

Job Description

Job Title: Chief Technology Officer (CTO)

Organisation: openEHR International CIC

Reports to: Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Location: Remote (international)

Employment type: Contracted leadership role (independent contractor or employee, subject to eligibility); part-time (1 day per week)

Role Purpose

The Chief Technology Officer (CTO) provides technical leadership across openEHR International, driving the advancement of the openEHR specifications and ensuring they remain robust, coherent and fit for real-world implementation. The CTO is the principal technical voice within the leadership team, working in close collaboration with the Specification Editorial Committee to set technical direction and uphold the quality and integrity of the standard.

Working closely with the CEO, the CCIO, the Board and the wider community, the CTO supports the definition and delivery of openEHR International's value proposition to its members and stakeholders. As openEHR operates without formal regulatory mandate, its sustainability depends on demonstrable value; the role is therefore externally oriented, centred on engagement with implementers, vendors, health systems and prospective members. The CTO ensures that insight from stakeholders and real-world implementations informs the ongoing development of the specifications, works with the Specification Editorial Committee and the software programme on a non-hierarchical basis, supports the CEO and Board in establishing openEHR's artificial intelligence strategy, and represents the organisation in technical collaboration with other standards bodies, in support of sustainable and well-managed growth. The role is deliberately broad: the CTO is expected to identify and act on opportunities to strengthen openEHR's technical credibility, interoperability and adoption.

Key Responsibilities

Technical Leadership of the Specifications

- Provide technical leadership for the advancement, evolution and quality of the openEHR specifications.
- Work in close collaboration with the Specification Editorial Committee, supporting its agenda, priorities and decision-making.
- Ensure the specifications remain coherent, well-documented, implementable and aligned with the community's needs.
- Oversee technical governance, including change management, versioning and the resolution of technical issues.
- Champion sound architecture, design principles and engineering best practice across openEHR's technical work.

Supporting the Software Program Board

- Support the Software Program Board in its strategy, priorities and ways of working.
- Provide technical direction for openEHR reference implementations, tooling and supporting software.
- Promote quality, maintainability and sustainability across openEHR's software and tooling ecosystem.
- Build and sustain an engaged community of developers, implementers and technical contributors.

Advancing the Organisation Technically

- Act as the principal technical advocate for openEHR in the leadership team and with the Board.
- Shape technical strategy and contribute technical insight to organisational planning and decision-making.
- Identify emerging technical needs, risks and opportunities, and translate them into actionable priorities.
- Promote adoption of openEHR by demonstrating technical value to implementers, vendors and health systems.

External Collaboration and Standards Alignment

- Lead openEHR's technical engagement in the collaboration with other standards, particularly HL7/FHIR, promoting interoperability and complementary use of the standards.
- Maintain and develop technical relationships with relevant standards bodies, terminology providers and open-source communities.
- Represent openEHR in relevant international technical forums, working groups and partnerships.
- Pursue further partnerships and initiatives that strengthen openEHR's technical ecosystem.

Collaboration Across the Organisation

- Engage closely with the Chief Clinical Information Officer (CCIO) to ensure technical and clinical work are aligned.
- Work with the Educational Program Board and Clinical Program Board to ensure technical content is accurate, accessible and well-supported.
- Foster effective collaboration and clear lines of responsibility between the technical, clinical, educational and editorial functions.

General

- Undertake other technical leadership activities reasonably required to advance the mission of openEHR.
- Act at all times in the best interests of the organisation and its community.

Qualifications and Experience

Essential

- Substantial experience in software architecture, engineering or technical standards development.
- Demonstrable experience leading or contributing to the development of technical specifications or standards.
- Strong understanding of health data, interoperability and electronic health record systems.
- Experience of technical governance, committees or open-source/open-standards development.
- Experience working with international, distributed or community-based teams.
- Familiarity with openEHR and/or other health data standards (HL7 FHIR, SNOMED CT, IHE).

Desirable

- Experience with reference implementations, APIs, data modelling or terminology integration.
- A relevant postgraduate qualification in computing, informatics or a related field.
- An established network within the international digital health and standards community.

Key Competencies

- Technical leadership and credibility.
- Strategic thinking and sound technical judgement.
- Excellent communication, facilitation and collaboration skills.
- Ability to bridge technical, clinical and organisational perspectives.
- Commitment to open standards and openEHR's mission.

Working Hours

This is a part-time role. Engagement hours will be agreed with the CEO and reviewed periodically to ensure the post holder can meet the objectives of the role.

Location

Remote, with occasional international travel for meetings, conferences and community events as required.

Application Process

Interested candidates are invited to submit their CV and a cover letter detailing their suitability for the role to comms@openehr.org

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled.

openEHR is an equal opportunity employer and encourages applications from all qualified candidates regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, disability, or other protected status.