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International Release
July 2014

Content Release Notes

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Amendment History

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Review Timetable

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1 Introduction

The SNOMED CT terminology provides a common language that enables a consistent way of indexing, storing, retrieving, and aggregating clinical data across specialties and sites of care. The International Health Terminology Standards Development Organization (IHTSDO®) maintains the SNOMED CT technical design, the content architecture, the SNOMED CT content (includes the concepts table, the descriptions table, the relationships table, a history table, and ICD mappings), and related technical documentation.

This document provides a brief description of the content changes included in the July 2014 release of SNOMED Clinical Terms® (SCT) International Release. This document is available as part of the July 2014 International Release.

2 Audience for this document

The audience includes National Release Centers, WHO-FIC release centers, vendors of electronic health records, terminology developers and managers who wish to have an understanding of changes that have been incorporated into the International Release of SNOMED CT.

3 Content Development Activity

3.1 Summary

For the July 2014 release, the content development activity has focused on addressing requests for new content work related to the LOINC agreement and undertaking quality improvements to existing terminology content. The release has seen a continuation of the work on the contributions from the Kaiser Permanente Controlled Medical Terminology (CMT), and a large number of the additions made during this release have originated from this source. The additions from CMT fall into three categories: Musculoskeletal, Ophthalmology and Obstetrics and Gynecology. There are also a number of specific changes listed below.

3.2 Content changes

3.2.1 Abbreviations and punctuation changes

There are 173 retired descriptions in this release, with extreme abbreviations and punctuation that were made to fit into 30 characters. These represent a left over from the Read codes and have been retired due to safety concerns.
3.2.2 Dental content
The release includes the content related to the completion of the tooth identification project undertaken by the Dental SIG. There are:

- 631 new clarifying descriptions to body structure concepts
- Some retired synonyms that were seen as ambiguous because they did not identify the source of the numbering systems
- Completed coverage for ISO Universal and Haderup tooth designations.
- An additional 30 dental concepts were added from customer requests.
- New concepts for devices have been added, and associated procedure codes will be added on request.
- Following consultation with Dental SIG, eleven concepts under 53897000 Space maintainer (procedure) were retired because they did not specify the action.

3.2.3 Circulatory changes originating from ICD-11
172 concepts identified through the ICD 11 gap analysis from the Circulatory chapter have been added.

3.2.4 Rare Genetic disorders
120 rare genetic disorders as part of an collaboration agreement with Orphanet to add rare conditions have been added.

3.2.5 [X], [SO], [M], [D] changes
417 descriptions have been retired beginning with [X], [SO], [M], [D] that were in conflict with guidance detailed in the Technical Implementation guidance (http://ihtsdo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/doc/) ref: TIG 6.2.3.2.

3.2.6 Controlled Medical Terminologies (CMT)
Three CMT domains have been completed for requested concepts that were accepted during review. These are:

a. CMT Musculoskeletal
b. CMT Ophthalmology - resulted in 150 new concepts being added
c. CMT Obstetrics/Gynecology.

More content for these domains awaits artifact/review work.

3.2.7 Diagnostic imaging
Addition of 300+ (non-lateral) diagnostic imaging and imaging guided procedure concepts have been added.
3.2.8 Laboratory (LOINC)
127 Concepts were added into the July 2014 release for production of the Alpha prototype and technical release of the LOINC - SNOMED Cooperation Project. These included concepts in two new hierarchies:
- 16 precondition values (qualifier values)
- 15 population of cells (body structure).
Also
- 67 new technique concepts were added in the qualifier values hierarchy
- With additional supporting content added to substances, observable entities, specimens, property qualifier values and cells

Some remodeling of the existing amphetamine related content was performed.

3.2.9 Microbiology reporting
Added 80 new concepts resulted from Microbiology Reporting Project recommendation regarding "X or Y (finding)"

3.2.10 ICD-O Morphology Updates
There were approximately 177 changes/additions to update the morphologic abnormality hierarchy of SNOMED CT, and the ICD-O simple map reference set that links morphologies with ICD-O codes. These are based on recent “Blue Book” publications by IARC in the classification of tumors of breast, soft tissue/bone, and female genital tract (http://www.iarc.fr/en/publications/pdfs-online/pat-gen/).

3.2.11 General codes for upper respiratory bacterial infections
Three new general codes were added for bacterial sinusitis, bacterial otitis media, and bacterial tonsillitis.

4 SNOMED CT derivative works

4.1 SNOMED CT to ICD-10 map
An updated SNOMED CT to the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision (© World Health Organization 1994) 2010 Version map (SNOMED CT to ICD-10 Map) has been included in the July 2014 SNOMED CT International Release. For the July 2014 release, 1449 new concepts have been added and mapped and also 862 from the existing unmapped work pool. IHTSDO welcomes the opportunity to work with organizations or institutions
who are interested in performing usage validation of the SNOMED CT to ICD-10 Map. If interested, the draft methodology, developed jointly with WHO, will be shared to assist in the work. Please contact info@ihtsdo.org.