Information models

Explanatory Notes

The pages under this page contain, on three abstraction levels, models of parts of the information that plays a role in the architecture of the MedMij Framework. The abstraction levels differ in scope, style and structure, but all three of them contain the same components:

- a model diagram with the structure of the types of information involved;
- a list of invariants that impose additional requirements on the model's instances;
- a list of 'basic classes', in other words, classes whose structure is not elaborated on in the diagram but whose values are individually deemed to be meaningful.

The three abstraction levels are:

- the conceptual level with the meta model;
- the logical level with three logical models;
- the technical level with four XML schema descriptions and a spreadsheet table diagram.

In the current version of the MedMij Framework, the scope of all three of the levels is limited to the types of information that are important for the four lists to be published by the MedMij management organisation and for the *Catalogue*. The meta model contains the relevant classes from the point of view of adaptability and expandability in the longer term. Within the limits of object-oriented thinking, which a large proportion of the target audience for these models will be familiar with, this is best achieved with the systematic application of association classes. This is explained in more detail on the meta model page.

Between them, the logical models have the same scope but take a step towards implementation of the list and the *Catalogue*. This is why they have a hierarchical set-up and thus are less adaptable and less expandable. In addition, there are three separate logical models:

- one for the four lists, which are published during the operation of the MedMij network;
- one for the *Catalogue*, which is published with the framework on this page;
- and one for the *MedMij System Node*, which is published in the framework itself, on this page.

The technical models build on this and are also hierarchical but additionally opt for technology: XML and spreadsheet. On this level there is a separate model (XML schema description) for each list. For the *Catalogue*, the implementation technology is a table in a spreadsheet. There is no separate technical model for the *MedMij System Node*.

Lower abstraction levels inherit the relevant information types, invariants and basic classes from higher ones. However, there can be changes to structure and name in this regard. These abstraction steps are explained in more detail on the relevant pages. In this way, the process from conceptual specification to technical implementation is made as verifiable and manageable as possible.