



Ministry of  
Health



# B.C. Health Information Standards Update

## October 2019

### KEEPING VENDORS INFORMED

### IN THIS ISSUE

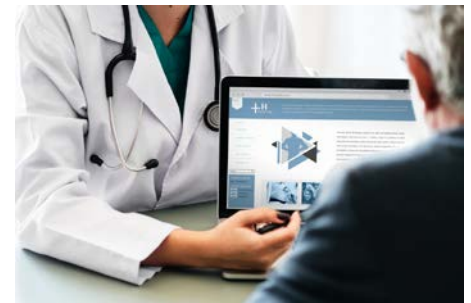
## A closer look at standards!

In this issue, we showcase standards work underway and take an in-depth look at the Provider and Location Registry.

Activities underway include:

- Consultations with stakeholders to inform a BC Conceptual Information Model.
- Discussions with business and academic partners to create:
  - Patient demographic standards for sex and gender and race, ethnicity, and language.
  - A social history value set aligned with the social determinants of health.

Over the next few months, we anticipate major progress to the patient demographic standards work. Draft standards on sex and gender as well as race and ethnicity, will be featured in upcoming issues.



**Provider and Location Registry**  
An in-depth review into the Provider and Location Registry to find out exactly what data is collected and who can access BC's provider-specific central repository.

### Exciting New Work Underway

- BC Conceptual Information Model
- Demographic Standards
- Social Determinants

## SUBSCRIBE TO THE NEWSLETTER

By subscribing to our newsletter, you can get e-mail notifications whenever a new issue is published to our website! To subscribe, visit the [Newsletters](#) page on the B.C. Health Information standards website, and enter your e-mail in the box on the right-hand side of the page.

## PROVIDER AND LOCATION REGISTRY

### What is the Provider and Location Registry?

- Provider and Location Registry (PLR) is a central data repository for all provider and location related health information in BC.
- The PLR provides health information exchange between organizations.

### How is access determined for the PLR?

- A signed agreement is used to indicate the rules for the sharing of provider information between users (sources and consumers).

### What are the methods of access?

- Web services for real-time interactions (preferred)
  - Real-time distribution of provider adds and updates to authorized consumers via HL7-V3 messages.
- Manual database extracts
  - Frequency: daily, weekly, monthly?
  - CSV, XML, or text files
- Web application
  - Stand alone user interface for adds and updates

### What are the provider data attributes?

#### Mandatory core data:

- Provider Identifier (College or MSP practitioner identifier)
- Identifier Type (e.g. CPSID)
- Provider Name
- Demographics (Gender and Date of Birth)
- License Status
- Contact Address

#### Other attributes (optional):

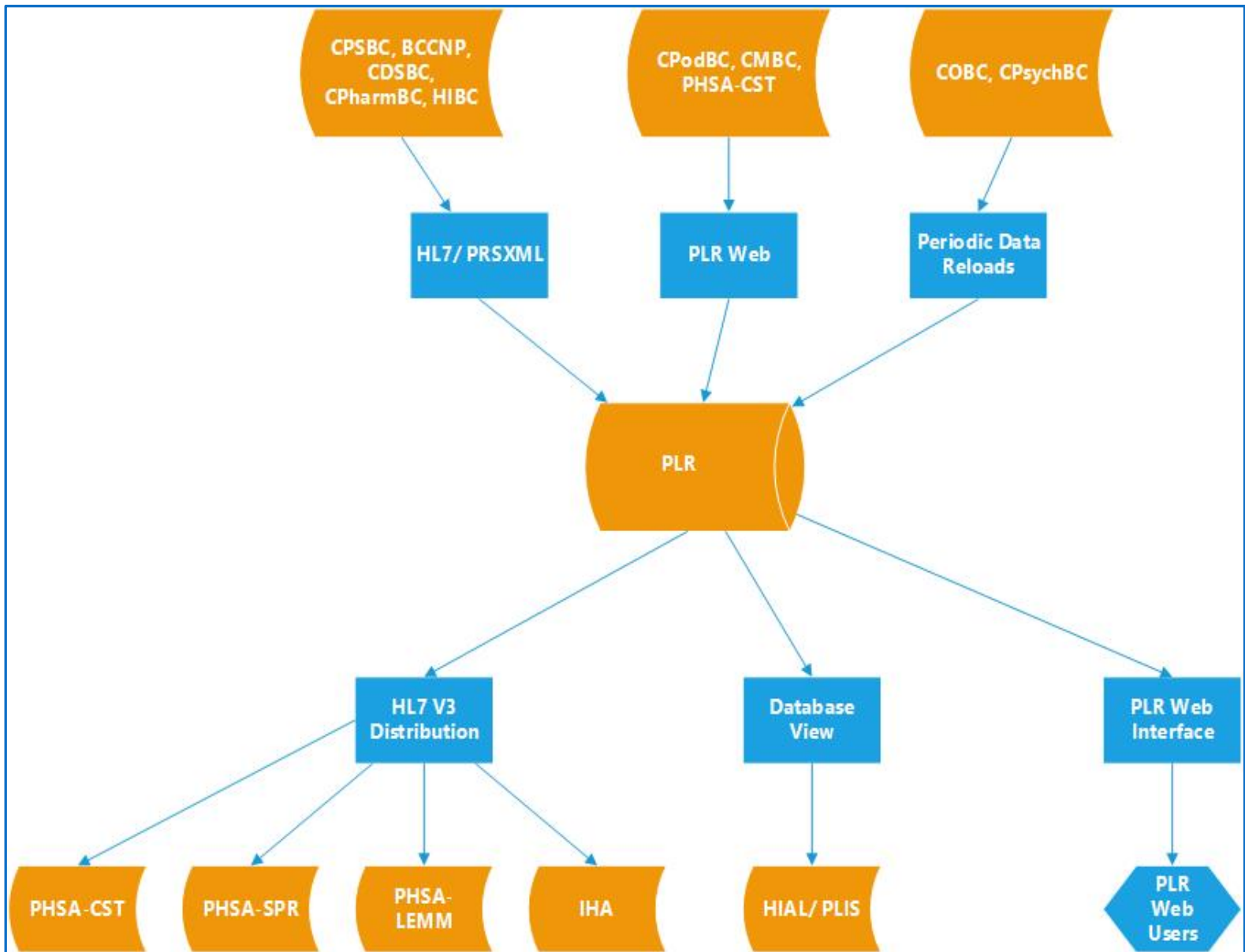
- Telephone, Fax, Email
- Expertise
- Credentials
- Language
- Work Location
- License Conditions

### Why would an EMR vendor integrate with the Provider and Location Registry?

Access to current name, location, contact information, or other details for physicians within the province are sometimes required by EMR vendors to populate lists of providers within the EMR for purposes such as referrals, letters, etc. Obtaining this information from the PLR using web services or regular database extracts provides a current, accurate source of data for this purpose that is designed to be “vendor friendly” and can replace other sources that may be less up-to-date or not designed for vendor use (E.g. the College of Physicians and Surgeons BC quarterly extract).

To connect to either the PLR or Client Registry (EMPI) systems, vendors can contact [HLTH.REGISTRIESADMIN@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.REGISTRIESADMIN@gov.bc.ca)

## Provider and Location Registry Context



## SNOMED CT Resources

SNOMED CT® E-Learning Server; <http://snomed.org/elearning>.

SNOMED International; SNOMED CT® Technical Implementation Guide; 2017; <https://confluence.ihtsdotools.org/display/DOCTIG>.

SNOMED International; SNOMED CT® Editorial Guide; 2017; <https://confluence.ihtsdotools.org/display/DOCEG>.

SNOMED International; SNOMED CT® Vendor Introduction; 2017;  
<https://confluence.ihtsdotools.org/display/DOCVENDOR/Vendor+Introduction+to+SNOMED+CT>.

## PLR Providers

Data Source	Provider Type(s)	Update Frequency	Data elements in PLR
College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC	Medical Doctors (including Residents and Fellows), Medical Students	Daily Batch file	Core Data* + Telephone, Fax, License Condition, Credential, Expertise, Preferred Language
College of Dental Surgeons of BC	Dentists	Daily Batch file	Core Data + Telephone, Email, Expertise, Credentials
College of Pharmacists of BC	Pharmacists	Daily Batch file	Core Data + Telephone, Email
BC College of Nursing Professionals	Registered Nurses, Registered Nurse Practitioners	Daily Batch file	Core Data + Telephone, Email, Credential, Expertise
College of Optometrists of BC	Optometrists	Quarterly data reload	Core Data + Telephone, Fax
College of Psychologists of BC	Registered Psychologists	Manually via web + annual reload	Core Data + Telephone, Fax, Email, Credentials
College of Midwives of BC	Registered Midwives	Manually via web	Core Data + Telephone, Fax, Email
College of Podiatric Surgeons of BC	Podiatrists	Manually via web	Core Data + Telephone, Fax
PHSA – VPP – HIM	Work location data across various provider types <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organization Providers</li> <li>- Out of Province Providers</li> </ul>	Manually via web	Work locations for BC registered providers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organization Providers</li> <li>- Out of Province Providers</li> </ul>
Health Insurance BC	All Provider Types	Daily Batch file	MSP ID

## Conformance & Integration Services Resources

Here are some resources for more information. Please don't hesitate to contact the Conformance & Integration Services team at [HLTH.CISSupport@gov.bc.ca](mailto:HLTH.CISSupport@gov.bc.ca) if you have any questions.

Health Information Standards Catalogue

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/health-information-standards/standards-catalogue>

Information on Integrating with Ministry of Health Systems

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/software>