

New Checkpoint: Review of Vendor-Specific and Local Terminology Usage

1. Identify and Address Unauthorized Terminology

- Any use of vendor-specific or local terminology in place of standard code systems must prompt an immediate review.
- Approval of Implementation Guides containing such terminologies by the FHIR Management Group (FMG) will be put **on hold** until standard terminologies or HL7 internal terminologies are implemented, and all related issues are resolved.
- Collaborate with the **Terminology Services Management Group (TSMG)** and the relevant project owners to ensure proper replacement of vendor-specific terms with appropriate **standard terminologies or HL7 internal terminologies**.
- While the **TSMG** is responsible for ensuring adherence to these processes at the project and Work Group levels, the **FMG** must halt IG progression to **ballot** or **formal publication** if the TSMG fails to detect or address the problem.

2. Check for Overlap with standard terminologies or HL7 internal terminologies

- Conduct a review of all terminology content for terms that may duplicate or overlap with **standard terminologies or HL7 internal terminologies** (e.g., SNOMED, LOINC).
- Ensure that standard terminologies or HL7 internal terminologies are used appropriately and that vendor-specific or local terms are **not substituting standard concepts**.
- Local or vendor terminologies may only be used:
 - **Within mapping tables** or
 - As “**Additional Bindings**” that are expressed as translations within [CodableConcept](#).

3. Review of Vendor-Specific or Local Terminology Permissions

- Confirm that the **vendor or originator** of the terminology is aware of its use within the IG.
- For any non-standard code system or terminology created by a vendor and used in the IG, ensure that **formal permission** or **licensing** has been obtained before its publication for ballot.