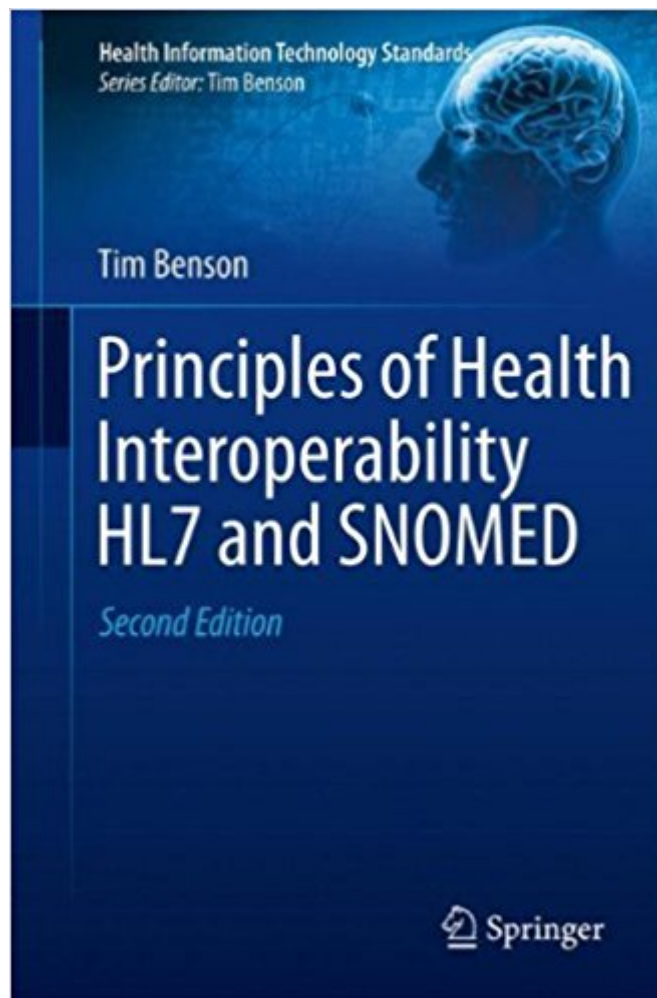




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Principles Of Health Interoperability HL7 And SNOMED (Health Information Technology Standards)



Synopsis

Health information technology (HIT) promises to deliver the right information at the right time and the right place. Everybody (patient, clinician, manager and payer) stands to benefit from more soundly based decisions, safer care and less waste, errors, delays and duplicated efforts. This depends on us using computers to share information and make it available when and where it is needed in a way that meets privacy requirements. We need to use appropriate standards to link systems together within and across organizations. Health Level 7 (HL7) and SNOMED CT are two of the key international standards, which underpin efforts to improve health care interoperability. HL7 provides the structure, rather like English grammar, while SNOMED CT provides words that computers can understand. This book provides an introduction to healthcare interoperability in general, and these standards in particular, setting out the core principles in a clear readable way for analysts, students and clinicians to understand. The second edition of this book has been completely revised and extended by four chapters, with new chapters on Privacy and IHE XDS (Cross-enterprise Document Sharing), clinical coding schemes and the SNOMED Concept Model. The book is organized in three parts. The first part covers the principles of health care interoperability, why it matters, why it is hard and why modelling is an important part of the solution. The second part covers the main HL7 standards: Version 2, Version 3 and CDA standards and related IHE profiles. The third part covers clinical terminology and SNOMED CT.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a revised review. I reviewed this book shortly after it came out and give it four stars. That was, however, a bit of a grumpy review. Since then I've made this book the mainstay of the health informatics lectures I do for the U of Minnesota. I would now give it four stars without reservation. In this domain there's no rival to this text. Overall it is a book aimed at an informatics student, written in a telegraphic style that is a good fit for a rather dry but terribly important topic. Only a portion of the book is about HL7 and SNOMED however. Of the 225 pages I found- 74 on modeling and markup topics better addressed in other books- 12 pages on SDOs- 81 pages on HL7 and CDA/CCR/CCD- 26 on SNOMED- 8 pages on using HL7 and SNOMED together. Although I would prefer much less coverage of modeling and markup and more on HL7/SNOMED integration, there's still more than enough material to occupy a typical first class in health informatics. This is a better book for my purposes than the informatics textbooks I've used to date. I hope there will be a 2nd edition. I know I'd buy it!

Health Interoperability is a very timely topic in the USA in large part because of the HITECH act and the huge amount of tax dollars that are going for Electronic Health Records and Information exchanges. Interoperability is impossible without sophisticated standards for both a grammar and vocabulary for health care that can be semantically interpreted by machines. HL7 V3 RIM is the grammar, and SNOMED-CT is the vocabulary that are needed to accomplish the goal of semantic interoperability. Before this book, a newcomer would have to read thousands of pages of white papers from HL7, IHE, and IHTSDO (International Standards Development Organizations), and attend meetings for years before seeing how these non trivial standards work together. I'm involved in projects at Kaiser Permanente that rely on SNOMED-CT and HL7. Most of our project managers, or even physician leaders in the organization are not experts in UML, XML, HL7, CDA, or SNOMED. They do not have the opportunity to spend hours reading separate books, attending tutorials or otherwise obtaining the knowledge in this book in an efficient way. Of course if you really want to know UML, or XML or any of these subjects in great depth, there are "better books" available. But this is the only book that puts it all together. I find it an advantage that it is under 300 pages. An interested person can read this book in just a few days, and will then know what otherwise would have been an epic effort to learn. I have given separate talks on many of these subjects, but in any single talk you could not hope to cover all of the material in this book. I have just ordered copies of this book to distribute to my project managers and developers.

Does a great job of easing into the details of why EHR is such a big deal, and how HL7 and

SNOMED play an integral part in a successful EHR strategy. Honestly, I thought this book was going to be torturously dry and boring, but I actually enjoyed the read. As an aside, I had this book on my desk today at work, and one of the ladies picked it up, read the back cover, told me I must be really smart, smiled, and turned and swished away. If I end up getting lucky because of this book, I'll be sure to come back and post an update.

This book offers a huge depth of information that I was not expecting. Very well written and clear in the explanations, it is obvious how knowledgeable that Mr. Benson is in the topics covered. The only "complaints" at all that I have regarding this book are these: 1) The paperback cover is not very durable and does not hold up well for such a heavily used reference (I preferred the prior version's hardback cover) 2) Many more pages should be dedicated to this book, to give the proper expanded coverage the topics deserve. With that being said, I cannot possibly give less than 5 stars for this excellent, "must have" companion!

Used this for a graduate level college course. Text was informative without being overly technical. Ideas and concepts are explained well easy to follow

Book provides enough details to understand overall picture and gives pointers for details. Diagrams are very clear and useful .

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