The Gravity Project

Consensus-driven standards on social determinants of health

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**Quick Links**

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Meetings, Media and Communications

Workstreams and Governance
The goal of the terminology workstream is to create words and respective meanings for social risk and social needs so they can be applied and understood across the health and human services ecosystem.

The terminology workstream collectively crafts a representative data set for each social risk domain. The Gravity Project divides each data set into four activities—screening, diagnosis, goal setting, and interventions—in order to represent clinical processes and associated coded terminologies.

The technical workstream expands available social determinants of health (SDOH) data within electronic systems for interoperability and accelerates standards-based information exchange using HL7® Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR®). The technical workstream addresses the question of how to record, document, and exchange SDOH information across the health and human services ecosystem and across the four primary activities of care, while promoting individual privacy, safety, security, and accountability for patient records.
Processes, Principles and Materials
**Announcements**

**REMINDER: HL7 SDOH CC FHIR IG Public Meeting Wednesdays**

Agenda and meeting materials available [here](#).

**Gravity Pilots Affinity Workgroup, Kickoff Sep 29**

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our Gravity Pilots Affinity Workgroup! The Workgroup, sponsored by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC), AARP, and IHE USA, is a peer-to-peer learning forum for real-world testing of Gravity terminology and technical standards. Gravity Pilots Affinity Workgroup will hold monthly public meetings starting September 29, 2022 from 2:30pm to 4:00pm ET. We designed these meetings for participants to share successes and challenges, seek partnerships, and ask questions. Learn more about participating in our Pilots Affinity Workgroup [here](#). It’s an opportunity you won’t want to miss!

**Gravity SME Outreach Letter**

Help us recruit subject matter experts (SMEs) for our upcoming domains! The Gravity Project will address the domains of digital access and digital literacy, neighborhood safety, and food access, and we are looking for a wide range of community engagement. Please send notice within your communities of a need for SMEs, we have written a letter to assist [here](#).

**Gravity Value Set Authority Center (VSAC) Screening Assessment Value Sets**

In response to requests from implementers, Gravity Project is happy to announce the publishing of value sets including Gravity Project selected screening panels. The first release includes all Social Determinants of Health panel value sets (in line with USCDI) and screening panel value sets for our first domains of food insecurity, housing instability, homelessness, inadequate housing, and transportation insecurity. Over the next months the terminology team will build the remaining sets for our other domains. Each of these sets align with recommendations on our confluence and in our SDOH IG supplemental guide.

**Interoperability Standards Advisory Updates**

As part of the USCDIv3 updates, the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) has updated the Interoperability Standards Advisory (ISA) with the Gravity Project USCDI aligned broad social determinants of health (SDOH) VSAC value sets for each SDOH activity (screening, diagnosis, goal setting, and interventions). This is a significant step toward making our work more visible and assisting implementers and pilot sites.

**New Gravity Publication**

The EMI project team supporting the [ACL Social Referrals Challenge Project](#) partnered with one of the ACL Challenge teams to publish a success story on real world implementation of the Gravity standards. Check it out [here](#) and help us spread the word.

**NIH Connecting the Community for Maternal Health Challenge, Webinar Sep 8**

The National Institutes of Health has launched a $3 million challenge competition to encourage community-based and advocacy organizations in the United States to develop the infrastructure and capabilities necessary to conduct maternal health research. In addition to competing for cash prizes, participating organizations will receive training and mentoring in writing research proposals and building maternal health research infrastructure. This challenge is part of the [White House Blueprint for Addressing the Maternal Health Crisis](#). Preparatory webinars for this challenge start on Sep 8. The training activity application deadline is Sep 29. Learn more [here](#).

**SIREN Racial Health Equity Meeting Sep 15 - Oct 12**

The Social Interventions Research and Evaluation Network (SIREN), a national research acceleration and dissemination initiative dedicated to improving social risks and social conditions, is pleased to announce their Fall 2022 National Research Meeting, which will focus on improving the health equity impacts of social care through applying a racial equity model to social care practice and research. The meetings will be held on Sept 15, Sept 27, and Oct 12. Learn more and register for this free event [here](#).

**White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health, Sep 28**

The White House conference brings public and private sectors together to develop a food nutrition strategy to accelerate progress and drive transformative change in the U.S. The Administration will release a National Strategy with actions the federal government will take to advance solutions to these challenges. Learn more and register [here](#).
Domain Code Dashboard

The Gravity Project has created a dashboard which shows the status of domain specific codes across our four activities (Screeners, Diagnosis, Goals, and Interventions). Each domain has a spreadsheet that lists the codes available to date. The spreadsheets will be updated after major release dates. View the dashboard here.

Gravity ICD-10-CM Submission

The Gravity Project's multi-domain ICD-10-CM submission was presented by Sarah DeSilvey at the ICD-10-CM Coordination and Maintenance Committee Meeting on March 9th. View the Diagnosis Agenda containing Gravity's submission here (pg 81). A meeting recording is posted here. Thank you to all of you that have contributed to the development and review of this submission. A summary of the SDOH ICD-10-CM codes that were listed in the FY 2023 Inpatient Prospective Payment System Proposed Rule can be found here.

Gravity's Comments to CMS’s Proposal in 2023 Hospital IPPS Proposed Rule (CMS-1771-P)

The Gravity Project submitted comments to the CMS proposed rule on the Hospital Inpatient Prospective Payment System and associated changes for 2023, File No. CMS-1771-P, published May 10, 2022, and specifically on CMS’s welcome proposal to require two new screening measures in the Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR) Program to measure social drivers of health and integrate social drivers of health factors into Medicare quality reporting and payment. View comment letter here.

Gravity Response to CMS CY 2023 Medicare Advantage and Part D Proposed Rule (CMS-4192-P)


Gravity’s Response to the Request for Information (RFI) on Strengthening Community Health Through Technology

Please see Gravity response here to the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) request for information on how digital health technologies are used, or could be used in the future, to transform community health, individual wellness, and health equity.

Social Media

The Gravity Project is now official on social media! We invite you to follow us on LinkedIn and Twitter. We will be using the social media platforms for relevant project and SDOH data integration related communications. Help us spread the word!

Project Overview

The Social Interventions Research and Evaluation Network (SIREN), with funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and in partnership with EMI Advisors, LLC, launched the Gravity Project in May 2019. The Gravity Project convenes stakeholders across the country through an open and transparent collaborative process where they develop and test consensus-based standards to facilitate SDOH data capture and exchange across a variety of systems and settings of care and social services.

The Gravity Project seeks to identify data elements and associated value sets to represent SDOH information documented in electronic health records (EHRs) across four clinical activities: screening, diagnosis, goal setting, and intervention activities. The Project deliverables are:

- Develop use cases that guide the development of standards to support SDOH data capture and exchange;
- Identify common data elements and their associated value sets to support the use cases;
- Develop a consensus-based set of recommendations on how best to capture and group these data elements for interoperable electronic exchange and aggregation;
- Collaborate with coding and terminology organizations to address coding gaps identified and apply for new codes;
- Develop, test, and ballot HL7 FHIR Implementation Guide(s) based on the defined use cases and coded data sets; and
- Develop Reference Implementation(s) to support real-world pilots and implementations.

Project objectives will be accomplished through bi-weekly virtual meetings and collaborative project product development through the HL7 project confluence page.

Project Timeline

Updated 16 Aug 2022
Upcoming Gravity Project Meeting

Gravity Project Community Collaborative Meetings have been postponed. We encourage community members to remain engaged with the Gravity Project via our Gravity Pilots Affinity Workgroup.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Webinar Information</th>
<th>Homework Documents and Links</th>
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<tr>
<td>29 Sep 2022</td>
<td>2:30-4:00pm ET</td>
<td>Pilots Affinity Workgroup Meeting</td>
<td>Join Zoom Meeting [Link]</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11:30-1:00pm PT</td>
<td>Topic TBD</td>
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CLICK HERE FOR A FULL MEETING SCHEDULE
Click here for project documentation and deliverables.

Join the Gravity Project!

The success of the Gravity Project depends on the contribution of volunteers who are eager to make rapid progress on the standardization of social determinants of health data. We need experts to contribute to and validate definitions for SDH related data elements and value sets. Participants are asked to [join the project] at any time either as a Committed Member or Other Interested Party as part of the HL7 Consensus Process. To join the project, [sign up here].

- To check your project membership status, [click here]. If you wish to change your membership from Other Interested Party to Committed Member, please send an email request to GravityProject@emiadvisors.net.
- NOTE: Both member types can submit comments on project documentation. However, only Committed Members may vote on final documentation. If you would like to have voting rights, please change your membership status or [join the project] as a Committed Member.

Project Contacts

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[Image of Gravity 2022 Roadmap]

- **Health Literacy**
- **Health Insurance Coverage Status**
- **Medical Cost Burden**
- **Build and Dissemination**
- **Pilots**
- **Technical**
  - FHIR STU2 Bullet Reconciliation
  - FHIR STU2 Updates
  - Reference Implementation Update
  - HL7 FHIR Contributes
  - Pilots Affinity Workgroup
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