

4.3 UNH - Message Header

4.3.1 Purpose

This segment is used to start, specify and uniquely identify a message.

4.3.2 Segment Rules

The segment is mandatory and must be present at the beginning of each message.

4.3.3 Relationships

The segment has a relationship to UNT at the end of message through the same MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER (0062).

4.3.4 Segment Format

<i>Tag</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>M/C</i>	<i>Format</i>	<i>Usage</i>	<i>Imposed Value</i>
0062	MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER	M	an..14	R	
S009	MESSAGE IDENTIFIER	M		R	
0065	Message type identifier	M	an..6	R	GESMES
0052	Message type version number	M	an..3	R	D
0054	Message type release number	M	an..3	R	95A
0051	Controlling agency	M	an..2	R	E6
0057	Association assigned code	C	an..6	X	
0068	COMMON ACCESS REFERENCE	C	an..35	X	
S010	STATUS OF THE TRANSFER	C		X	
0070	Sequence message transfer number	M	n..2		
0073	First/last sequence message transfer indication	C	a1		

4.3.5 Data Element Rules

0062 - Message Reference Number

This contains an unique number assigned by the sender to the message -- this can be either:

- a program generated reference number starting at 1 for the first message in the interchange, and incremented by 1 for each successive message in the interchange, or
- a meaningful number provided from the originator's in-house system.

The two techniques of a program generated or meaningful reference number must not be mixed within an interchange. The preferred technique should be specified in the Interchange Agreement. Most live systems use the former technique, with the numbers being program generated.

S009 - Message Identifier

The sequence GESMES:D:95A:E6 identifies the message as GESMES as supported by the D.95A directory published by the Controlling Agency coded E6.

4.3.6 Example

UNH+0001+GESMES:D:95A:E6 '