

mCODE Fact Sheet



Is mCODE proprietary?

No



Is mCODE open source?

Yes, it is freely available to the public on an open source basis under the [Creative Commons 0 License](#) (CC0). mCODE is available at the following link: [Access mCODE](#)



What is a “Creative Commons 0 License”?

This license enables creators and owners of copyright- or database-protected content to waive those interests in their works and thereby place them as completely as possible in the public domain, so that others may freely build upon, enhance and reuse the works for any purposes without restriction under copyright or database law. See [Creative Commons 0 License](#).



How is mCODE developed/who is allowed to provide input to mCODE?

mCODE is developed as a Health Level 7 standard through the [formal ballot process](#) in a consistent manner as most other major Health IT standards. The HL7 ballot process actively seeks feedback on a proposed standard and to ensure that the community using that standard is in agreement with the expectations set by the standard. No single organization has unilateral control over the definition of mCODE. mCODE is developed through a consensus process.



Who owns mCODE? If I leverage mCODE in my work, can I call it "mCODE"?

The mCODE name is trademarked by the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO). If users want to call a derivative work “mCODE” or reference a tools or capability as implementing or aligning with “mCODE” that requires ASCO review to denote something as “mCODE”. There is no cost associated with that approval and it is simply to ensure that derivative works or implementations are aligned with the mCODE standard. The mCODE data model, data dictionary, or implementation guide can be used in any way (even if not compatible) under the CC0 license as long as the result is not called “mCODE”.



Why does mCODE use a trademark?

The use of trademark by mCODE is entirely consistent with the use of trademark by the HL7 FHIR standard (and most standards for that matter). HL7®, HEALTH LEVEL SEVEN®, FHIR® and the FHIR 🔥® are trademarks owned by Health Level Seven International, registered with the United States Patent and Trademark Office. FHIR has a similar approval process for using the FHIR trademark in derivative works.

The use of trademark, CC0 license, and HL7 ballot process for development of mCODE are all entirely consistent with the [HL7 FHIR Standard](#).