



Continua®

## H.812.2 Questionnaire Capability

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## Table of Contents

<b>0 INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>5</b>
0.1 ORGANIZATION .....	6
0.2 CCC GUIDELINE RELEASES AND VERSIONING .....	6
0.3 WHAT'S NEW .....	6
<b>1 SCOPE .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>2 REFERENCES.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>3 DEFINITIONS .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>4 ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>5 CONVENTIONS.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>6 USE CASES.....</b>	<b>8</b>
6.1 RETRIEVE A LIST OF QUESTIONNAIRES TO-BE-COMPLETED BY A PATIENT .....	8
6.2 RETRIEVE A SPECIFIC QUESTIONNAIRE AND LET THE PATIENT FILL IT IN .....	8
6.3 UPLOAD THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE TO THE PATIENT RECORD .....	8
6.4 RETRIEVE A LIST OF COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRES FROM THE PATIENT RECORD.....	8
6.5 RETRIEVE A SPECIFIC QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE FROM THE SERVER .....	8
<b>7 BEHAVIORAL MODELS .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>8 IMPLEMENTATION .....</b>	<b>11</b>
8.1 CONTENT REPRESENTATION .....	11
8.2 TRANSPORT PROTOCOL .....	11
<b>ANNEX A NORMATIVE GUIDELINES .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>APPENDIX I ATOM FEED INFORMATION ELEMENTS .....</b>	<b>19</b>
I.1 INFORMATION FOR QUESTIONNAIRE IN THE ROOT.XML.....	20
I.2 INFORMATION FOR QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE IN THE ROOT.XML .....	21

## Figures

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Figure 7-1 – Transactions between PHG and Health & Fitness Service related to questionnaire use cases .....	10
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**Tables**

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Table A-1 – Normative Guidelines for Questionnaire Enabled PHG.....	12
Table A-2 – Normative Guidelines for Questionnaire Enabled Health & Fitness Service.....	16
Table I-1 – ATOM feed child elements for questionnaires .....	19
Table I-2 – ATOM feed child elements for questionnaire responses .....	20

## 0 Introduction

The Continua Design Guidelines (CDG) define a framework of underlying standards and criteria required to ensure the interoperability of devices used for applications monitoring personal health and wellness. It also contains additional design guidelines for interoperability that further clarify or reduce the options in underlying standards or specifications, or by adding a feature missing in an underlying standard or specification.

Patient reported outcomes measures (PROMs) are increasingly needed to improve the cost effectiveness and quality of health services. This document defines design guidelines for the Questionnaire Certified Capability Class (CCC), whose function is to enable the interoperable exchange of PROMs (aka questionnaires) across the Services-IF of the Continua End-to-End Architecture.

The questionnaires are represented according to the HL7 Implementation Guide (IG) for CDA R2 Questionnaire Form Definition (QFD) document [HL7 CDA QFD]. QFD document captures the health survey questions or question sets to be administered to a patient. QFD document enable the definition of questions for surveying the patient's perception on their health and the impact that any treatments or adjustments to lifestyle have had on their quality of life. QFD documents may carry a variety of clinical and non-clinical questions and branching logic in order to present the patient with a dynamic health survey for assessing health status including, but not limited to, the patient's functional, cognitive, and physiological characteristics. Authors of the QFD documents may include information about disease management organizations, primary care physicians, health and fitness coaches, chronic condition monitors, post-acute and long-term care organizations.

The Response to a questionnaire is then represented according to the HL7 Implementation Guide (IG) for CDA R2 Questionnaire Response (QR) document [HL7 CDA QRD]. Authors of the QR documents may include the patients who are under the care of disease management organizations, primary care physicians, health and fitness coaches, chronic condition monitors, and post-acute and long-term care providers or their agents.

For the exchange of QFD and QR documents, this guidelines document specifies and profiles the use of HL7 hData Record Format and OMG hData REST Binding for RLUS. For the security this document further profiles the use of OAuth 2.0 and TLS v1.1.

This guidelines document is one of the "H.810 Interoperability design guidelines for personal health systems" documents. See [H.810] for more details.

## 0.1 Organization

This CCC guideline is organized in the following manner.

**Clauses 0-5: Introduction and Terminology** – These clauses provide overview information helpful in comprehending the remainder of the document.

**Clause 6: Use Cases** – This clause provides motivating use cases for the Questionnaire (CCC) specified in this design guidelines document.

**Clause 7: Behavioral Models** – This clause provides an overview of interactions between Personal Health Gateway (PHG) and Health & Fitness Service that are specified by the Questionnaire CCC.

**Clause 8: Implementation** – This clause provides implementation specific details for the Questionnaire CCC.

**Clause Annex A: Normative Guidelines** – This clause specifies the normative requirements that must be followed by the Questionnaire CCC.

## 0.2 CCC Guideline Releases and Versioning

Information on releases and versioning of these guidelines can be found in Clause 0.2 of [H.810]

## 0.3 What's New

To see what is new in this release of the design guidelines refer to Clause 0.3 of [H.810]

## **1 Scope**

This document specifies design guidelines for the Questionnaire Enabled PHG and Questionnaire Enabled Services CCCs that shall be followed. The design guidelines specifies the testable requirements that must be implemented by the PHG in order to classify it as Questionnaire Enabled PHG. The Questionnaire Enabled PHG shall be able to retrieve questionnaires from the Health & Fitness Service and be able to validate that those questionnaires conform to the HL7 CDA R2 IG for QFD documents [HL7 CDA QFD]. In addition, the design guidelines specify testable requirements for a Health & Fitness Service which details how a Questionnaire Enabled Health & Fitness Service shall respond to the requests from a Questionnaire Enabled PHG and shall be able to validate that the QR documents conform to the HL7 CDA R2 IG for QR documents [HL7 CDA QFD].

## **2 References**

All referenced documents can be found in Clause 2 of [H.810]

## **3 Definitions**

This guidelines document uses terms defined in [H.810]

## **4 Abbreviations and Acronyms**

This guidelines document uses abbreviations and acronyms defined in [H.810]

## **5 Conventions**

This guidelines document follows the conventions defined in [H.810]

## **6 Use Cases**

The use cases below are focused on the needs identified for retrieving questionnaires and posting questionnaire responses by patients.

### **6.1 Retrieve a list of questionnaires to-be-completed by a patient**

Adam Everyman has heart failure and has recently been hospitalized for a decompensation event. As part of the discharge from the hospital he was enrolled in a telehealth program that monitors his vitals at home and asks him regularly to provide subjective information about his condition. The telehealth hub that is installed in Adam's home will regularly check with the telehealth server if there are any new questionnaires that Adam should fill in. When a questionnaire is scheduled for Adam by his care provider the telehealth hub will download questionnaire and information about the questionnaire, including the due date for completing it and a short message from Adam's care provider explaining what the questionnaire is for and who he can call in case of questions. The telehealth hub then shows on the start screen that a new questionnaire is available and when it is due and also enables Adam to check the note from his care provider related to this questionnaire.

### **6.2 Retrieve a specific questionnaire and let the patient fill it in**

When Adam checks his telehealth hub in the morning he sees that there is a new questionnaire that he is asked to complete. The hub tells him that the questionnaire is about his heart failure symptoms and it also shows a brief note from his heart failure nurse where she writes that she hopes he has slept well and asks him to complete this symptom questionnaire preferably before lunch time. She also tells him to give her a call directly in case his symptoms are worse than normal. Adam grabs a cup of tea and starts the questionnaire. He knows the questionnaire well as he is asked to fill in this questionnaire once per week. It asks about any signs of breathlessness or swelling that could signal a worsening of his heart failure. Luckily Adam feels pretty good and he can answer the questions by indicating that he has no problematic symptoms at this moment.

### **6.3 Upload the completed questionnaire to the patient record**

Adam finishes answering the questions in the questionnaire and hits the "submit" button on his telehealth hub. The hub compiles his answers into a questionnaire response document and posts the document to Adam's health record at the telehealth server. The server analyses Adam's responses and determines that there are no problematic symptoms at this moment so there is no need to alert Adam's heart failure nurse. She can of course still review his answers if she would like to do so, for instance before she calls him for a regular checkup.

As Adam has now completed the questionnaire, the server will also remove this specific questionnaire from the list of questionnaires to-be-completed by Adam. The next time Adam's telehealth hub checks with the server for questionnaires to-be-completed it will not find this questionnaire in the to-do list anymore.

### **6.4 Retrieve a list of completed questionnaires from the patient record**

As all completed questionnaires by Adam are stored in his health record at the telehealth server he can also see a list of all the questionnaires he has completed on his telehealth hub. This can be useful for him to see how he answered the symptom questionnaire a few weeks ago or review other questionnaires he has completed.

### **6.5 Retrieve a specific questionnaire response from the server**

Adam may want see how he answered the symptom questionnaire a few weeks ago or review other questionnaires that he has completed. He may also want to see a brief description of each completed questionnaire (title, description, link to the questionnaire etc.) on his tele-health hub. To do this he



clicks on the link and the telehealth hub then retrieves the completed questionnaire response from the server.

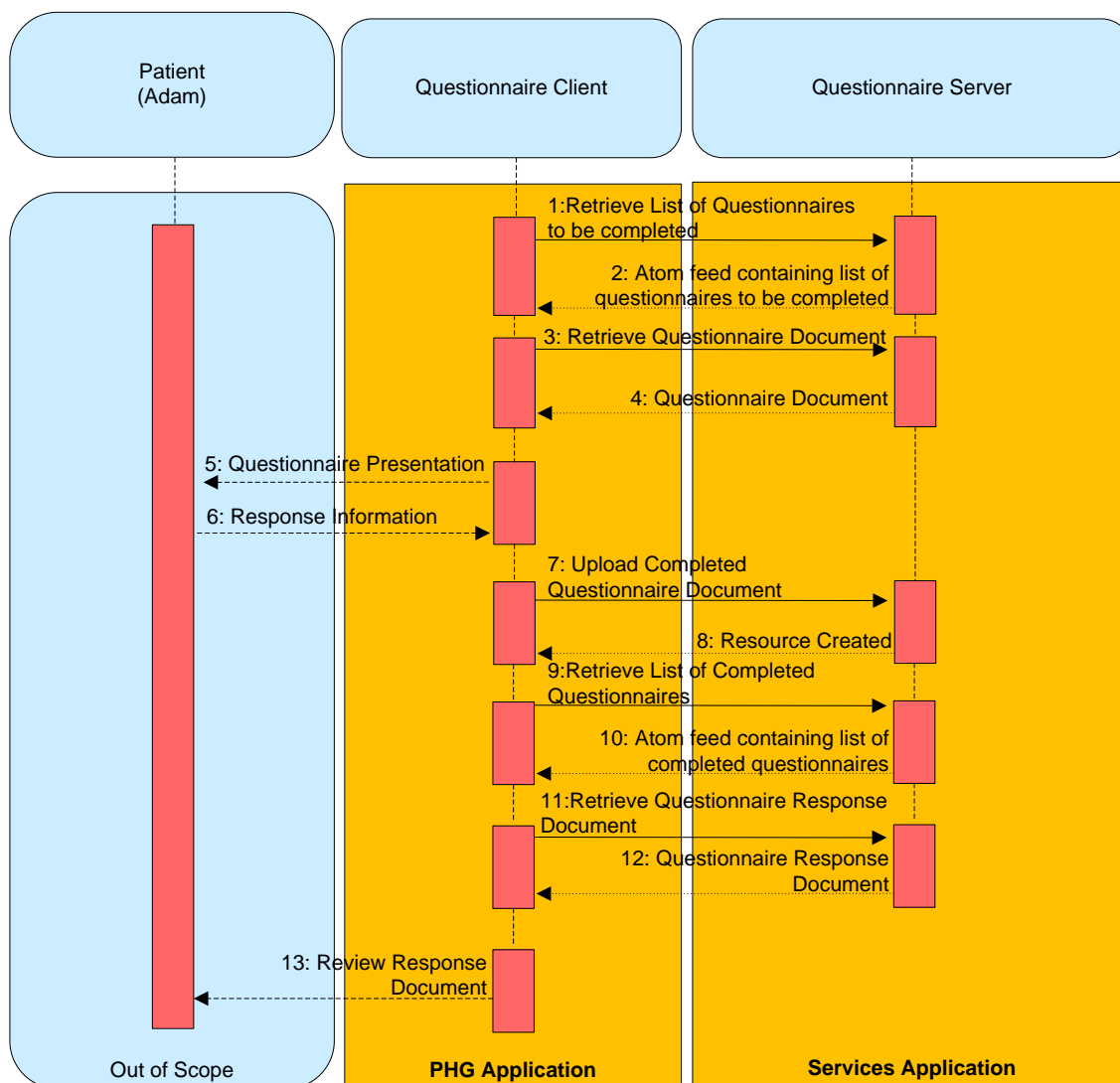
## 7 Behavioral Models

The following exchange mechanisms are specified for questionnaires and questionnaire responses:

- Retrieve a list of questionnaires to-be-completed from the server
- Retrieve a specific questionnaire from the server
- Create a new questionnaire response on the server
- Retrieve a list of completed questionnaire responses from the server
- Retrieve a specific questionnaire response from the server

Creating a to-be completed questionnaire on the server is not defined in this specification as that is currently seen as taking place outside of this questionnaire service and the Continua E2E Architecture.

The following diagram illustrates transactions related to the questionnaire use cases mentioned in this content profile.



**Figure 7-1 – Transactions between PHG and Health & Fitness Service related to questionnaire use cases**

## **8 Implementation**

### **8.1 Content Representation**

The questionnaire and questionnaire response content is represented according to the following HL7 standards:

- HL7 Implementation Guide for CDA® Release 2.0: Questionnaire Form Definition Document, Release 1 [HL7 CDA QFD]
- HL7 Implementation Guide for CDA® Release 2.0: Questionnaire Response Document, Release 1 [HL7 CDA QRD]

The sample files for questionnaire and questionnaire response documents can be found in the submission packages for the abovementioned standards.

### **8.2 Transport Protocol**

The Questionnaire enabled PHG and Health & Fitness Services uses hData over HTTP as the transport protocol for the exchange of Questionnaire and Questionnaire Response documents across the Services-IF. For the detailed requirements on the use of hData over HTTP protocol between PHG and Health & Fitness Services consult Annex A.

## Annex A Normative Guidelines

Table A-1 – Normative Guidelines for Questionnaire Enabled PHG

Name	Description	Comments
Questionnaire-PHG-Content-Standard	Questionnaire Enabled PHG <b>shall</b> comply to the following standards for the representation of questionnaire and questionnaire response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Questionnaire Form Definition Document [HL7 CDA QFD]</li> <li>- Questionnaire Response Document [HL7 CDA QRD]</li> </ul>	
Questionnaire-PHG-Transport-Standards	Questionnaire Enabled PHG <b>shall</b> comply to the following transport standards: HL7 Version 3 Specification: hData Record Format, Release 1 [HL7 hRF] OMG hData REST Binding for RLUS [OMG/hData BIND] OMG Retrieve, Locate, and Update Service (RLUS) Specification 1.0.1 [OMG/hData RLUS]	
PHG-Retrieve-List-Questionnaire	Questionnaire Enabled PHG <b>shall</b> use HTTP GET with the following URL for retrieving to-be-completed questionnaire's list from the Health & Fitness Service: <i>baseURL/continua/questionnaire</i>	See the use case in Clause 6.1 For RLUS hData over REST transport, this is performed by performing an HTTP GET request without query parameters at the URL representing the patient's questionnaire hData root section path.

Name	Description	Comments
PHG-Questionnaire-dueDate	The atom entry element <b>shall</b> contain the dueDate extension element in the Continua namespace, the content of which shall conform to the "date-time" production in [IETF RFC 3339].	dueDate is used to indicate a precise moment in time before which the patient must complete the questionnaire. For further info on this element and content of the Atom feed entry element, consult Table I-1
PHG-Retrieve-Specific-Questionnaire	Questionnaire Enabled PHG <b>shall</b> use the link element from the Atom feed entry to retrieve the actual questionnaire document and <b>shall</b> validate that it is a valid HL7 CDA R2 QFD document.	See the use case in Clause 6.2. An example of the URL of a questionnaire that is in the questionnaire section of the hData record: <i>baseURL/continua/questionnaire/example.xml</i> For RLUS hData over REST transport, this is performed by performing an HTTP GET request without query parameters at this URL to retrieve the questionnaire document.
PHG-Post-Questionnaire-Response	Questionnaire Enabled PHG <b>shall</b> use HTTP POST with the following URL for posting questionnaire response to the Health & Fitness Service: <i>baseURL/continua/questionnaireResponse</i>	See the use case in Clause 6.3.

Name	Description	Comments
PHG-Retrieve-List-Questionnaire-Reponse	Questionnaire Enabled PHG <b>shall</b> use the following URL for retrieving completed questionnaires list from the Health & Fitness Service: <i>baseURL/continua/questionnaireResponse</i>	See the use case in Clause 6.4. For RLUS hData over REST transport, this is performed by performing an HTTP GET request without query parameters at the URL representing the patient's questionnaire response hData path.

Name	Description	Comments
PHG-Retrieve-Specific-Questionnaire-Reponse	Questionnaire Enabled PHG <b>shall</b> use the link element from the Atom feed entry to retrieve the actual questionnaire response document and <b>shall</b> validate that it is a valid HL7 CDA R2 QR document.	<p>See the use case in Clause 6.5.</p> <p>For further info on Atom feed entry element consult Table I-2</p> <p>As a result of PHG-Retrieve-Questionnaire-Reponse, Questionnaire Enabled PHG receives ATOM feed.</p> <p>An example of the URL of a questionnaire response that is in the questionnaire response section of the hData record:  <i>baseURL/continua/questionnaireResponse/abc123.xml</i></p> <p>For RLUS hData over REST transport, this is performed by performing an HTTP GET request without query parameters at this URL to retrieve the questionnaire response document.</p>

**Table A-2 – Normative Guidelines for Questionnaire Enabled Health & Fitness Service**

Name	Description	Comments
Services- Questionnaire- Content- Standard	<p>Questionnaire Enabled Health &amp; Fitness Service <b>shall</b> comply to the following standards for the representation of questionnaire and questionnaire response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Questionnaire Form Definition Document [HL7 CDA QFD]</li> <li>- Questionnaire Response Document [HL7 CDA QRD]</li> </ul>	
Services- Questionnaire- Transport- Standards	<p>Questionnaire Enabled Health &amp; Fitness Service <b>shall</b> comply to the following transport standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- HL7 Version 3 Specification: hData Record Format, Release 1 [HL7 hRF]</li> </ul> <p>OMG hData REST Binding for RLUS [OMG/hData BIND]  OMG Retrieve, Locate, and Update Service (RLUS) Specification 1.0.1 [OMG/hData RLUS]</p>	
Services- Questionnaire- Root	<p>Questionnaire Enabled Health &amp; Fitness Service <b>shall</b> include the following elements for questionnaire content in the root.xml file:</p> <p>1.profile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. id="questionnaire"</li> <li>b. reference=<a href="http://handle.itu.int/11.1002/3000/hData/Questionnaire/2015/01/H.812.2.pdf">http://handle.itu.int/11.1002/3000/hData/Questionnaire/2015/01/H.812.2.pdf</a></li> </ul> <p>2.section</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. path=" questionnaires"</li> <li>b. profileID= "questionnaire"</li> <li>c. resourceTypeID=" questionnaire"</li> </ul> <p>3.resourceType</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. resourceTypeID=" questionnaire"</li> <li>b. reference="<a href="http://www.hl7.org/dstucomments/showdetail.cfm?dstuid=116">http://www.hl7.org/dstucomments/showdetail.cfm?dstuid=116</a>"</li> <li>c. representation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. mediaType="application/xml"</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	



Name	Description	Comments
Services- Questionnaire- Response-Root	<p>Questionnaire Enabled Health &amp; Fitness Service <b>shall</b> include the following elements for questionnaire response content in the root.xml file:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. profile <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. id="questionnaireResponse"</li> <li>b. reference=<a href="http://handle.itu.int/11.1002/3000/hData/Questionnaire/2015/01/H.812.2.pdf">http://handle.itu.int/11.1002/3000/hData/Questionnaire/2015/01/H.812.2.pdf</a></li> </ol> </li> <li>2. section <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. path="questionnaireResponses"</li> <li>b. profileID="questionnaireResponse"</li> <li>c. resourceTypeID="questionnaireResponse"</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. resourceType <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. resourceTypeID="questionnaireResponse"</li> <li>b. reference="<a href="http://www.hl7.org/dstu/comments/showdetail.cfm?dstuid=117">http://www.hl7.org/dstu/comments/showdetail.cfm?dstuid=117</a>"</li> <li>c. representation <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. mediaType="application/xml"</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> </ol>	
Services- Questionnaire- Response- Validate	<p>Questionnaire Enabled Health &amp; Fitness Service <b>shall</b> validate the questionnaire response document that it is a valid HL7 CDAR2 Questionnaire Response document and send the HTTP 201 as a response if it is a valid document.</p>	
Services- Creation- Questionnaire	<p>Questionnaire Enabled Health &amp; Fitness Service <b>shall not</b> support the creation of new questionnaire record via the hData interface and <b>shall</b> return HTTP 405 Method Not Allowed as a response to HTTP POST request on questionnaire section path.</p>	<p>One record covers a single questionnaire or questionnaire response document. For the creation of a new questionnaire response document consult PHG-Post-Questionnaire-Response guideline.</p>

Name	Description	Comments
Services-Modification-Questionnaire-Response	Questionnaire Enabled Health & Fitness Service <b>shall not</b> support the modification of an existing questionnaire or questionnaire response record and <b>shall</b> return HTTP 405 Method Not Allowed as a response to HTTP PUT request on questionnaire or questionnaire response section path.	
PHG-Delete-Questionnaire-Response	Questionnaire Enabled Health & Fitness Service <b>shall not</b> support the deletion of an existing questionnaire or questionnaire response record and <b>shall</b> return HTTP 405 Method Not Allowed as a response to HTTP DELETE request on questionnaire or questionnaire response section path.	

## Appendix I Atom Feed Information Elements

The following ATOM feed child elements of the entry element have a specific usage for the purpose of questionnaires.

**Table I-1 – ATOM feed child elements for questionnaires**

Element	Usage
author	Person construct that indicates the person who requested that the patient complete this questionnaire.
Id	Must be a globally unique identifier, which must be included in the questionnaire response document (InFulfillmentOf field) that is created upon completing the referenced questionnaire, such that the server knows the relationship between the request to complete the questionnaire document and the posted questionnaire response document.
title	Title of the questionnaire.
summary	<p>More detailed statement on the request to complete this questionnaire, e.g.</p> <p>“Dear Mr. Everyman,</p> <p>Could you complete this survey on heart failure symptoms before lunch time?</p> <p>In case your symptoms are worse than normal, please call me directly.</p> <p>Have a nice day.</p> <p>Best regards,</p> <p>Nurse Betty”</p>
link	<p>Reference to the questionnaire document which must be a valid HL7 CDAR2 Form Definition IG document.</p> <p>The link can be relative if the questionnaire can be retrieved via the questionnaire section of the hData record, but it can also be an absolute link if the questionnaire is located outside of the current hData record, e.g. at <a href="https://www.example.org/surveys/QoL.xml">https://www.example.org/surveys/QoL.xml</a></p>
dueDate	<p>This element is not part of the normal atom namespace and is an extension created by Personal Connected Health Alliance for questionnaire use case. It is used to contain the due date for completing the questionnaire by the patient and can be used by the SC to convey a sense of urgency to the patient. The content shall conform to the "date-time" production in [RFC3339]. In addition, an uppercase "T" character shall be used to separate date and time, and an uppercase "Z" character shall be present in the absence of a numeric time zone offset.</p> <p>The dueDate element is defined in the continua namespace. The atom:entry element in “The Atom Syndication Format” schema shall</p>

	<p>then refer to the dueDate element in the following way:</p> <pre>&lt;xs:element ref="continua:dueDate" minOccurs="1" maxOccurs="1"/&gt;</pre> <p>The schema for defining the continua:dueDate element shall then contain the following statement:</p> <pre>&lt;xs:element name="dueDate" type="atom:dateTimeType"/&gt;</pre> <p>The content of the dueDate is represented in the same manner as date-time is represented in “The Atom Syndication Format” schema. As an example consult the “The Atom Syndication Format” schema defined here [[b-ATOM Schema].</p>
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The following ATOM feed child elements of the entry element have a specific usage for the purpose of questionnaire responses.

**Table I-2 – ATOM feed child elements for questionnaire responses**

Element	Usage
author	Person construct that indicates who provided the information in the questionnaire response i.e., who completed the questionnaire.
title	Title of the original questionnaire to which this questionnaire response belongs.
link	Reference to the questionnaire response document which must be a valid HL7 CDAR2 Questionnaire Response IG document. The link shall be relative and the questionnaire response document shall be in the questionnaire response section of the hData record.
published	The published element shall be set to the data/time at which the questionnaire response document was posted to the server.

## I.1 Information for questionnaire in the root.xml

```
<profile>
  <id>questionnaire</id>
<reference>http://handle.itu.int/11.1002/3000/hData/Questionnaire/2015/01/H.812.2.pdf</reference>
</profile>
<section>
  <path>questionnaires</path>
  <profileID>questionnaire</profileID>
  <resourceTypeID>questionnaire</resourceTypeID>
</section>
<resourceType>
  <resourceTypeID>questionnaire</resourceTypeID>
  <reference>http://www.hl7.org/dstucomments/showdetail.cfm?dstuid=116</reference>
  <representation>
    <mediaType>application/xml</mediaType>
  </representation>
</resourceType>
```

## I.2 Information for questionnaire response in the root.xml

```
<profile>
  <id>questionnaireResponse</id>
<reference>http://handle.itu.int/11.1002/3000/hData/Questionnaire/2015/01/H.812.2.pdf</reference>
</profile>
<section>
  <path>questionnaireResponses</path>
  <profileID>questionnaireResponse</profileID>
  <resourceTypeID>questionnaireResponse</resourceTypeID>
</section>
<resourceType>
  <resourceTypeID>questionnaireResponse</resourceTypeID>
  <reference> http://www.hl7.org/dstucomments/showdetail.cfm?dstuid=117</reference>
  <representation>
    <mediaType>application/xml</mediaType>
  </representation>
</resourceType>
```