



Designation: E 2212 – 02a

Standard Practice for Healthcare Certificate Policy¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This practice covers a policy (“the policy”) for digital certificates that support the authentication, authorization, confidentiality, integrity, and nonrepudiation requirements of persons and organizations that electronically create, disclose, receive, or otherwise transact health information.

1.2 This practice defines a policy for three classes of certificates: (1) entity certificates issued to computing components such as servers, devices, applications, processes, or accounts reflecting role assignment; (2) basic individual certificates issued to natural persons involved in the exchange of health information used for healthcare provisioning; and (3) clinical individual certificates issued to natural persons and used for authentication of prescriptive orders relating to the clinical treatment of patients.

1.3 The policy defined by this practice covers: (1) definition of healthcare certificates, healthcare certification authorities, healthcare subscribers, and healthcare relying parties; (2) appropriate use of healthcare certificates; (3) general conditions for the issuance of healthcare certificates; (4) healthcare certificate formats and profile; and (5) requirements for the protection of key material.

1.4 The policy establishes minimum responsibilities for healthcare certification authorities, relying parties, and certificate subscribers.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E31 on Healthcare Informatics, and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E31.20 on Data and System Security for Health Information.

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