

DICOM Correction Item

Correction Number		CP-152
Log Summary: Clarification of meaning Type 2 for patient info and accession number		
Type of Modification:	Name of Standard	
Clarification	PS 3.3-1999	
<p>Rationale for Correction</p> <p>Patient information (ID and Name) as well as the accession number are defined as Type 2 attributes. That means that they can be sent with a length of "0" when unknown. Receiving objects without proper identification creates serious issues for the receivers, i.e. images can not be found ("orphan images") and/or a radiologist cannot do his diagnosis because he cannot tie it to a proper accession number.</p> <p>Often, implementations are not even providing Type 2 attributes at all. The standard clarifies that Type 2 attributes are required unless unknown, i.e. in normal circumstances they should always be provided.</p>		
<p>Sections of documents affected</p> <p>PS 3.5</p>		
<p>Correction wording:</p> <p>Add note to PS 3.5 7.4.3: (definition of Type 2 Required Data Elements)</p> <p>Note: The intent of Type 2 elements is to allow a zero length to be conveyed when the operator or application does not know its value or has a specific reason for not specifying its value. It is the intent that the device should support these Attributes.</p>		