

# Package ‘BiocFHIR’

July 15, 2025

**Title** Illustration of FHIR ingestion and transformation using R

**Version** 1.11.0

**Date** 2022-11-29

**Description** FHIR R4 bundles in JSON format are derived from <https://synthea.mitre.org/downloads>.

Transformation inspired by a kaggle notebook published by Dr Alexander Scarlat, <https://www.kaggle.com/code/drscarlat/fhir-starter-parse-healthcare-bundles-into-tables>. This is a very limited illustration of some basic parsing and reorganization processes. Additional tooling will be required to move beyond the Synthea data illustrations.

**License** Artistic-2.0

**Encoding** UTF-8

**Depends** R (>= 4.2)

**Imports** DT, shiny, jsonlite, graph, tidyr, visNetwork, dplyr, utils, methods, BiocBaseUtils

**Suggests** knitr, testthat, rjsoncons, igraph, BiocStyle

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**biocViews** Infrastructure, DataImport, DataRepresentation

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.2

**URL** <https://github.com/vjcitn/BiocFHIR>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/vjcitn/BiocFHIR/issues>

**git\_url** <https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/BiocFHIR>

**git\_branch** devel

**git\_last\_commit** 6a27e5d

**git\_last\_commit\_date** 2025-04-30

**Repository** Bioconductor 3.22

**Date/Publication** 2025-07-15

**Author** Vincent Carey [aut, cre] (ORCID:  
<<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4046-0063>>)

**Maintainer** Vincent Carey <stvjc@channing.harvard.edu>

## Contents

add_procedures . . . . .	2
allin . . . . .	3
available_retention_schemas . . . . .	3
build_proccond_igraph . . . . .	4
display_proccond_igraph . . . . .	4
FHIRtabs . . . . .	5
FHIR_ResourceTypes . . . . .	5
FHIR_retention_schemas . . . . .	6
freq_app . . . . .	6
getHumanName . . . . .	7
make_condition_graph . . . . .	7
make_test_json_set . . . . .	8
print.BiocFHIR.FHIRgraph . . . . .	8
print.FHIR.bundle . . . . .	9
process_AllergyIntolerance . . . . .	9
process_CarePlan . . . . .	10
process_Claim . . . . .	10
process_Condition . . . . .	11
process_Encounter . . . . .	11
process_fhir_bundle . . . . .	12
process_Immunization . . . . .	13
process_MedicationRequest . . . . .	13
process_Observation . . . . .	14
process_Patient . . . . .	14
process_Procedure . . . . .	15
stack_fhir . . . . .	16
summarise_bundles . . . . .	16
summary_selections . . . . .	17

## Index

18

---

<i>add_procedures</i>	<i>update a fhir graph on patients and conditions with procedures</i>
-----------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------

---

### Description

update a fhir graph on patients and conditions with procedures

### Usage

```
add_procedures(fhirgraph, listOfProcessedBundles)
```

### Arguments

fhirgraph	instance of BiocFHIR.FHIRgraph
listOfProcessedBundles	
list	

### Value

instance of BiocFHIR.FHIRgraph

**Examples**

```
data("allin")
g <- make_condition_graph(allin)
g <- add_procedures(g, allin)
g
```

---

allin

*collection of synthea FHIR documents ingested*

---

**Description**

collection of synthea FHIR documents ingested

**Usage**

```
data("allin", package = "BiocFHIR")
```

**Format**

list

**Examples**

```
data("allin", package="BiocFHIR")
allin[[1]]
```

---

available\_retention\_schemas

*list available 'retention schemas'*

---

**Description**

list available 'retention schemas'

**Usage**

```
available_retention_schemas()
```

**Value**

character vector

**Examples**

```
available_retention_schemas()
```

`build_proccond_igraph` *build graph with patients, conditions and procedures*

### Description

build graph with patients, conditions and procedures

### Usage

```
build_proccond_igraph(listOfBundles)
```

### Arguments

`listOfBundles` list of processed FHIR bundles, processed with ‘process\_fhir\_bundle’

### Value

instance of visIgraph from visNetworks

### Examples

```
data("allin")
build_proccond_igraph( allin )
```

`display_proccond_igraph`  
*make network visualization*

### Description

make network visualization

### Usage

```
display_proccond_igraph(igraph)
```

### Arguments

`igraph` instance of igraph produced by ‘build\_proccond\_igraph’

### Value

visIGraph instance

### Examples

```
data("allin")
g <- build_proccond_igraph( allin )
if (interactive()) {
  display_proccond_igraph( g )
}
```

---

FHIRtabs	<i>table app</i>
----------	------------------

---

**Description**

table app

**Usage**

FHIRtabs()

**Value**

No value returned.

**Examples**

```
if (interactive()) {  
  FHIRtabs()  
}
```

---

FHIR_ResourceTypes	<i>FHIR Resource types recognized in package</i>
--------------------	--------------------------------------------------

---

**Description**

FHIR Resource types recognized in package

**Usage**

FHIR\_ResourceTypes()

**Value**

vector of strings

**Examples**

FHIR\_ResourceTypes() # Oct 2022

`FHIR_retention_schemas`

*collection of FHIR Resource components to be retained*

### Description

collection of FHIR Resource components to be retained

### Usage

`FHIR_retention_schemas()`

### Value

list of vectors of strings

### Examples

```
FHIR_retention_schemas() # Oct 2022
```

`freq_app`

*produce interactive tables with FHIR resources from a list of ingested bundles*

### Description

produce interactive tables with FHIR resources from a list of ingested bundles

### Usage

`freq_app(blist)`

### Arguments

<code>blist</code>	list of ingested bundles
--------------------	--------------------------

### Value

side-effects of shiny app invocation

### Examples

```
if (interactive()) {
  tset = make_test_json_set()
  bl = lapply(tset, process_fhir_bundle)
  freq_app(bl)
}
```

<code>getHumanName</code>	<i>get human name from a BiocFHIR.Patient instance</i>
---------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------

### Description

get human name from a BiocFHIR.Patient instance

### Usage

```
getHumanName(Patient)
```

### Arguments

<code>Patient</code>	BiocFHIR.Patient instance
----------------------	---------------------------

### Value

string with name components concatenated

### Examples

```
testf <- system.file("json/Vince741_Rogahn59_6fa3d4ab-c0b6-424a-89d8-7d9105129296.json",
                      package="BiocFHIR")
tbun <- process_fhir_bundle(testf)
getHumanName(tbun$Patient)
```

<code>make_condition_graph</code>	<i>create graph with links from patients to conditions</i>
-----------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------

### Description

create graph with links from patients to conditions

### Usage

```
make_condition_graph(listOfProcessedBundles, keep_with_condition_only = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

<code>listOfProcessedBundles</code>	list with elements generated by ‘process_fhir_bundle’
<code>keep_with_condition_only</code>	logical(1) omit bundles that lack a "Condition" element, defaults to TRUE

### Value

instance of BiocFHIR.FHIRgraph

### Examples

```
data("allin")
make_condition_graph(allin, TRUE)
```

`make_test_json_set`      *produce 50 json FHIR files in a folder*

### Description

produce 50 json FHIR files in a folder

### Usage

```
make_test_json_set(target = paste0(tempdir(), "/jsontest"), reuse = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

<code>target</code>	character(1) a path, defaults to ‘jsontest’ under ‘tempdir()’; the contents of synthfhir.zip, in inst/zip of BiocFHIR, will be deposited there.
<code>reuse</code>	logical(1) if TRUE, just use what is there, if folder already exists

### Value

a vector of paths to FHIR JSON, invisibly

### Examples

```
z <- make_test_json_set()
z[1:3]
```

`print.BiocFHIR.FHIRgraph`  
*show a combination of graph and patient attributes*

### Description

show a combination of graph and patient attributes

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'BiocFHIR.FHIRgraph'
print(x, ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>x</code>	instance of <code>BiocFHIR.FHIRgraph</code>
...	not used

### Value

print method

### Examples

```
data("allin")
make_condition_graph(allin)
```

---

print.FHIR.bundle      *print method*

---

**Description**

print method

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'FHIR.bundle'  
print(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	BiocFHIR FHIR.bundle instance
...	not used

**Value**

print method

---

process\_AllergyIntolerance  
*extract information from retained fields in AllergyIntolerance component of FHIR Bundle, produce simple data.frame*

---

**Description**

extract information from retained fields in AllergyIntolerance component of FHIR Bundle, produce simple data.frame

**Usage**

```
process_AllergyIntolerance(AllergyIntolerance)
```

**Arguments**

AllergyIntolerance	
	component of FHIR.bundle instance

**Value**

data.frame

**Examples**

```
testf <- system.file("json/Vince741_Rogahn59_6fa3d4ab-c0b6-424a-89d8-7d9105129296.json",  
                     package="BiocFHIR")  
tbun <- process_fhir_bundle(testf)  
process_AllergyIntolerance(tbun$AllergyIntolerance)
```

**process\_CarePlan**      *extract information from retained fields in CarePlan component of FHIR Bundle, produce simple data.frame*

### Description

extract information from retained fields in CarePlan component of FHIR Bundle, produce simple data.frame

### Usage

```
process_CarePlan(CarePlan)
```

### Arguments

CarePlan	component of FHIR.bundle instance
----------	-----------------------------------

### Value

data.frame

### Note

Nov 13 2022, added code to refine the 'category' data processing.

### Examples

```
testf <- system.file("json/Vince741_Rogahn59_6fa3d4ab-c0b6-424a-89d8-7d9105129296.json",
                      package="BiocFHIR")
tbun <- process_fhir_bundle(testf)
process_CarePlan(tbun$CarePlan)
```

**process\_Claim**      *extract information from retained fields in Claim component of FHIR Bundle, produce simple data.frame*

### Description

extract information from retained fields in Claim component of FHIR Bundle, produce simple data.frame

### Usage

```
process_Claim(Claim)
```

### Arguments

Claim	component of FHIR.bundle instance
-------	-----------------------------------

**Value**

```
data.frame
```

**Examples**

```
testf <- system.file("json/Vince741_Rogahn59_6fa3d4ab-c0b6-424a-89d8-7d9105129296.json",
  package="BiocFHIR")
tbun <- process_fhir_bundle(testf)
process_Claim(tbun$Claim)
```

<code>process_Condition</code>	<i>extract information from retained fields in Condition component of FHIR Bundle, produce simple data.frame</i>
--------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**Description**

extract information from retained fields in Condition component of FHIR Bundle, produce simple data.frame

**Usage**

```
process_Condition(Condition)
```

**Arguments**

<code>Condition</code>	component of FHIR.bundle instance
------------------------	-----------------------------------

**Value**

```
data.frame
```

**Examples**

```
testf <- system.file("json/Vince741_Rogahn59_6fa3d4ab-c0b6-424a-89d8-7d9105129296.json",
  package="BiocFHIR")
tbun <- process_fhir_bundle(testf)
process_Condition(tbun$Condition)
```

<code>process_Encounter</code>	<i>extract information from retained fields in Encounter component of FHIR Bundle, produce simple data.frame</i>
--------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**Description**

extract information from retained fields in Encounter component of FHIR Bundle, produce simple data.frame

**Usage**

```
process_Encounter(Encounter)
```

**Arguments**

Encounter      component of FHIR.bundle instance

**Value**

data.frame

**Examples**

```
testf <- system.file("json/Vince741_Rogahn59_6fa3d4ab-c0b6-424a-89d8-7d9105129296.json",
  package="BiocFHIR")
tbun <- process_fhir_bundle(testf)
process_Encounter(tbun$Encounter)
```

**process\_fhir\_bundle**    *process a bundle of FHIR R4 JSON*

**Description**

process a bundle of FHIR R4 JSON

**Usage**

```
process_fhir_bundle(json_file, schemas = FHIR_retention_schemas())
```

**Arguments**

json\_file      character(1) path to text in JSON format

schemas        list of character vectors defining expected fields, defaults to FHIR\_retention\_schemas()

**Value**

instance of FHIR.bundle, extending list

**Note**

If one encounters the error "Element ... lacks field", the schemas argument can be modified by removing the noted field from the schema.

**Examples**

```
testf = system.file("json/Vince741_Rogahn59_6fa3d4ab-c0b6-424a-89d8-7d9105129296.json",
  package="BiocFHIR")
tbun = process_fhir_bundle(testf)
tbun
```

---

process_Immunization	<i>extract information from retained fields in Immunization component of FHIR Bundle, produce simple data.frame</i>
----------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

---

**Description**

extract information from retained fields in Immunization component of FHIR Bundle, produce simple data.frame

**Usage**

```
process_Immunization(Immunization)
```

**Arguments**

Immunization component of FHIR.bundle instance

**Value**

data.frame

**Examples**

```
testf <- system.file("json/Vince741_Rogahn59_6fa3d4ab-c0b6-424a-89d8-7d9105129296.json",
                      package="BiocFHIR")
tbun <- process_fhir_bundle(testf)
process_Immunization(tbun$Immunization)
```

---

process_MedicationRequest	<i>extract information from retained fields in MedicationRequest component of FHIR Bundle, produce simple data.frame</i>
---------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

---

**Description**

extract information from retained fields in MedicationRequest component of FHIR Bundle, produce simple data.frame

**Usage**

```
process_MedicationRequest(MedicationRequest)
```

**Arguments**

MedicationRequest component of FHIR.bundle instance

**Value**

data.frame

**Examples**

```
testf <- system.file("json/Vince741_Rogahn59_6fa3d4ab-c0b6-424a-89d8-7d9105129296.json",
  package="BiocFHIR")
tbun <- process_fhir_bundle(testf)
process_MedicationRequest(tbun$MedicationRequest)
```

**process\_Observation**     *extract information from retained fields in Observation component of FHIR Bundle, produce simple data.frame*

**Description**

extract information from retained fields in Observation component of FHIR Bundle, produce simple data.frame

**Usage**

```
process_Observation(Observation)
```

**Arguments**

Observation     component of FHIR.bundle instance

**Value**

data.frame

**Examples**

```
testf <- system.file("json/Vince741_Rogahn59_6fa3d4ab-c0b6-424a-89d8-7d9105129296.json",
  package="BiocFHIR")
tbun <- process_fhir_bundle(testf)
process_Observation(tbun$Observation)
```

**process\_Patient**     *flatten information in Patient component of a bundle to a one-line data.frame*

**Description**

flatten information in Patient component of a bundle to a one-line data.frame

**Usage**

```
process_Patient(Patient)
```

**Arguments**

Patient     element of FHIR.bundle instance

**Value**

```
data.frame
```

**Examples**

```
testf <- system.file("json/Vince741_Rogahn59_6fa3d4ab-c0b6-424a-89d8-7d9105129296.json",
  package="BiocFHIR")
tbun <- process_fhir_bundle(testf)
tpat <- process_Patient(tbun$Patient)
head(names(tpat))
tags <- c("identifier.system3", "identifier.value3")
tpat[tags,,FALSE]
tags2 <- grep("extension.extension", rownames(tpat), value=TRUE)
tpat[tags2,,FALSE]
```

**process\_Procedure**

*extract information from retained fields in Procedure component of FHIR Bundle, produce simple data.frame*

**Description**

extract information from retained fields in Procedure component of FHIR Bundle, produce simple data.frame

**Usage**

```
process_Procedure(Procedure)
```

**Arguments**

Procedure	component of FHIR.bundle instance
-----------	-----------------------------------

**Value**

```
data.frame
```

**Examples**

```
testf <- system.file("json/Vince741_Rogahn59_6fa3d4ab-c0b6-424a-89d8-7d9105129296.json",
  package="BiocFHIR")
tbun <- process_fhir_bundle(testf)
process_Procedure(tbun$Procedure)
```

<code>stack_fhir</code>	<i>convert data of a given FHIR type in a list of bundles to a data.frame</i>
-------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------

### Description

convert data of a given FHIR type in a list of bundles to a data.frame

### Usage

```
stack_fhir(blist, type, droperr = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

<code>blist</code>	list of FHIR bundles imported with <code>process_fhir_bundle</code>
<code>type</code>	character(1) type, in names( <code>blist[[1]]</code> ), e.g.
<code>droperr</code>	logical(1) exclude records for which <code>process_[type]</code> fails, defaults to TRUE

### Value

`data.frame`

### Examples

```
jj = make_test_json_set()
b2 = lapply(jj[1:2], process_fhir_bundle)
ss = stack_fhir(b2, "Procedure")
head(ss, 2)
```

<code>summarise_bundles</code>	<i>produce tables summarizing FHIR data</i>
--------------------------------	---------------------------------------------

### Description

produce tables summarizing FHIR data

### Usage

```
summarise_bundles(
  blist,
  resource = "Condition",
  selection_map = summary_selections()
)
```

### Arguments

<code>blist</code>	list of ingested bundles
<code>resource</code>	character(1) FHIR resource name
<code>selection_map</code>	character() named vector of single strings selected for summarisation

### Value

`data.frame`

---

summary\_selections      *vector of fields to be selected for summarization*

---

**Description**

vector of fields to be selected for summarization

**Usage**

```
summary_selections()
```

**Value**

named vector of strings

# Index

\* **datasets**  
    allin, 3  
  
    add\_procedures, 2  
    allin, 3  
    available\_retention\_schemas, 3  
  
    build\_proccond\_igraph, 4  
  
    display\_proccond\_igraph, 4  
  
    FHIR\_ResourceTypes, 5  
    FHIR\_retention\_schemas, 6  
    FHIRtabs, 5  
    freq\_app, 6  
  
    getHumanName, 7  
  
    make\_condition\_graph, 7  
    make\_test\_json\_set, 8  
  
    print.BiocFHIR.FHIRgraph, 8  
    print.FHIR.bundle, 9  
    process\_AllergyIntolerance, 9  
    process\_CarePlan, 10  
    process\_Claim, 10  
    process\_Condition, 11  
    process\_Encounter, 11  
    process\_fhir\_bundle, 12  
    process\_Immunization, 13  
    process\_MedicationRequest, 13  
    process\_Observation, 14  
    process\_Patient, 14  
    process\_Procedure, 15  
  
    stack\_fhir, 16  
    summarise\_bundles, 16  
    summary\_selections, 17