



MODERNIZING THE NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS SYSTEM (NVSS) PROJECT

Learn more about modernization on our website!
www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/modernization/index.htm

Standardizing
mortality data for
improved
interoperability

MAKING PROGRESS!

THE MORTALITY DATA INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP TO IMPROVE HEALTH

On June 11, the Mortality Data Interagency Working Group to Improve Health (IWG) met virtually for their second convening. The federal agencies and programs represented at

The IWG offers a unique opportunity for its members to share information and collaborate on projects and research to improve mortality data timeliness, quality and use, providing value to its members and to the nation.

the meeting have formed subgroups and are working together initially on pilots and initiatives with the jurisdictions. Already the subgroup is making progress, drafting boiler-plate language for CDC's notice of funding opportunity announcements that includes various supports for vital records. To learn more about the IWG, visit the recently updated Modernizing the NVSS website, [here](#).

INTEROPERABILITY IS KEY

The CAMH* team is continuing its work developing FHIR (Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources) profiles and reference implementations for mortality data.

FHIR is a standard for exchanging health information electronically, using application programming interfaces (APIs). APIs and the FHIR standard enable health systems to communicate with one another using a common language. For system developers, this is a plus since they can more easily and accurately create software that communicates with other systems that use the same FHIR standards. These FHIR standards can improve mortality data transmission processes, from death certification, through submission to the National Center for Health Statistics, and to the return of coded records to the submitting jurisdiction. The CAMH work builds on previous FHIR standards collaboration between Georgia Tech and CDC, and content developed by the [Standard Health Record Collaborative](#). The FHIR profiles are freely available [online](#).

GOING PUBLIC!

DEMONSTRATING INTEROPERABILITY CAPABILITIES WITH OUR PARTNERS

The CAMH team demonstrated their in-development FHIR For Death Reporting application - which uses SMART on FHIR - at the National Association of Public Health Statistics and Information Systems (NAPHSIS) annual meeting during an

interoperability showcase. The demonstration consisted of: launching the application from within an Epic electronic health record (EHR) system, loading a decedent's medical history from the EHR using FHIR, filling out the decedent's cause of death, then submitting the death record to the Utah Electronic Death Entry Network electronic death registration system. This demo, along with other vital records interoperability demonstrations, provided meeting attendees with a clear picture of the possibilities for interoperability. This app is based on software originally created as part of a collaboration between Georgia Tech and the CDC. The app is freely available [online](#).



* CAMH = Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Alliance to Modernize Healthcare (CAMH), a federally funded research and development center (FFRDC) operated by the MITRE Corporation, a not-for-profit organization