



Standard Guide for Quality Indicators for Health Classifications¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E2522; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This international standard is intended to document principal ideas which are necessary and sufficient to assign value to a classification. The standard will serve as a guide for governments, funding agencies, terminology developers, terminology integration organizations, and the purchasers and users of classification systems toward improved terminological development and recognition of value in a classification. It is applicable to all areas of health about which information is kept or utilized. Appropriately, classifications should be evaluated within the context of their stated scope and purpose. It is intended to complement and utilize those notions already identified by other national and international standards bodies. This standard explicitly refers only to classifications. This international standard will also provide classification developers and authors with the quality guidelines needed to construct useful, maintainable classifications. These tenets do not attempt to specify all of the richness which can be incorporated into a classification. However, this standard does specify the minimal requirements, which if not adhered to will assure that the classification will have limited generalizability and will be very difficult if not impossible to maintain. We have used the word “Shall” to indicate mandatory requirements and the word “Should” to indicate those requirements which we feel are desirable but may not be widely achievable in current implementations. Classifications, which do not currently meet these criteria, can be in compliance with this standard by putting in place mechanisms to move toward these goals. This standard will provide classification developers with a sturdy starting point for the development of useful classifications. This foundation serves as the basis from which classification developers will build robust concept systems.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *Normative References*—The following normative documents contain provisions, which through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this Guide E2522. For dated

references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on Guide E2522 are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of ISO and IEC maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

2.2 ASTM Standards:²

E1238 Specification for Transferring Clinical Observations Between Independent Computer Systems (Withdrawn 2002)³

E1239 Practice for Description of Reservation/Registration-Admission, Discharge, Transfer (R-ADT) Systems for Electronic Health Record (EHR) Systems

E1284 Guide for Construction of a Clinical Nomenclature for Support of Electronic Health Records (Withdrawn 2007)³

E1384 Practice for Content and Structure of the Electronic Health Record (EHR)

E1633 Specification for Coded Values Used in the Electronic Health Record

2.3 ISO Standards:⁴

ISO 704 Principles and Methods of Terminology

ISO/DIS 860 International Harmonization of Concepts and Terms

ISO 1087-2 Terminology—Vocabulary—Part 2: Computer Applications

ISO 11179-3 Terminology—Data Registries

ISO 12200 Terminology—Computer Applications—Machine Readable Terminology Interchange Format

ISO 12620 Terminology—Computer Applications—Data Categories

ISO 15188 Project Management for Terminology Standardization

¹ This guide is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E31 on Healthcare Informatics and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E31.35 on Healthcare Data Analysis.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

³ The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.

⁴ Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, <http://www.ansi.org>.