already identified.

In most other respects, this document is derived from the HL7 Version 3 XML ITS although partly described differently due to the fact that CEN is following the ISO rules for drafting and presentation of standards which HL7 is not.

NOTE Editor's note to the draft: The assistance of Charles McCay, Chair of the HL7 XML SIG in the preparation of this draft is gratefully acknowledged.

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