Messaging Workbench and Profiles

The profiles for NAACCR Volume V require version 6.8.19 or later of the Messaging Workbench; they may not work properly with older versions.

Each of the releases of Volume V includes a 'Constrainable' profile, and an 'Implementable' profile.

The Constrainable profiles have some fields and components set to 'Optional' for items that a single rule of 'Required or Empty' or 'Not Supported' does not apply to a majority of sending laboratories and receiving registries. For each of these, trading partners must explicitly decide if they will support the field or not.

The profiles that are 'Implementable' have had all of these optional fields fully constrained as per the recommended NAACCR Usage values in Volume V. In addition, the message structure has been modified slightly, as the HL7 ORU_R01 message structure cannot be parsed deterministically (proved in HL7, and the reason behind the other ORU messages introduced in HL7 v2.5.1). Therefore, to make the Implementable profile fully usable for testing and validation, some liberties were taken to modify the message structure to make it processable in all circumstances of validating messages. The primary change is to make the first segment of any segment group 'Required'.

An additional enhancement to the 'Implementable' profiles was to take advantage of an advanced feature of the Messaging Workbench whereby a different set of criteria for each OBX carrying results of a different Value Type is defined for validation. For instance, OBX segments carrying text or a coded result should not have the Units populated. These were put into place for the commonly used Value Types in Cancer Registry messaging (ST, TX, FT, CE, CWE, NM, and SN) for convenience in testing sample messages. In addition, values were established in the Table Library incorporated into the 'Implementable' profiles for all sample values used in the example messages in Volume V. These are primarily values in Table 0300 and 0363 for Namespace ID for the different organizations and providers identified in the sample messages.

Additionally, some of the maximum lengths of fields and components have been extended as the standard lengths from HL7 v2.5.1 were in some cases unrealistically short. This was done to ensure that commonly used data, especially the illustrative information in the example messages, is able to be validated against the 'Implementable' profiles without causing length errors. All the fields and components that have usage 'Required' have example/sample values in the profile, and many of those that have usage 'Required or Empty' have example values as well.

The OBX-5 Observation Value is Required as per NAACCR Volume V, and has been set to Required in the profiles. However, some laboratory results may be reported as incomplete or with bad specimens, and thus have no result value reported. These are never expected to appear in Cancer Registry messages, but if they do, then the profile usage must be relaxed to avoid an error message for a missing Required result value.