



CHECKLIST

5 things to consider for FHIR enablement

Healthcare

A new era of healthcare has arrived with Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR). To succeed, now organizations must be prepared to handle the influx of FHIR projects from trading partners, innovation and growth officers, regulatory requirements, and more. As healthcare organizations begin to evaluate their preparedness for FHIR integration, here are some of the most important questions to consider.

1. Is FHIR part of your interoperability strategy and plans for growth?

FHIR is here, and it is a strategic part of healthcare integration, as we see with new regulatory requirements that focus on FHIR APIs and innovative new projects to promote clinician and patient engagement. FHIR is rapidly becoming more critical in healthcare and a crucial part of the shifting interoperability landscape, so don't wait on regulations to begin developing your FHIR strategy; work on it now, so you are prepared when a new mandate is published.

2. How are you unlocking clinical data from legacy applications?

Many clinical applications, such as your electronic health record (EHR), claim they are FHIR-enabled, but in reality, they are constrained to specific resources or operations. To become truly FHIR-enabled, you could leverage your already significant investment of HL7 message interfaces and transform this wealth of data coming out of an EHR into FHIR bundles, which can take time, training, and extensive resources. You'll realize even greater value from your clinical data when that data is mapped into a format ingestible by innovative applications to improve provider engagement and patient outcomes.

3. Are you prepared for upcoming regulatory requirements?

As we have seen from the recently released final rules from Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC), FHIR is no longer optional for providers and payers. Instead of treating these mandates as a minimum requirement for your organization, position yourself for future success by partnering with an organization that can provide you with solutions to rapidly address these requirements and be well prepared for future mandates.

4. How quickly can FHIR be enabled?

To become FHIR-enabled, you need to send FHIR bundles via web services, a standard protocol supported by most integration engines. However, sending legacy clinical data in HL7v2 as a FHIR resource becomes significantly time consuming and complicated, when you consider the data transformation requirements and nuances. Leveraging a solution like Infor FHIR Bridge can speed up the process, as these more complex and extensible transformations are built and maintained by Infor developers who are experienced in healthcare integration and the evolving FHIR standard. The faster you realize the full value of FHIR for your organization, the sooner you can unlock the value of your legacy data and discover innovation opportunities across the healthcare ecosystem.

5. Is your vendor partner committed to FHIR development and providing solutions to enable FHIR for your organization?

To fully embrace the FHIR standard, multiple technologies must be combined in creating a FHIR ecosystem. Your vendor partner should ideally be able support the following activities. First, legacy data must be exposed in a FHIR-based way. Second, data must be stored as FHIR resources providing on-demand access for modern FHIR-based applications. Third, the perimeter of the organization must be secured to account for potential external threats. Infor provides exactly this combination of technologies with FHIR Bridge, FHIR Server, and API Gateway. This allows the flexibility to fully use FHIR across the organization, with the existing infrastructure, and beyond.

For a broader look at how you can FHIR-enable your healthcare organization, [read the FHIR enablement guide](#).

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