EvidenceFocus

**Owning work group name:**
Clinical Decision Support

**Committee Approval Date:**
Initial PSS: June 22, 2018

**Contributing or Reviewing Work Groups:**
Clinical Decision Support, Biomedical Research and Regulation, Clinical Quality Information

**FHIR Resource Development Project Insight ID:**
1422

**Scope of coverage:**
The scope of the EvidenceFocus Resource is to define in one or more characteristics what the focus or subject of an EvidenceReport Composition is about. The EvidenceFocus Resource can describe a singular concept (such as a Citation Resource for a study report or a ResearchStudy Resource for a study protocol), or a combination of concepts such as the evidence about clinical outcomes comparing an intervention to control in a population. Such a combination of concepts can be used to express a question or search query.

**RIM scope:**

**Resource appropriateness:**

Across the academic and scientific community there is an extensive need to classify what reports are about, and to support precise searching for evidence in many different combinations. Standardization of expression of the focus or subject of search queries, search results, and specific artifacts (notably EvidenceReport Compositions) is needed to increase efficiency and precision across multiple groups accelerating the uptake of computable expression of biomedical evidence.

**Expected implementations:**

Immediate implementation is expected with the COVID-19 Knowledge Accelerator project and initial implementers include EBSCO Information Services, Evidence Partners (DistillerSR), and PICO Portal. Fast followers are expected to include Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), Cochrane, Duodecim Medical Publications Ltd (from the Finnish Medical Society), MAGIC (a project in Norway), and multiple consortia coordinating evidence processing for COVID-19 such as COVID-END.

**Content sources:**

No specific external content sources

**Example Scenarios:**

A large number of groups are classifying COVID-19 articles for multiple reasons: Do they include research results for human COVID-19? Are they about treatment, prevention or prediction? Do the methods include randomized trials or uncontrolled observations? These groups need to share a common EvidenceFocus (in this case the Citation Resource for the article being classified) to coordinate independent classification efforts.

A large number of groups are extracting data from COVID-19 research articles and reporting results in various formats. Many people need to find the resulting EvidenceReports of specific interest for a multitude of purposes. The EvidenceFocus Resource to describe the subject of the EvidenceReport Resources enables numerous combinations of search queries and search results.
Resource Relationships:

The EvidenceFocus Resource may reference Citation Resource, EvidenceVariable Resource, or any other FHIR Resource.
The EvidenceFocus Resource is referenced by the EvidenceReport Resource as the subject of the EvidenceReport.

Resource Boundaries:

No areas of confusion discovered yet.

Timelines:

Pre-applied (http://build.fhir.org/evidencefocus.html) for Connectathon 24. May be considered for September 2020 ballot.

gForge Users:

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When Resource Proposal Is Complete:

When you have completed your proposal, please send an email to FMGcontact@HL7.org

FMG Notes