



EHR Developer Code of Conduct

Implementation Guidance for EHR Developers

Adoption

- Any company that develops EHRs, regardless of membership in the Electronic Health Record Association (EHRA), should consider adopting the EHR Developer Code of Conduct.
- The Code is adopted at the discretion of each individual company.
- Recognizing that companies have different business models and practices, companies that adopt the Code will be responsible for determining their specific application of the Code consistent with the spirit of the Code's principles.
- Adoption of the Code means that the company is committed to all of its principles and has completed or is underway in the implementation of the practices needed to apply these principles within the company. These practices could include:
 - Executive leadership involvement;
 - Educating staff about their obligations under the Code of Conduct;
 - Setting up procedures to monitor business adoption;
 - Ability to communicate to their stakeholders their plan and activities related to the Code of Conduct.
- Version 2 of the EHR Developer Code of Conduct was made available in February 2016. Organizations that already had adopted Version 1 before February 2016 should move to Version 2 before July 1, 2017, after which Version 1 will no longer be considered valid by the Association and cannot be referenced as "current adoption" anymore. Companies adopting the Code after February 2016 can only adopt Version 2. It is important to understand that Version 2 builds on Version 1 and adds important new tenets that extend and reinforce your organization's commitment to operate with integrity and transparency.
- The EHRA utilizes the information we gather about Code adoption for internal purposes only and does not share or publicize a list of adopters. Therefore, the EHRA encourages companies that have adopted the Code to complete a [brief survey](#) as notification of adoption; this is not, however, a requirement.

Company Promotion/Marketing

- Promotion of each company's adoption of the Code can be incorporated on their website and in marketing materials.
- Companies can link from their website to the to the EHRA website for details about the Code.



- Once the Code is made public, we expect that customers, prospective customers, and other stakeholders will ask individual companies whether they have adopted the Code and how they are implementing it. Companies should be prepared for these requests.

Use of Logo

This is the official logo of the second version of the EHR Developer Code of Conduct, released in 2016:



Companies that choose to display the Code logo on their website need to follow the guidelines below.

- To ensure that the logo remains visible and vibrant, there should be a safe area of .25” around all sides of the logo. Do not reproduce the logo smaller than 1” in height.
- Questions regarding use of the EHR Developer Code of Conduct logo should be directed to ehrcodeofconduct@himss.org.
- To download the JPG version of these logos, please visit the website: <http://www.ehra.org/ASP/codeofconduct.asp>

Use of the aforementioned in any manner other than as described in this Implementation Guidance is prohibited unless express permission is granted by the EHRA.

Role of the EHRA

- The EHRA is the developer and sponsor of the EHR Developer Code of Conduct. The Association will make available the Code of Conduct (including FAQs) and the Code Implementation Guide for EHR Developers on the Association’s website.
- The EHRA will publicize and promote the Code of Conduct and encourage all EHR developers to adopt the principles described in it, and to promote their adoption to customers, prospects, employees, and stakeholders. While the adoption of the Code is at the discretion of each individual company, we strongly encourage all EHR developers to adopt the Code of Conduct.
- The Association will make available marketing guidelines that can be used by EHR developers that choose to publicize their adoption of the Code.



- As part of the overall EHRA website, we link directly to the websites of all of our member companies. If an individual member company chooses to promote their adoption of the Code of Conduct via marketing materials, we can use the URL where this information is posted as the link on the Association’s website at the company’s request, enabling easy access to information regarding the company’s adoption of the Code.
- The Association will consider the principles in the Code of Conduct as a basis for our key position statements, as applicable.
- Periodically, the EHRA will review and evaluate the need to make any changes to the Code.
- The EHRA will communicate and provide education to EHR developers regarding any additions and/or revisions to the Code of Conduct or the Implementation Guide and will provide an updated logo and marketing guidelines to reflect a new version. EHR developers who are not members of the Association who wish to receive information about updates to the Code of Conduct should provide their contact information to the ehrcodeofconduct@himss.org.
- At such time when a new version of the Code of Conduct is available, EHR companies will have the opportunity to make the decision to adopt the updated version of the Code of Conduct.
- Questions or suggestions related to the EHR Developer Code of Conduct should be directed to ehrcodeofconduct@himss.org.

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