

## Briefing Note for the CMAG, EAG, and Clinical Leads

Informational only

03 April 2024

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Restructuring of << 1187137001 |Squamous intraepithelial neoplasia (morphologic abnormality)|

### Purpose

For Information only - Correct the << 1187137001 |Squamous intraepithelial neoplasia (morphologic abnormality)| hierarchy to properly represent the two common grading systems used globally

### Background

Squamous intraepithelial neoplasia grading rubrics can be represented as a two-tiered system (i.e., low grade and high grade) or as a three-tiered system (i.e., grade 1, grade 2, and grade 3) based on standards of pathology practice. Translating between a two-tiered system and a three-tiered system is not uniform. While grade 1 is always considered to be low grade and grade 3 is always considered high grade, squamous intraepithelial neoplasia grade 2 is considered high grade in some organ systems but is considered low grade squamous intraepithelial neoplasia in other organ systems.

Grading of squamous intraepithelial neoplasia is used in national screening guidelines. (Example: in cervical screening:

[https://www.bmj.com/content/383/bmj-2023-075925#:~:text=Results%20The%20cohort%20included%207.%25%20in%20the%20LLETZ%20group%20\[bmj.com\].](https://www.bmj.com/content/383/bmj-2023-075925#:~:text=Results%20The%20cohort%20included%207.%25%20in%20the%20LLETZ%20group%20[bmj.com].))

Changes are necessary in the << 1187137001|Squamous intraepithelial neoplasia (morphologic abnormality)| hierarchy to properly align grading between two and three-tiered systems. These changes need to be communicated to SNOMED CT users who use affected concepts in screening or other national use cases to ensure proper alignment with each use case.

SI received two CRS requests from a member country to correct this subhierarchy and properly align grading between the two and three-tiered systems. The issue was also discussed with the Cancer Synoptic Reporting Project Group and they support the efforts to correct the subhierarchy.

## Issues/problem statement

400049009 |Squamous intraepithelial neoplasia grade 2 (morphologic abnormality)| is currently a subtype of 450595003 |Squamous intraepithelial neoplasia, low grade (morphologic abnormality)| which leads to unintended mis-grading of squamous intraepithelial neoplasia when converting between a two-tiered and a three-tiered grading rubric.

Further, synonyms of 20365006 |Squamous intraepithelial neoplasia, grade III (morphologic abnormality)| include reference to specific organ systems including anus, cervix, vagina and vulva. Reference to body site as used in this concept is not in agreement with editorial guidance.

## Proposed solution

New concept created for high grade squamous intraepithelial neoplasia - 1332489007 |High-grade squamous intraepithelial neoplasia (morphologic abnormality)|.

<< 20365006 |Squamous intraepithelial neoplasia, grade III (morphologic abnormality)| are subsumed by this new concept.

All synonyms referencing a specific organ/body site or high grade inactivated for 20365006 |Squamous intraepithelial neoplasia, grade III (morphologic abnormality)|.

Change ISA relationship for 400049009 |Squamous intraepithelial neoplasia grade 2 (morphologic abnormality)| from ISA = 450595003 |Squamous intraepithelial neoplasia, low grade (morphologic abnormality)| to ISA = 1187137001 |Squamous intraepithelial neoplasia (morphologic abnormality)|.

## Impact to content

Impact on content is small and involves a total of six (6) concepts including 3 morphologic abnormality and 2 disorder concepts.

## Next Steps

Changes represented to be advanced to the International release after briefing note circulation.

## Release date

1 June 2024 release

Approvals	Date	Name
Chief Terminologist	Apr 2, 2024	James T. Case
Director of Content and Mapping	Apr 2, 2024	Monica Harry
CSRM team	April 3, 2024	Jane Millar

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