

CDA GENERATION AND INTEGRATION FOR HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE USING CLOUD COMPUTING SYSTEM

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ABSTRACT:

Successful deployment of Electronic Health Record helps improve patient safety and quality of care, but it has the prerequisite of interoperability between Health Information Exchange at different hospitals. The Clinical Document Architecture (CDA) developed by HL7 is a core document standard to ensure such interoperability, and propagation of this document format is critical for interoperability. Unfortunately, hospitals are reluctant to adopt interoperable HIS due to its deployment cost except for in a handful countries. A problem arises even when more hospitals start using the CDA document format because the data scattered in different documents are hard to manage. In this paper, we describe our CDA document generation and integration Open API service based on cloud computing, through which hospitals are enabled to conveniently generate CDA documents without having to purchase proprietary software. Our CDA document integration system integrates multiple CDA documents per patient into a single CDA document and physicians and patients can browse

the clinical data in chronological order. Our system of CDA document generation and integration is based on cloud computing and the service is offered in Open API. Developers using different platforms thus can use our system to enhance interoperability.

INTRODUCTION

Electronic Health Record (EHR) is longitudinal collection of electronic health information for and about persons, where health information is defined as information pertaining to the health of an individual or health care provided to an individual and it can support of efficient processes for health care delivery [1]. In order to ensure successful an operation of EHR, a Health Information Exchange (HIE) system need to be implemented [2]. However, most of the HIS in service have different characteristics and are mutually incompatible [3], [4]. Hence, effective health information exchange needs to be standardized for interoperable health information exchange between hospitals.

Especially, clinical document standardization lies at the core of guaranteeing interoperability.

Health Level Seven has established CDA as a major standard for clinical documents [5]. CDA is a document markup standard that specifies the structure and semantics of 'clinical documents' for the purpose of exchange. The first version of CDA was developed in 2001 and Release 2 came out in 2005 [6]. Many projects adopting CDA have been successfully completed in many countries [7], [8], [9]. Active works are being done on improving semantic interoperability based on openEHR and CEN13606 [10], [11].

To establish confidence in HIE interoperability, more HIS's need to support CDA. However, the structure of CDA is very complex and the production of correct CDA document is hard to achieve without deep understanding of the CDA standard and sufficient experience with it. In addition, the HIS development platforms for hospitals vary so greatly that generation of CDA documents in each hospital invariably requires a separate CDA generation system. Also, hospitals are very reluctant to adopt a new system unless it is absolutely necessary for provision of care. As a result, the adoption rate of EHR is very low except for in a few handful countries such as New Zealand or Australia [12]. In the USA, the government implemented an incentive program called the Meaningful Use Program to promote EHR adoption among hospitals [13].

When a patient is diagnosed at a clinic, a CDA document recording the diagnosis is

generated. The CDA document can be shared with other clinics if the patient agrees. The concept of family doctor does not exist in Korea, hence it is common for a patient to visit a number of different clinics.

The exchange of CDA document is triggered in the following cases: when a physician needs to study a patient's medical history; when referral and reply letters are drafted for a patient cared by multiple clinics; when a patient is in emergency and the medical history needs to be reviewed.

EXISTING SYSTEM:

- ❖ Effective health information exchange needs to be standardized for interoperable health information exchange between hospitals. Especially, clinical document standardization lies at the core of guaranteeing interoperability.
- ❖ It takes increasing amount of time for the medical personnel as the amount of exchanged CDA document increases because more documents means that data are distributed in different documents. This significantly delays the medical personnel in making decisions. Hence, when all of the CDA documents are integrated into a single document, the medical personnel is empowered to review the patient's clinical history conveniently in chronological order per clinical section and the follow-up care service can be delivered more effectively. Unfortunately for now, a solution that integrates multiple CDA documents into one does not

exist yet to the best of our knowledge and there is a practical limitation for individual hospitals to develop and implement a CDA document integration technology.

DISADVANTAGES OF EXISTING SYSTEM:

- ❖ The HIS development platforms for hospitals vary so greatly that generation of CDA documents in each hospital invariably requires a separate CDA generation system. Also, hospitals are very reluctant to adopt a new system unless it is absolutely necessary for provision of care. As a result, the adoption rate of EHR is very low except for in a few handful countries.
- ❖ Unfortunately for now, a solution that integrates multiple CDA documents into one does not exist yet to the best of our knowledge and there is a practical limitation for individual hospitals to develop and implement a CDA document integration technology.
- ❖ To establish confidence in HIE interoperability, more HIS's need to support CDA. However, the structure of CDA is very complex and the production of correct CDA document is hard to achieve without deep understanding of the CDA standard and sufficient experience with it.

PROPOSED SYSTEM:

- ❖ In this paper we present (1) a CDA document generation system that generates CDA

documents on different developing platforms and (2) a CDA document integration system that integrates multiple CDA documents scattered in different hospitals for each patient.

- ❖ CDA Generation API generates CDA documents on cloud.
- ❖ CDA Generation Interface uses the API provided by the cloud and relays the input data and receives
- ❖ CDA documents generated in the cloud.
- ❖ Template Manager is responsible for managing the CDA documents generated in the cloud server. Our system uses CCD document templates.
- ❖ CDA Generator collects patient data from hospitals and generates CDA documents in the template formats as suggested by the Template Manager.
- ❖ CDA Validator inspects whether the generated CDA document complies with the CDA schema standard.

ADVANTAGES OF PROPOSED SYSTEM:

- ❖ Hospital systems can simply extend their existing system rather than completely replacing it with a new system. Second, it becomes unnecessary for hospitals to train their personnel to generate, integrate, and view standard-compliant CDA documents.
- ❖ The cloud CDA generation service produces documents in the CDA format approved by the

National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

- ❖ If this service is provided for free at low price to hospitals, existing EHR are more likely to consider adoption of CDA in their practices.

Interoperability between hospitals not only helps improve patient safety and quality of care but also reduce time and resources spent on data format conversion.

IMPLEMENTATION

MODULES:

- ❖ Construction of System Environment
- ❖ The CDA Document
- ❖ Construction of a Cloud Computing Environment
- ❖ Integration of CDA Documents via Our Cloud Server

MODULES DESCRIPTION:

Construction of System Environment

- ❖ In the first module we develop the Construction of the System Environment to prove our proposed system model. In this module we develop Hospital A, Hospital B, Doctor, Patient/User, Admin and Cloud Modules.
- ❖ In Hospital A, we create the User Authorization with Login Credentials. This module provides the option of Upload the Patient details as XML File in the Cloud with Encrypted and also provides the option to check the status of the

uploaded file with the XML Format. The same is followed in the Hospital B too.

- ❖ In the Admin part, we provide the Admin Authorization with login Credentials and view pending request of users and doctors. The admin only give Approval to the request by sending secret key to user/doctor to access the file.
- ❖ In cloud Login, view the patient details in the XML format which is acquired from CDA.

The CDA Document

- ❖ In this module we develop the CDA document. The HL7 Clinical Document Architecture Release 2 (CDA R2) was approved by American Nation Standards Institute. It is an XML-based document markup standard that specifies the structure and semantics of clinical documents, and its primary purpose is facilitating clinical document exchanges between heterogeneous software systems.
- ❖ A CDA document is divided into its header and body. The header has a clearly defined structure and it includes information about the patient, hospital, physician, etc. The body is more flexible than the header and contains various clinical data.
- ❖ Each piece of clinical data is allocated a section and given a code as defined in the Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes (LOINC). Different subcategories are inserted in a CDA document depending on the purpose

of the document, and we chose the Continuity of Care Document (CCD) because it contains the health summary data for the patient and it is also widely used for interoperability.

Construction of a Cloud Computing Environment

- ❖ In this module we develop the Cloud computing environment. We use DriveHQ Cloud Service provider to upload our files in the Cloud.
- ❖ In this module, we develop the construction of a Cloud Computing Environment and how multiple CDA documents are integrated into one in our CDA Document Integration System. The standard for this is Korean Standard for CDA Referral and Reply Letters (Preliminary Version). Templates which generate a CDA use CCD part of Consolidated CDA which is released by ONC and made by HL7. However, an actually generated CDA has a form of CDA Referral and Reply Letters.
- ❖ The rationale for CDA document integration is as followed. When CDA-based HIE (Health Information Exchange) is actively used among hospitals, the number of CDA documents pertaining to each patient increases in time. Physicians need to spend a significant portion of their time on reading these documents for making clinical decisions.
- ❖ At a hospital, the CDA documents to be integrated are processed through our CDA

Integration API. The CDA Integration Interface relays each CDA document sent to the cloud to the CDA Parser, which converts each input CDA document to an XML object and analyzes the CDA header and groups them by each patient ID. The CDA Document Integrator integrates the provided multiple CDA documents into a single CDA document. In this process, the data in the same section in the document body are merged.

Integration of CDA Documents via Our Cloud Server

- ❖ We integrated multiple CDA documents of patient referrals and replies by using the API at our server. The use case scenario and patient data used for integration are shown in this module.
- ❖ We adopted sample patient data provided by the US EHR Certification Program, Meaningful Use. The data does not pertain to an actual person. It is fictional, and available for public access. This module is to show how a client integrating multiple CDA documents by using our API. The sample many clinical documents are shown to be successfully integrated.

SCREENSHOTS:



Fig: Home Page



Fig: Cloud Login Page

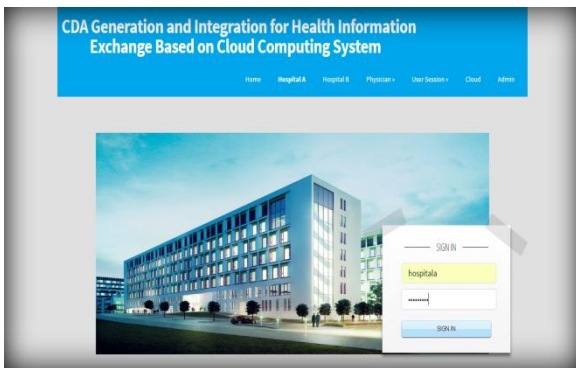


Fig: Hospital A Login



Fig: CDA Generation



Fig: Hospital A Home

CONCLUSION

As the number of HIE based on CDA documents increases, interoperability is achieved, but it also brings a problem where managing various CDA documents per patient becomes inconvenient as the clinical information for each patient is scattered in different documents. The CDA document integration service from our cloud server adequately addresses this issue by integrating multiple CDA documents that have been generated for individual patients. The clinical data for the patient in question is provided to his/her doctor in chronological order per section so that it helps physicians to practice evidence-based medicine. In the field of document-based health information exchange, the IHE XDS profile is predominant and our cloud computing

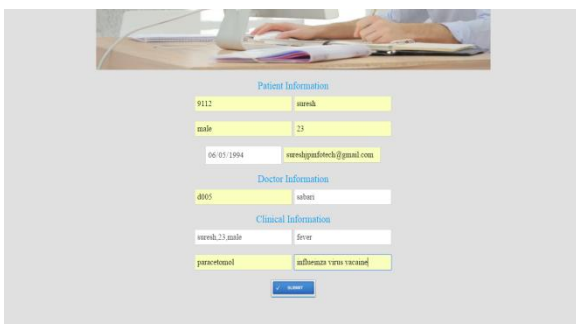


Fig Upload Report

system can be readily linked with the IHE XDS profile.

The approach employed in this paper is applicable in adopting other standards, too, such as the EHR Extract based on openEHR. If a hospital sends the content archetype, admin archetype, and demographic archetype to the cloud server, then the server extracts necessary information from each archetype. Next, it generates an Extract containment structure that fits with a designated template and returns the structure to the requested hospital.

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