



Inbound Documents API

Software Specification

API Version: 1.21 – February 2024

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VERSION HISTORY

Date	Version	Change
26 May 2021	1.0	<p>Initial Release.</p> <p>For the initial release, permitted documents are limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Those listed in the Error! Reference source not found. section of Error! Reference source not found.; Must be in PDF format; Must be no greater than 20 Mb in size; and Only content for one (1) claim can be submitted per request; however, the Provider can consolidate multiple documents for that one (1) claim.
22 September 2021	1.1	Removed unnecessary information relating to File Size, NHI number and zz files.
January 2023	1.2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of all references to the Sandbox environment. Inclusion of file type examples for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Dental (DN) Hearing Loss (HL) Inclusion of filename metadata for Dental (DN), Hearing Loss (HL) and Acquired Brain Injury (ABI). Remove references to Appendix A; Permitted Documents and replace with link to the DRC site showing current accepted Inbound Documents. Rename Appendix B to Appendix A.
May 2023		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Updated reference to accepted document types.
29 February 2024	1.21	<p>Corrected incorrect NHI format in section 4.10.</p> <p>Valid NHI number format is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'AAANNNC' (3 alpha, 3 numeric and one numeric check digit) 'AAANNAX' (3 alpha, 2 numeric, 1 alpha and one alpha check digit)

1 INBOUND DOCUMENTS API OVERVIEW

To support claims lodged on behalf of patients, ACC can assist providers to also send documents or images such as case notes, radiology reports & extension of treatment requests.

ACC has been using an online service with a 3 Mb file size limit; this API replicates that service but with a 20 Mb file size limit. It requires software vendors to adopt and for providers to reap the benefits.

ACC will be further investing in this API. Examples over time include:

- Additional documents.
- Additional document types, other than PDFs.
- Increasing the file size limit further.

Note: This document should be read in conjunction with the [Inbound Documents API Tips & Tricks v1.2 - September 2022.pdf](#)

Important “Overall” Request of Software Vendors

This initial version of the Inbound Documents API is a minimum viable product; it mimics the legacy service it is intended to replace. Results include minimum mandated metadata & validation.

ACC requests that, right from the start, software vendors exert self-discipline such as:

1. Extract the maximum possible metadata from your practice management system (*);
2. Assist your users do the right thing, by providing messages such as “use the examples of documents supplied as a guide to expectations”, see Appendices to this document; &
3. Regards any requests for other documents to be added; please forward these to [Developer Resource Centre | Contact Us \(acc.co.nz\)](#)

The incentives for you to apply early discipline include:

1. Minimises rework for yourselves later - Over time more discipline (such as additional mandated metadata) will be brought in.
2. Impact monitoring – Creativity (e.g. documents that should not be submitted) impacting internal ACC processes will be addressed.

(*): Example of why we request maximum metadata extraction:

Some document types automatically upload into our backend systems; some are manually loaded by a dedicated documents team. Either way the more metadata you automatically extract per document the more efficient our back-end upload can be. Example:

File format:

contentType_fileCreationDateTime_runId_claimReferenceNumber_consultingProviderName_dateOfConsult_clientNHINumber_clientFirstName_clientLastName_clientDOB

File type examples:

Medical Records

MMEX32PHY_20210501090055_20004_AANNNNNNNNN_Dr XXXXX XXXXX_DD-MM-YYYY_AAANNNN_Test_Patient_DD-MM-YYYY

Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) - Pathways to employment completion report

ABI-ACC7431BTWPPCRP_20210501090055_20004_AANNNNNNNNN_Dr XXXXX XXXXX_DD-MM-YYYY_AAANNNN_Test_Patient_DD-MM-YYYY

Dental (DN) - Dental Implant Assessment and Treatment Plan

DN-ACC8298DARTP_20210501090055_20004_AANNNNNNNNN_Dr XXXXX XXXXX_DD-MM-YYYY_AAANNNN_Test_Patient_DD-MM-YYYY

Hearing Loss (HL) - Request for time extension

HL-ACC109TIMEEXTREQ_20210501090055_20004_AANNNNNNNNN_Dr XXXXX XXXXX_DD-MM-YYYY_AAANNNN_Test_Patient_DD-MM-YYYY

1.1 GETTING STARTED

Software vendors need an API key to submit requests to the API, in both the compliance and production environments.

The process for obtaining an API key can be found here [Developer Resource Centre | API Build \(acc.co.nz\)](#) .

The URL for each Inbound Documents endpoint starts with:

- Production <https://provider.api.co.nz/api/v1/documents>
- Compliance <https://provider.api-compliance.co.nz/api/v1/documents>

1.2 TERMS

Term	Notes
Nothing at this time	

Table 1: Terms and Conditions

2 STANDARD BEHAVIOUR

2.1 INPUT

2.1.1 STRINGS AND NUMBERS

The API trims leading and trailing spaces from all String input.

Integer and decimal numbers must be entered without commas.

The JSON maximum for an integer is 2,147,483,647.

2.1.2 DATES

Two date formats are used within this API; this is to support content being uploaded into ACC backend systems. The formats are:

- DD-MM-YYYY
- yyyyMMddHHmmss

2.2 ERROR MESSAGES

2.2.1 SYSTEM ERRORS

Code	Indicates	Interpretation	Action Required of Software Vendor
201	Created	Content created but not received by ACC	Advise user to send content to ACC if still required.
202	Accepted	Submission received by ACC	No action required.
400	Invalid Data	Content being submitted is incorrect	Confirm this is a genuine user error and not a coding issue.
401	Authentication Error	Senders Digital Certificate is not valid so transaction can't take place	Software vendor needs to check if Digital Certificate is installed correctly via https://secure.healthlink.net/certifno . If no issue then contact ACC Digital Operations on 0800 222 994, option 1.
403	Authorisation Error	Sender is not authorised by ACC to make the submission	User is to contact ACC Digital Operations on 0800 222 994, option 1 to arrange permission.
500	Internal Server Error	ACC system issue	Advise ACC Digital Operations on 0800 222 994, option 1. User needs to resubmit content to ACC later.

Table 2: System Error Codes

2.2.2 VALIDATION ERRORS

In the unlikely event that invalid JSON is submitted, such as a True / False field given as [{}] (without quote marks), the API returns an error message, 'Invalid JSON submitted.' The field name is not given, since the error may apply to all fields from that point onwards.

In all other cases when the API returns an error message that relates to a specific field, the name of that field is given with the error, for instance:

contentType. That content type is not permitted.

Generic validation error messages are included within the spec below.

2.3 SUCCESSFUL SUBMISSION

When a valid document and supported JSON is submitted, without errors, the API returns a message 'ACC advise that your submission has been received, thank you.'

3 INBOUND DOCUMENTS API

3.1 DOCUMENT

API JSON	document
Required?	Yes
Data type	String
Format	
Note	This is the actual document to be uploaded and sent to ACC.
Error condition	Message
No document is attached / included in the submission	A document is required

3.2 DOCUMENT DATA

API JSON	documentData
Required?	Yes
Data type	String
Format	
Note	Metadata as JSON Object. This should contain the additional information about the patient and the event that caused the document to be uploaded. All content required is included in section 4 Documents Metadata below.
Error condition	Message

4 DOCUMENTS METADATA

4.1 CONTENT TYPE

API JSON	contentType
Required?	Yes
Data type	String
Format	[A-Z,0-9]{20}, e.g. MMEXDISOP UPPER CASE
Note	A unique String that identifies the content type. Must be displayed in UPPER CASE in the file name please. The permitted contentType for a specific user group, and sample documents for each document type, are specified on the Developer Resource Centre: https://developer.acc.co.nz/sample-inbound-documents .
Detail	Each document submitted must be specified. For example: Discharge & Operation reports will have the content type MMEXDISOP in the submission payload. The Spec advises that there are options however our preference is CAPS please. Please see https://developer.acc.co.nz/sample-inbound-documents for the full list of supported contentType codes.

Error condition	Message
Where the contentType is not one of the permitted content types as specified in the Inbound Documents - File Naming Standards document	That content type is not permitted.

4.2 FILE CREATION DATE/TIME

API JSON	fileCreationDateTime
Required?	Yes
Data type	String
Format	yyyyMMddHHmmss
Note	The file creation date/time that the file was created by the provider.

Error condition	Message
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4.3 RUN ID

API JSON	runId
Required?	No
Data type	String
Format	[0-9]{10}, 12345
Note	This field has a 10-character limit. This is to be generated as a sequential number for each organisation to create a unique ID for each submission.
Error condition	Message

4.4 CLAIM NUMBER

API JSON	claimReferenceNumber
Required?	No Please supply this if at all possible.
Data type	String
Limit	1-12 characters. Please allow solely alpha-numeric
Format(s)	[A-Z]{2}[0-9]{8}, e.g. AA123456789 [A-Z]{2}[0-9]{5}, e.g. AA12345 [A-Z][0-9]{6}, e.g. A123456 [0-9]{8}, 12345678 [A-Z][0-9]{10}, e.g. A1234567890 [0-9]{11} e.g. 12345678901
Note	Identifies the party/claim against which the document will be added.
Error condition	Message

4.5 CONSULTING PROVIDER NAME

API JSON	consultingProviderName
Required?	No
Data type	String
Format	
Note	This must be the consulting treatment provider. This is equivalent to the sending HealthLink account holder
Error condition	Message

4.6 DATE OF CONSULT

API JSON	dateOfConsult
Required?	No
Data type	String
Format	DD-MM-YYYY
Range	
Note	This must be the date of consultation.
Error condition	Message

4.7 METADATA FOR CONTENT TYPE

API JSON	metaDataForContentType		
Required?	No (*)		
Data type	String		
Format			
Range			
Note	(*) Appears under certain conditions for specific documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For MMEXDISOP files it must contain the document type (either ‘Notice of Discharge’ or ‘Operation Notes’). For all content types that are not MMEXDISOP, this must be blank. When the content type for the document received is MMEXDISOP, when the Metadata for Content Type is provided, then the valid options are either ‘Notice of Discharge’ or ‘Operation Notes’		
Extract from Support Material	MMEXDISOP	Files must contain the document type (either “Notice of Discharge” or “Operation Notes”).	Field can’t be blank. Field will accept any alphanumeric, but we ask you to apply discipline here re the options.
	MMEXSPECR	Must be blank	
	MMEXESHTI	Must be blank	
	Other documents	No need to use	
Error condition	Message		

4.8 ASSESSMENT TYPE

API JSON	assessmentType
Required?	No
Data type	String
Format	
Range	
Note	<p>Appears under certain conditions for specific documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For MMEXDISOP and MMEXSPECR it must be blank. • For MMEXESHTI must contain the Assessment Type.

Extract from Support While this field states that it is not required the following DO need to be addressed

Material			
MMEXDISOP	Must be blank		
MMEXSPECR	Must be blank		
MMEXESHTI	Must contain the assessment type	Field can't be blank. Field will accept any alphanumeric, but we ask you to apply discipline here re the options,	
Other documents	No need to use		

Error condition	Message
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4.9 BODY SITE

API JSON	bodySite
Required?	No
Data type	String
Format	
Range	
Note	<p>Appears under certain conditions for specific documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For MMEXDISOP and MMEXSPECR must be blank. For MMEXESHTI must contain the body site that the assessment relates to (e.g. "MRI LUMBAR SPINE").

Extract from Support Material	While this field states that it is not required the following DO need to be addressed		
	MMEXDISOP	Must be blank	
	MMEXSPECR	Must be blank	
	MMEXESHTI	Must contain the body site that the assessment relates to (e.g. "MRI LUMBAR SPINE")	
	Other documents	No need to use	

Error condition	Message
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4.10 CLIENT'S NHI NUMBER

API JSON	clientNHINumber
Required?	No (*)
Data type	String
Format	<p>Valid NHI number format is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'AAANNNC' (3 alpha, 3 numeric and one numeric check digit) 'AAANNAX' (3 alpha, 2 numeric, 1 alpha and one alpha check digit)

Range	
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Note	
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Error condition	Message
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4.11 CLIENT'S FIRST NAME

API JSON	clientFirstName
Required?	No
Data type	String
Format	
Note	

Error condition	Message
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4.12 CLIENT’S LAST NAME

API JSON `clientLastName`

Required? No

Data type String

Format

Note

Error condition	Message
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4.13 CLIENT’S DATE OF BIRTH

API JSON `clientDOB`

Required? No

Data type String

Format DD-MM-YYYY

Note

Error condition	Message
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4.14 FILE EXTENSION

API JSON `fileExtension`

Required? Yes

Data type String

Format

Note As of May 2021: Only PDF are permitted.
This list will grow over time; **Appendix A: Permitted File Extensions** will expand to show the full list as that happens.

Error condition	Message
File type is not an accepted type (i.e. not a PDF)	Only PDF are accepted.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: PERMITTED FILE EXTENSIONS

.PDF (includes PDF-A)