

Next Gen LOINC Committee

Draft principles of governance



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Regenstrief Institute

Better Care. Better Health.

Over its 20+ year history, the LOINC Committee has played a vital role in guiding LOINC development.

The overall goal is to preserve the success of this group as an advisory body to Regenstrief.

**It's time to set
ourselves up
for success in
the next epoch**

Document Version History

1.0 – First public draft for comment

Introduction

The LOINC vocabulary standard, developed by the Regenstrief Institute, Inc. is a coding system for laboratory test and other clinical measures used in electronic transactions between independent computer systems. The development of LOINC was initiated and continues to be directed by the Regenstrief Institute. Regenstrief maintains the LOINC database and supporting documentation, processes submissions and edits to the content, develops and curates accessory content (descriptions, hierarchies, other attributes, etc.), develops the RELMA mapping program, and coordinates LOINC releases.

In addition, Regenstrief continues to cultivate the LOINC community worldwide. To help guide the overall LOINC development, Regenstrief organized and leads the LOINC Committee of volunteers from academia, industry, and government that serve as an advisory group in defining the overall naming conventions and policies for the development process.

Over 20+ year history, LOINC development has been supported by many organizations, including the John A Hartford Foundation, the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (AHRQ), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute, the California Healthcare Foundation, the Radiological Society of North America, AHIMA Foundation, RTI International, the Regenstrief Foundation, the Regenstrief Institute, and the U.S. National Library of Medicine.

Mission

The purpose of the LOINC Committee is to serve as an advisory body to the Regenstrief Institute in its development and distribution of LOINC by establishing overall naming conventions and policies for the development process. Members of

Draft available for review at meeting.loinc.org

Big Picture Goals

Clarified and improved
LOINC Committee structure

Committee composition (lab, clinical, rad)

Officer roles defined

Committee membership clarified

A few categories (individual, organization, international affiliate)

Prerequisites (attendance, IP agreement)

Membership duration (pruning absentees)

Mission

The purpose of the LOINC Committee is to serve as an advisory body to the Regenstrief Institute in its development and distribution of LOINC by establishing overall naming conventions and policies for the development process. Members of the LOINC Committee also serve as subject matter experts in their domains of expertise.

LOINC Committee

Comprised of members of 3 composite committees:

- The Laboratory LOINC Committee
- The Clinical LOINC Committee
- The LOINC/RadLex Committee

Officers

Chair and Co-Chair

Serve as Chair of a composite committee

Appointed by Regenstrief after call for nominations

Two year renewable terms (alternating years)

Must be Members

Membership

Several possible categories

Approved by Secretariat
(Regenstrief)

NOT moving to fee-based
Committee membership

Membership

1. Have a direct and material interest in LOINC (i.e. they are users of LOINC)
2. Willingness to participate actively
3. Demonstrated commitment to LOINC as indicated by prior attendance of at least 3 prior meetings, and either making substantive contributions to the discussion OR submitting more than one term request
4. Have indicated which of the composite LOINC committees they wish to join
5. Have signed the then-current LOINC Committee Letter of Agreement

Membership Types

Individual

Person who meets the general qualifications (whether they work for a company or not)

No proxies / delegates

Organization

Attendance prerequisite need not be fulfilled by the same individual.

One primary and 2 proxy delegates for each composite committee they wish to join.

All delegates must sign the letter of agreement.

Standards Development Organization

Special “Org” category for those that develop consensus-based health data standards

Additional responsibilities:

- Develop standards complementary to LOINC

- Support the endorsement of LOINC to promote its uptake and use

- (Optional) Plan and organize joint events

- (Optional) Undertake joint projects

International Affiliate

Special “Org” category for government agencies, ministries of health, and other organizations with significant influence on the eHealth activities in a particular jurisdiction.

Can apply after one meeting.

International Affiliate

Promote LOINC adoption within their jurisdiction

Engage other relevant organizations within the area

Recruit experts to participate in special topics workgroups, etc

Serve as Liaison to Regenstrief and the LOINC Committee for communicating regional activities and needs

Optionally

- Plan and organize regional events

- Provide LOINC-related education training

- Curate the official LOINC subset for use within the jurisdiction

- Coordinate and sponsor translation of LOINC content

- Coordinate submission requests from users within the jurisdiction

- Maintain portal presence on LOINC website

- Develop implementation tools and resources relevant to their jurisdiction

Ex Officio

LOINC Content Team (non-voting)

LOINC Director (one vote)

Emeritus Status

Can be designated by Regenstrief and are held in perpetuity.

Composite LOINC Committees

Laboratory LOINC Committee

Focused on LOINC content representing observations, measures, documents (and collections thereof) made on specimens.

Officers:

- Chair and Co-Chair

- Appointed by RI following call for nominations

- Two year renewable terms

Clinical LOINC Committee

Focused on LOINC content representing observations, measures, documents (and collections thereof) made on patients, populations, devices, and other units of analysis.

Officers:

- Chair and Co-Chair

- Appointed by RI following call for nominations

- Two year renewable terms

LOINC/RadLex Committee

Oversees the development, use, and modification of The LOINC/RSNA Radiology Playbook.

Officers:

Chair and Co-Chair

One appointed by RI and the other by RSNA

LOINC/RadLex Committee

Membership

Members drawn from stakeholder organizations.

Must meet the general qualifications for membership

Will hold membership in the overall LOINC Committee.

Each co-chair will appoint up to three (3) additional committee members. Additionally, the co-chairs, by mutual agreement, will select up to three (3) at-large members representing other stakeholder organizations. The total number of committee members will thus not exceed eleven (11).

Nursing Subcommittee

A subcommittee of the Clinical LOINC Committee

Purpose

Provide LOINC codes for observations at key stages of the nursing process, including assessments, goals, and outcomes, and to meet the needs for administrative and regulatory data related to nursing care.

Officers

Chair

Appointed by RI following call for nominations

Two year renewable terms

Special Task Forces or Workgroups

Can be formed ad hoc by RI to assist the Committee

We've got a bunch cooking now

Can include members and non-members

Could be promoted/converted to Subcommittee if persistent need

Membership

Duration

Two years, renewable as long as membership conditions are met

We benefit ***greatly*** from long-term participants and want to encourage sustained contributions

Attendance / Voting

Attendance at committee meetings is an obligation of membership (virtual or in-person).

Missing 3 consecutive meetings = lapsed.

A Member can reinstate themselves by attending 2 consecutive meetings, with their voting privileges enabled at the 2nd meeting.

Terminating Membership

It can happen.

Tell us if you want to terminate.

Members failing to attend meetings in their designated Committees for 2 years will automatically be removed from the membership roster. Such Members can apply to be reinstated when they meet the general conditions for membership again.

The Regenstrief Institute may terminate the Membership of any Member upon judgment that it has acted in violation of the mission of the LOINC Committee or the LOINC License.

Meeting Conduct

We operate in an open manner, affording all Members an adequate opportunity to present their views

Whenever possible, the Committee will make its decisions by consensus.

Actions that require Committee approval include:

- Formation of a new Committee/Subcommittee

- Significant changes to the overall naming conventions

- Significant changes to policies for the development process

- Recommendations for new work projects or development activities to be considered for RI's work plan

Letter of Agreement

Clarifies RI's and your legal rights

See current draft document (handout)

Feedback

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