AIRA Joint Development Strategy: Proposed Definitions, v3
As reviewed and modified by the WIR JD User Group, 12/17/2014

Note: These are working definitions that will continue to be refined by the IIS Community, but will assist the WIR Joint Development User Group in planning, coordinating and implementing joint development projects:

- **Joint Development:** Any collaborative development of standards, business requirements, functional or system requirements, design specifications, or production of actual software tools or applications by two or more IIS/CDC Awardees.[1] Ideally, a modular approach should be used within joint development whenever possible to facilitate greater adoption.

- **Modular Programming:** A software design technique that emphasizes separating the functionality of a program into independent, interchangeable modules, such that each contains everything necessary to execute only one aspect of the desired functionality.[2]

- **Shared Service:** A dedicated service (e.g., application, tool or module) created by one or more entities that is utilized simultaneously by multiple entities across an enterprise.

- **Shared Product:** A dedicated product created by one or more entities that is shared with multiple entities across an enterprise.

- **Open Source:** Software for which the original source code is made freely available and may be redistributed and modified.[3]

- **Public Domain:** The state of belonging and being available to the public as a whole, and thus not subject to copyright.[4]

It is important to note the overlap with and relationship between joint development and shared services and/or open source products. Ideally, any jointly developed project would also be available to be shared with the broader IIS community as a *shared product*, although there are licensure and contracting issues to consider and address in pursuing a more formal level of sharing across the community. Some of these products would also potentially become formal *shared services*, i.e., single instances of applications, tools, or modules accessed or utilized by multiple IIS projects. Any of these products or services may also be open source or public domain products.

There are multiple standards documents that have been created by the community or are available to the community which offer guidance to this process. These include the HL7 Immunization Implementation Guide, the HL7 Functional Guide (in development), MIROW Best Practice Chapters, the IIS Functional Standards, and the IIS Functional Requirements.

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[1] Immunization Information Systems Joint Development: Practical Guidance for Collaborative IIS Projects. http://www.immregistries.org/resources/Joint_Development_Report-_Final.pdf
[2] Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Modular_programming
[3] Google: https://www.google.com/?gws_rd=ssl#q=definition+of+open+source
[4] Google: https://www.google.com/?gws_rd=ssl#q=definition+of+public+domain