

General Guidelines

This guide uses a number of common guidelines that apply to the following HL7 message types:

- [Admission, Discharge and Transfer](#)
- [Observation Result](#)
- [Patient Problem](#)
- [Medication and Immunization](#)

Any deviations from these guidelines are documented in the specific message type or segments page.

IN THIS TOPIC
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Date and Time Processing• Escape Sequences• Universal ID as a Distinguishing Identifier