



## What is HL7?

Health Level Seven, or [HL7](#), is the international messaging standard for the transfer of health data between systems.

HL7 is the message format used by ALERT IIS for immunization data exchange.

ALERT IIS follows the American Immunization Registration Association (AIRA) recommended best practices for immunization messages using the CDC HL7 v. 2.5.1. Both the CDC and Oregon's HL7 guidance can be found on the [OIP data exchange web page](#).

## What is Data Exchange?

Data exchange (DX) is the system-to-system sharing of patient information between a Electronic Health Record (EHR) system, used by a healthcare provider, and an Immunization Information Systems (IIS). The Oregon Immunization Program (OIP) uses data exchange to electronically receive immunization information entered into the electronic health record by the provider organization to create or update an ALERT IIS patient record. Electronic health record systems can also electronically request data for a patient and the ALERT IIS then returns messages which include full patient history and/or any recommended vaccines that may be needed in real time.

## Why is it important?

Using data exchange allows for more complete, timely and accurate immunization reporting while reducing the need for clinic staff to enter immunization records in multiple systems. OIP maintains ALERT IIS and collaborates with EHR partners to ensure the accuracy of Oregon immunization data.

## Get Started with Data Exchange

Immunizing organizations in Oregon that would like to establish data exchange between ALERT IIS and their EHR or a similar system can visit the [OIP Data Exchange website](#) for more information and to request changes.

To establish data exchange with ALERT IIS an organization will do the following:

Step 1:  
[Enroll](#) organization  
in ALERT IIS

Step 2:  
Submit [DX request form](#)

Step 3:  
Test & Implement  
DX connection