

Digital Diagnostics: Pathology and Laboratory Medicine in the NHS

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Lab/Pathology Standards

NHS Digital are developing the national standards for digital lab requests and results and how they are sent from labs to clinicians, amongst clinicians and between clinicians and patients.

Why is this being done now?

The Problem

The NHS is dependent on rapidly obsolescing standards for lab results coding and transmission. The NHS has used coded results to send to GPs for many years using the **Pathology Bounded Code List** (**PBCL**) in an **EDIFACT** message wrapper. The PBCL was coded using the now deprecated **Read Codes** terminology, making it **unsuitable** to meet the future needs of the NHS.

NHS Digital initiated a new lab results coding standard work under the title the Unified Test List (UTL), as the replacement for the PBCL.

The Solution

A set of standards enabling exchange of standardised test requests and results data; **the Unified Test List (UTL)**, units of measure and the message standards (FHIR). NHS Digital have rapidly scaled up coverage of lab test results in the UTL in the past year covering blood sciences, immunology and microbiology. <u>Termlex have been a key</u> partner in the creation of the UTL.

These standards also tie in with NHSX and NHS Digital guidance for use of SNOMED CT across all settings in healthcare.

Termlex can help you migrate your existing lab data to UTL and SNOMED CT!

Benefits of UTL

Ensures seamless transmission of lab results and requests in lab to lab, lab to GP and other settings.

Ensures lab results are trackable and comparable across different settings, improving patient safety and reducing duplicate testing.

Ensures secondary data analysis is accurate, driving up efficiency at a time of significant lab realignment and re-procurement activity.

UTL Creation Process

Adopting an empirical approach using most frequently used results/requests from NHS organisations.

Turning around new standardised lab test names (UTL) from labs and national bodies at volume and pace with clinical validation built in.

Engineering a logical model for content creation and maintenance, that can support AI/machine learning in the future.

The Result Rapid and high volume UTL development demonstrates Termlex expertise in standardising lab data.

About Us

Termlex is an healthcare start-up that aims to change the way healthcare data is exchanged and healthcare software is designed. Our team has internationally recognised experts in healthcare IT with long standing experience in projects in the UK and across the world.



SNOMED CT

Termlex employs world class terminologists who are grounded in clinical work and combine many years of experience in curating **SNOMED CT** and supporting deployment. We specialise in supporting the implementation SNOMED CT in clinical information systems and its maintenance in enterprise settings.

HEALTH INFORMATICS

We specialise in supporting organisations with their **terminology coding needs**. Our expertise is based on international experience of implementing **healthcare standards** and using them in clinical information systems. Our services and products enable our clients to adopt **SNOMED CT & FHIR** to easily and realise their benefits.

SOFTWARE and APIs

We have the skills and experience to:

- 1. Quickly evaluate requirements.
- 2. Rigorously analyse and represent domain knowledge using SNOMED CT terminology and FHIR messaging standards.
- 3. Support your interoperability requirements using APIs and creating bespoke solutions.