Blog Posting Guide for clinstandards.org/blog

This guide outlines the formatting rules for blog posts on clinstandards.org/blog. It ensures consistency, readability, and professionalism across all content. Follow these rules when preparing your post for submission or upload. General Structure and SectionsBlog posts should be structured logically to guide the reader. Use the following sections as a template, adapting as needed for the topic:

1. Title:

   - Keep it concise (under 100 characters), informative, and engaging.

   - Use title case (e.g., "Advancements in Clinical Standards for Data Management").

   - Avoid all caps or excessive punctuation.

2. Introduction:

   - 200-400 words.

   - Provide background, state the purpose of the post, and outline key points.

   - Hook the reader with a question, statistic, or anecdote relevant to clinical standards.

3. Main Body:

   - Divide into subsections with clear headings (e.g., H2 or H3 in markdown: ## Subsection Title).

   - Use short paragraphs (3-5 sentences each) for readability.

   - Include bullet points or numbered lists for steps, pros/cons, or key takeaways.

   - Subsections might include: Methods/Approach, Discussion, Case Studies, or Challenges.

4. Results (if applicable):

   - Present findings from any analysis, survey, or study.

   - Use clear, objective language (e.g., "The survey of 150 clinicians showed that 72% preferred standardized data formats.").

- Avoid jargon; define terms on first use (e.g., "Electronic Health Records (EHRs)").

- Quantify results where possible (percentages, averages, etc.).

- If no empirical results, integrate insights into the Discussion section.

5. Conclusion:

- 150-300 words.

- Summarize key points, implications for clinical standards, and call to action (e.g., "Join the discussion on our forum").

- End with forward-looking statements.

6. References:

- See the dedicated section below for formatting.

Tables and Figure Numbers

- Tables:

  - Number sequentially (e.g., Table 1, Table 2).

  - Place a caption above the table (e.g., "Table 1: Comparison of Clinical Data Standards").

  - Use simple borders and minimal shading for clarity.

  - Columns should have clear headers; align numbers right, text left.

  - Reference in text (e.g., "As shown in Table 1...").

  - Keep tables concise; if complex, consider summarizing in text.

- Figures (charts, diagrams, images):

  - Number sequentially (e.g., Figure 1, Figure 2).

  - Place a caption below the figure (e.g., "Figure 1: Workflow for Implementing FHIR Standards").

  - Ensure high resolution (at least 300 DPI for PDFs).

  - Use accessible colors (high contrast) and alt text for web versions.

  - Reference in text (e.g., "Figure 2 illustrates...").

- Sources: If not original, cite the source in the caption (e.g., "Adapted from [Reference 3]").

References Section FormatUse a simple numbered journal-style format similar to Vancouver (common in medical and clinical fields). This keeps it straightforward and easy to manage.

- List references at the end of the post under a "References" heading.

- Number them in the order they appear in the text (e.g., [1], [2]).

- In-text citations: Use superscript or bracketed numbers (e.g., "As per recent studies[1].").

- Format examples:

  1. Author(s). Title of article. Journal Name. Year;Volume(Issue):Page range. DOI or URL if available.

     - Example: Smith J, Doe A. Advances in clinical data interoperability. J Clin Standards. 2025;12(3):45-52. doi:10.1234/jcs.2025.012.

  2. For books: Author(s). Title of Book. Edition. Publisher; Year. Page range.

     - Example: Johnson R. Clinical Standards Handbook. 2nd ed. Medical Press; 2024. p. 100-120.

  3. For websites: Author/Organization. Title of page. Website Name. Published/Updated date. URL. Accessed date.

     - Example: FDA. Guidance on Clinical Data Standards. U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Updated January 2025. https://www.fda.gov/clinstandards. Accessed February 4, 2026.

- Limit to 10-20 references unless the post is highly technical.

- Ensure all cited sources are reliable (peer-reviewed journals, official organizations like WHO or FDA).

Additional Tips

- Length: Aim for 800-2000 words total.

- Tone: Professional yet accessible; avoid overly academic language.

- SEO: Include keywords like "clinical standards," "FHIR," "HL7" naturally.

- Proofreading: Check for grammar, consistency, and accessibility (e.g., screen-reader friendly).

- Submit as a markdown file or directly via the site's CMS.

Project Posting Guide for clinstandards.org/projects

This guide provides instructions for formatting and submitting project posts on clinstandards.org/projects. It focuses on clarity, collaboration, and ease of access for the community.General StructureProject posts should highlight the project's purpose, progress, and how others can contribute. Use this template:

1. Project Title:

   - Descriptive and concise (e.g., "Open-Source Tool for FHIR Data Validation").

2. Summary:

   - 150-300 words.

   - Describe the project's goals, target audience (e.g., clinicians, developers), and key features.

   - Highlight impact on clinical standards (e.g., "This tool streamlines data exchange using HL7 standards.").

   - Use bullet points for key benefits or tech stack (e.g., - Built with Python and FastAPI).

   - End with status (e.g., "In development; beta release Q2 2026").

3. Detailed Description:

   - Explain methodology, challenges, and solutions.

   - Include subsections like Objectives, Timeline, Team.

4. GitHub Integration:

   - See the dedicated section below.

5. Results/Outcomes (if applicable):

   - Similar to blog rules: Present milestones, metrics (e.g., "100+ downloads in first month"), or demos.

6. References (optional):

- Follow the same simple numbered format as in the blog guide.

How to Get and Paste GitHub Link

- Step 1: Create or Access Repository:

  - Go to github.com and log in (or sign up for free).

  - Create a new repository: Click "New" > Enter repo name (e.g., "clinstandards-fhir-validator") > Make it public for open-source collaboration > Add a README.md with basic info.

- Step 2: Get the Link:

  - Once created, copy the URL from the browser (e.g., https://github.com/yourusername/clinstandards-fhir-validator).

  - For specific elements:

    - Releases: Navigate to "Releases" tab > Copy link (e.g., .../releases).

    - Issues: .../issues for bug tracking.

    - Wiki: If enabled, .../wiki.

- Step 3: Paste in the Proper Section:

  - In your project post, add a "Repository" or "Source Code" section after the Summary.

  - Use markdown: GitHub Repository

  - Embed badges if desired (e.g., for stars or licenses: From GitHub, copy embed code like GitHub stars).

  - For downloads: Link to releases (e.g., "Download latest version here (.../releases/latest)").

  - If private: Explain access process (e.g., "Contact admin for invite").

Project Summary Best Practices

- Format: Narrative paragraph followed by bullets.

- Content:

  - What: Brief overview.

  - Why: Problem it solves in clinical standards.

- How: High-level tech/process.

- Who: Contributors needed (e.g., "Seeking Python developers").

- Example Summary: "The FHIR Data Validator project aims to automate validation of clinical data against HL7 FHIR standards, reducing errors in healthcare systems. Key features include real-time checks and customizable rules.

  - Tech: Python, JSON schema.

  - Status: Alpha; contributions welcome.

  - Impact: Improves data interoperability for hospitals."

Additional Tips

- Visuals: Include screenshots (as figures, numbered per blog rules) of the tool or code.

- Collaboration: Encourage forks/pull requests via GitHub instructions.

- Updates: Post progress in comments or linked threads.