

# Practical Guide to SNOMED CT Reference Sets

**Expo 2016 Tutorial** 





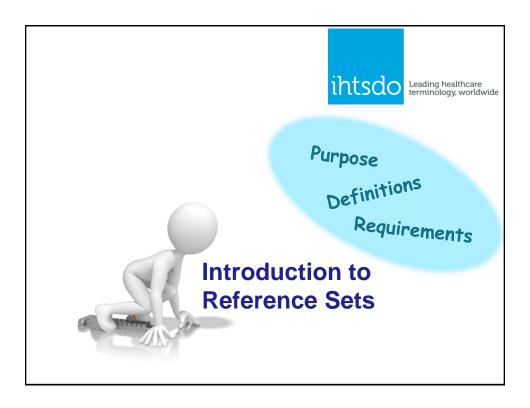
David Markwell, Head of Education Anne Randorff Højen, Implementation Specialist

## Overview



- Part 1. Introduction to Reference Sets
  - Purpose of refsets
  - Subsets, value set and reference sets
  - Requirements design
  - Requirements, types and examples
- Part 2. Reference Set Life Cycle
  - Overview of development process
  - Practical examples
  - Questions

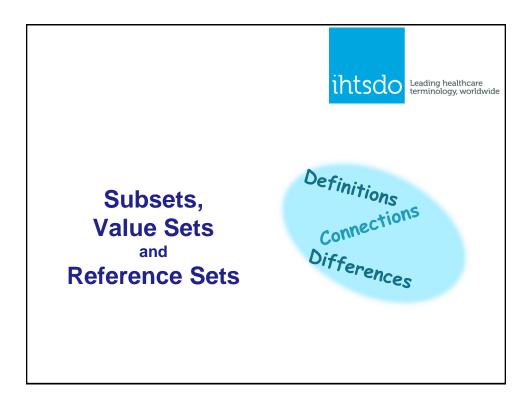


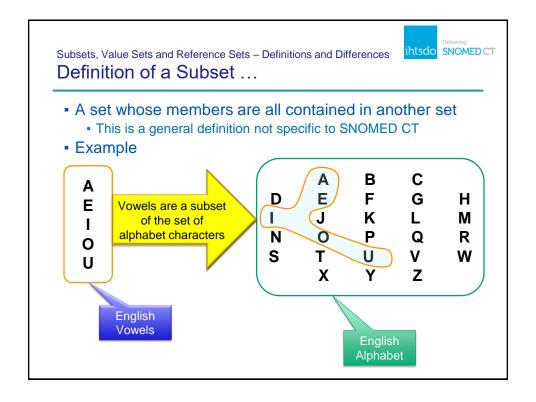




## **Purpose**

 Reference sets provide a standard way to customize and enhancing the usability of SNOMED CT in a different countries, languages, specialties and contexts





Subsets, Value Sets and Reference Sets – Definitions and Differences

Definition of a Value Set...



- A set of concept representations used to represent values in a particular data item
  - This definition is not specific to SNOMED CT
  - May include coded from different code systems and other concept representations including coded refinements or defined text strings
- Example
  - A message or reporting specification for a problem list might define a single value-set including:
    - SNOMED CT disorder concepts
    - SNOMED CT expressions that are subtypes of disorder
    - ICD-10 classification codes representing diseases

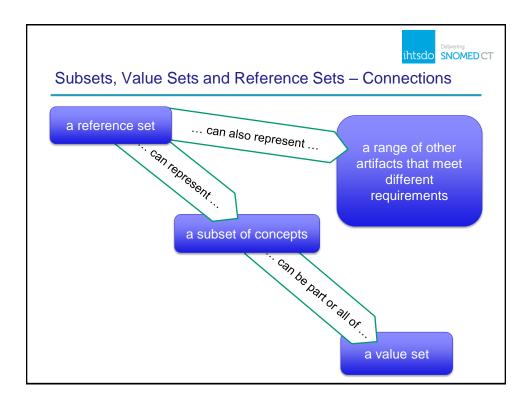
Subsets, Value Sets and Reference Sets – Definitions and Differences

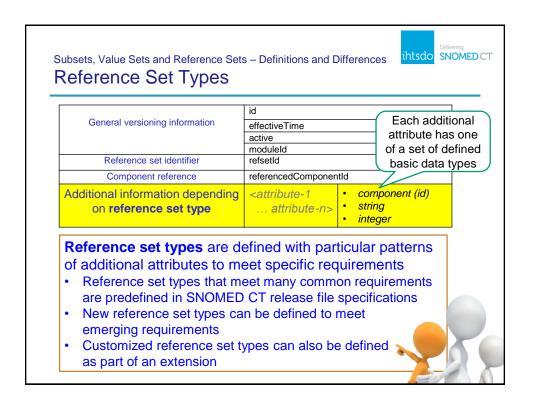


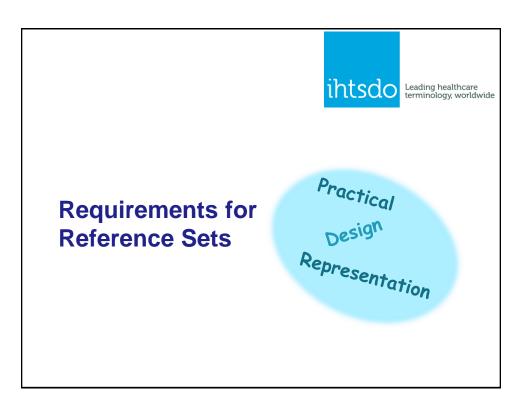
#### Definition of a Reference Set

- A standard SNOMED CT release file format
  - A set of references to SNOMED CT components
  - May include additional information for each component

	id
General versioning information	effectiveTime
	active
	moduleId
Reference set identifier	refsetId
Component reference	referencedComponentId
Additional information depending on reference set type	<attribute-1 attribute-n=""></attribute-1>







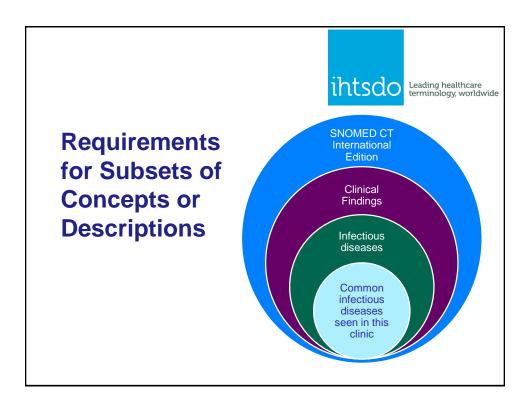


## Requirements for Reference Sets

- Subsets of concepts or descriptions (components)
- Ordered lists of components and prioritization
- Sets of components annotated with additional data
- Sets of associations between components
- Sets of ordered associations between components
- Sets of maps or links to or from another code system

#### For each type of requirement we will look at:

- One or two practical examples of the requirement
- The data structure needed to meet the requirement
- A reference set type that meets the requirement





## Practical Requirements for Subsets

- Requirements for subsets of concepts
  - Restricting searches to terms associated with specified concepts
  - Constraining data entry
  - Specifying value sets for particular data items
  - Specifying queries for data retrieval
- Requirements for subsets of descriptions
  - Restricting searches to specified sets of terms
  - Specifying descriptions to appear in a list of options
- Inclusion and exclusion of subset content
  - A subset typically contains the components to be included
  - For some requirements a subset of components to be excluded can also be helpful

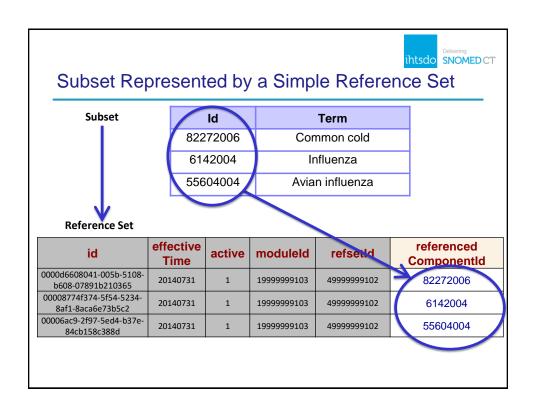


- 1. A simple list of identifiers can represent a subset of SNOMED CT components
  - For example:
    - 82272006
    - **•** 6142004
    - 55604004
    - ... etc. ...

When a subset is represented by a SNOMED CT simple reference set:

 The list of component identifiers is represented by the referencedComponentId



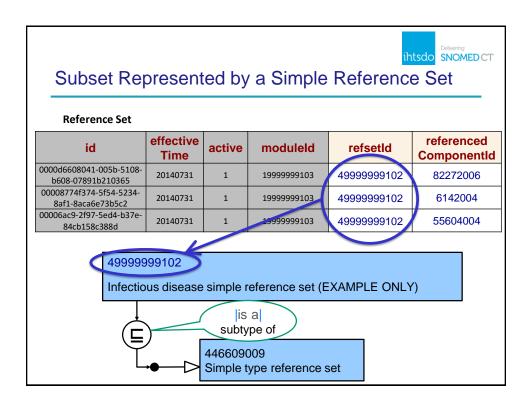




- A simple list identifiers can represent a subset of SNOMED CT components
- 2. For practical use, a subset needs to be identified and named so it can be referred to unambiguously

#### When a subset is represented by a reference set:

- The subset is identified by the refsetId
- The refsetId refers to a concept
- · Descriptions of that concept name the reference set
- A relationship of that concept refers to the reference set type (in this case |is a| |simple type reference set|)

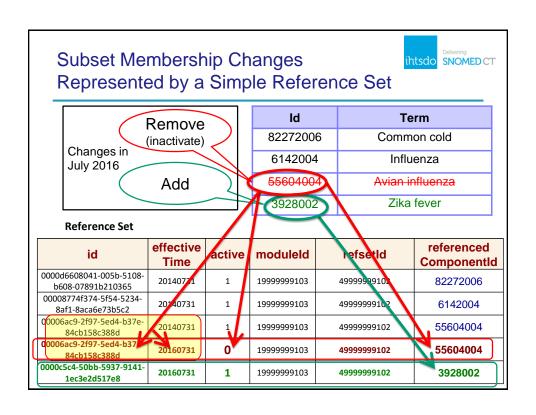




- A simple list identifiers can represent a subset of SNOMED CT components
- 2. For practical use, a subset needs to be identified and named so it can be referred to unambiguously
- 3. Subset membership may need to change with future releases of SNOMED CT or due to evolving requirements for inclusion of different content

#### When a subset is represented by a reference set:

- The standard SNOMED CT approach to versioning and modularization allows full tracking of changes.
- This uses the following columns
  - · id, effectiveTime, active, moduleId





- A simple list identifiers can represent a subset of SNOMED CT components
- 2. For practical use, a subset needs to be identified and named so it can be referred to unambiguously
- Subset membership may need to change with future releases of SNOMED CT or due to evolving requirements for inclusion of different content
- 4. It may be useful to define the membership of a subset using rules rather than a list of identifiers
  - This is called an intensional subset definition

Not a misspelling!
Intensional is not the same as intentional



#### **Extensional and Intensional Subset Definitions**

- Extensional subset definitions
  - Subset membership defined by enumeration
    - Identifying each of the members individually

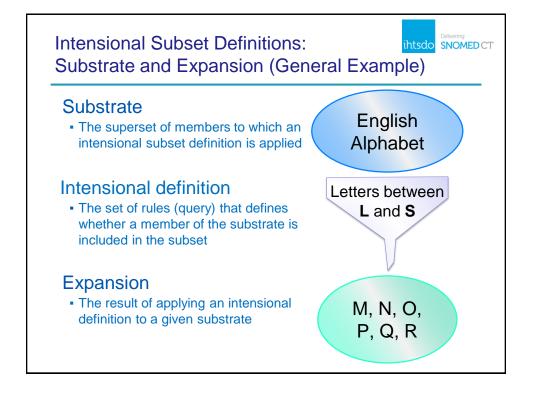
#### SNOMED CT supports extensional subset definitions:

- Simple type reference sets with members identified by component identifiers (referencedComponentId)
- Intensional subset definitions
  - Subset membership is defined by a set of rules
    - The rules are expressed as a query that computes the membership of a subset

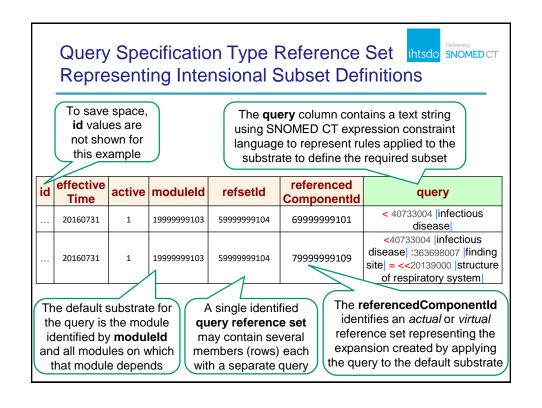
#### SNOMED CT supports intensional subset definitions:

- Query type reference sets with rules represented as
- SNOMED CT expression constraints

## **Intensional Subset Definitions:** ihtsdo SNOMEDCT Substrate and Expansion Substrate The superset of members to which an Substrate intensional subset definition is applied Intensional definition Intensional • The set of rules (query) that defines definition whether a member of the substrate is included in the subset **Expansion** The result of applying an intensional definition to a given substrate Expansion



#### **Intensional Subset Definitions:** ihtsdo SNOMEDCT Substrate and Expansion (SNOMED CT Example) Substrate SNOMED CT The superset of members to which an International intensional subset definition is applied Edition 2016- A specified version of a SNOMED 07-31 CT edition Intensional definition < |infectious • The set of rules (query) that defines disease whether a member of the substrate is included in the subset A SNOMED CT expression constraint Expansion The result of applying an intensional Concepts that definition to a given substrate are subtypes of Concepts in specified version of the linfectious edition that comply with the constraint disease





Reference Set Requirements Beyond Subsets





## Requirements for Ordered Lists

- Requirements for ordered lists of descriptions
  - Presenting terms in an order that is rational or helpful for a particular purpose in user interface controls including:
    - Simple lists
    - Drop down lists
    - Popup menus
  - Ordering search results
- Requirements for ordered lists of concepts
  - Presenting concepts in an order that is rational or helpful for a particular purpose irrespective of the term displayed Examples
    - Body parts including fingers, cranial nerves and vertebrae
    - Enumerated values and scales including frequencies, severities and stages



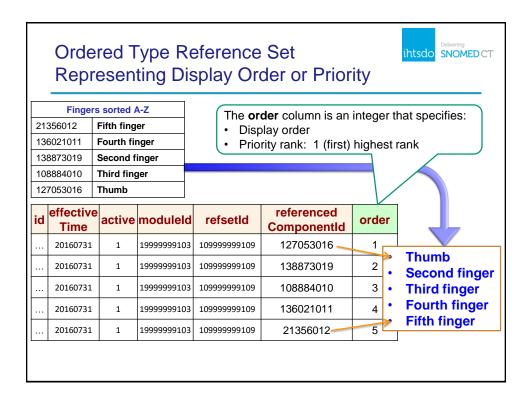
#### Requirements for Prioritization

- Prioritization is similar to order but multiple components may have the same rank
- Requirements for prioritization of concepts
  - Making it easier to find concepts that are most commonly used in a particular specialty, department or data entry scenario
  - Highlighting concepts that are preferred options for a particular purpose without preventing access to a wider selection of concepts



## Approaches to Implementing Prioritization

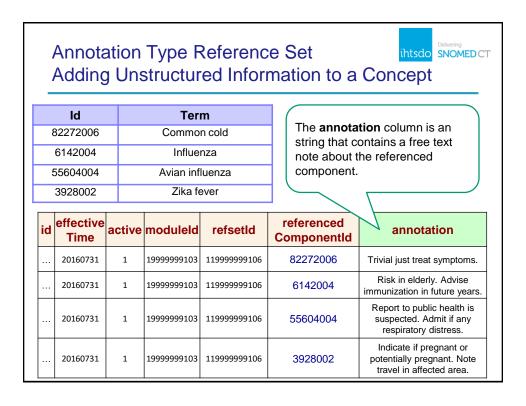
- Display search results in priority order
  - Results with same rank ordered by shortest or closest match
- Displaying a rank indicator in search result list
- Limit initial search to high priority concepts
  - Extend searches to lower priorities
    - If no high priority matches
    - If user requests more matches

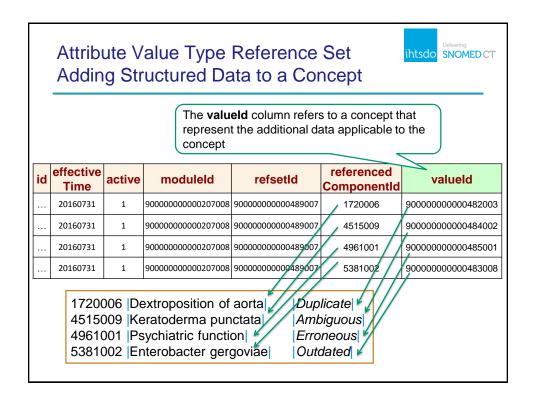


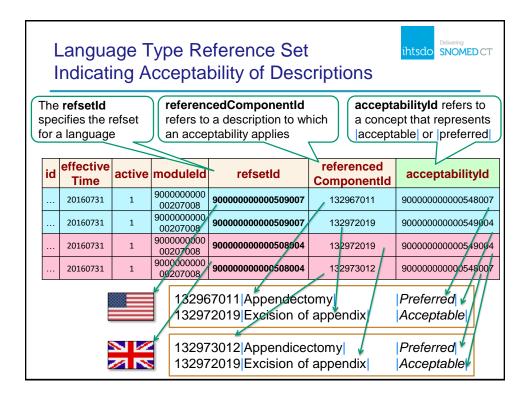
## Requirements for Adding Information to a Referenced Component



- Displaying a textual note or comment about a listed or selected concept
  - For example, a guidance note on requesting a particular procedure or service
- Marking particular concepts with specific values to provide processable and/or displayable information
  - For example, marking inactive concepts with indicators of the reasons for inactivating them
- Marking descriptions with indications of whether the terms they contain are acceptable or preferred in a specified language or dialects
  - For example, distinguishing term usage between different languages, dialects, local or specialty groups



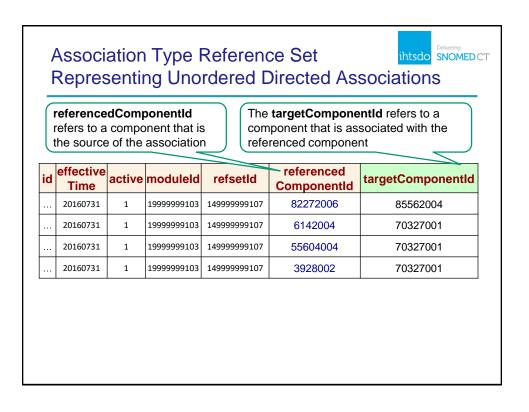


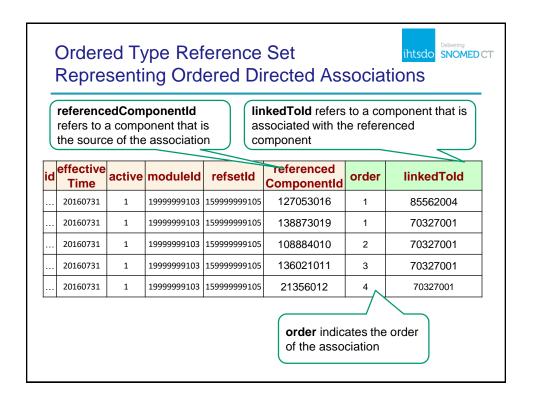


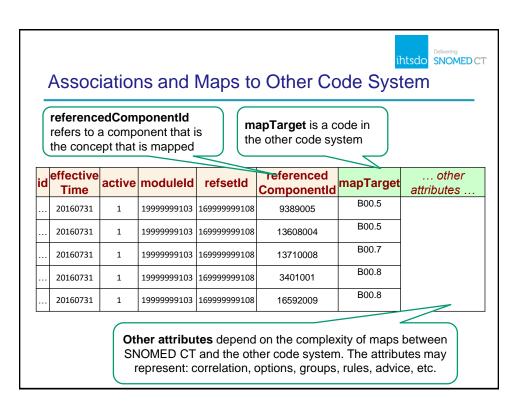
## Requirements for Associations Between Components



- Historical associations between components
  - For example, associating an concept that has been inactivated as a duplicate with the active concept that it duplicates
- Grouping concepts together
  - For example, representing categories containing concepts that are used for reporting
- Presenting alternative hierarchical views of concepts of descriptions at the user interface data entry



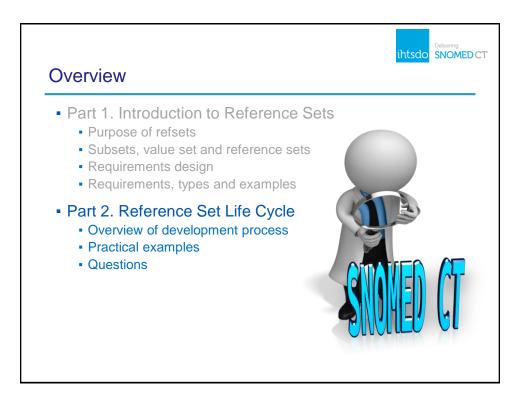




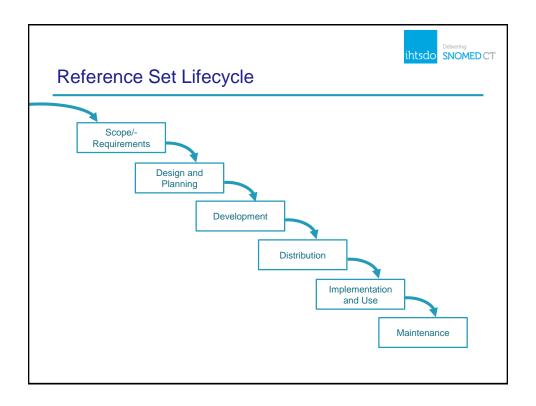
## Reference Set Customization to Meet Additional Requirements

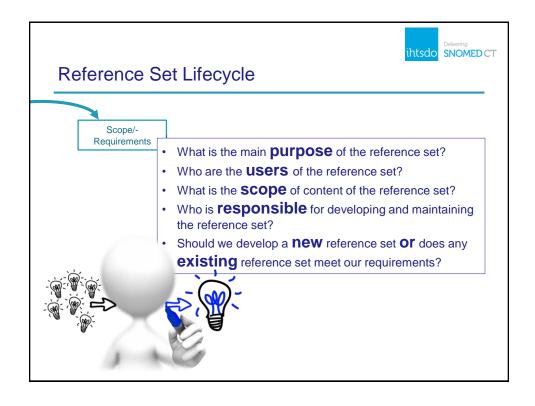


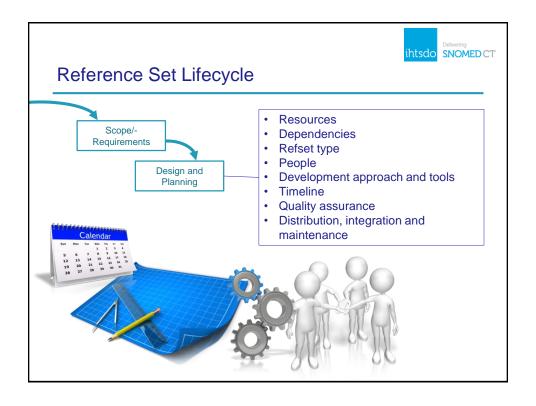
- The reference set specification defines a special reference set that can be used to specify the structure of other reference sets
  - The reference set descriptor reference set
- Therefore ...
  - Reference sets offer a standard SNOMED CT format for representing and versioning collections of data linked to SNOMED CT components
  - Reference sets can meet a wide variety of requirements. There
    may be other ways to meet those requirements but the added
    value of reference sets is the standard systematic approach to
    versioning and change tracking

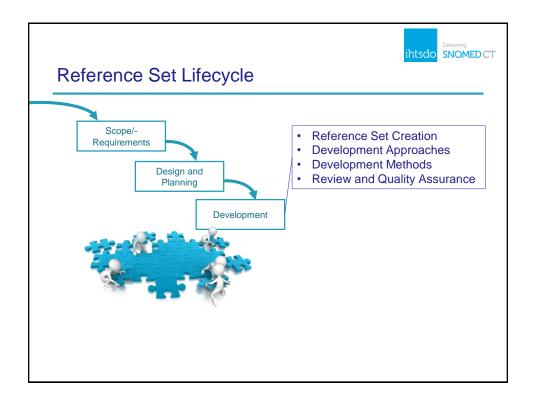


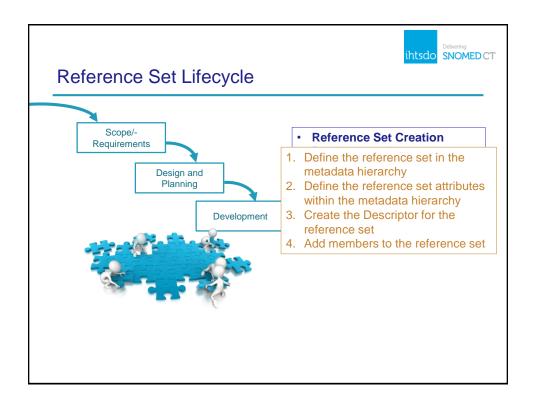


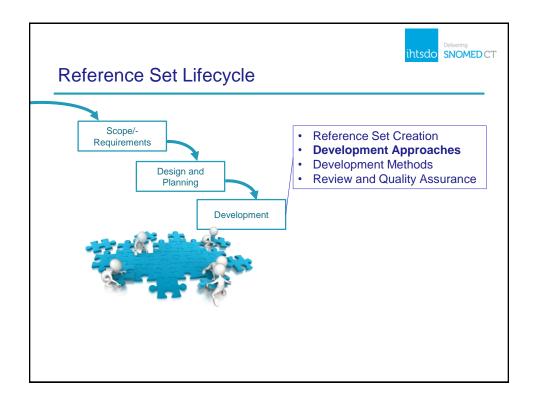


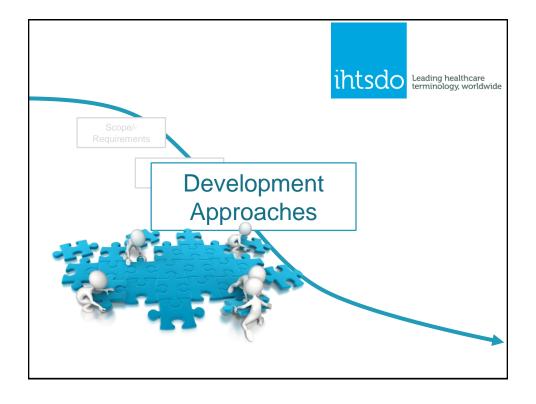


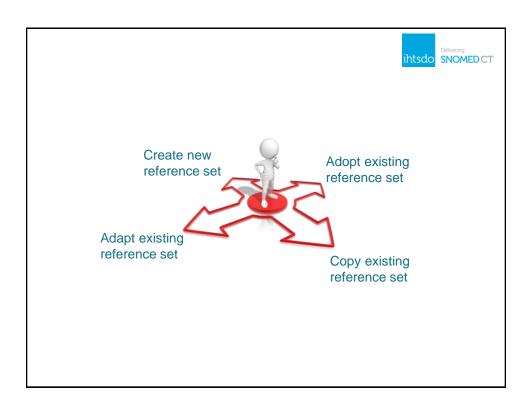


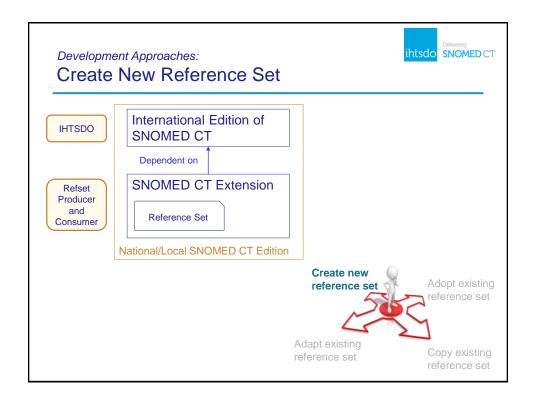


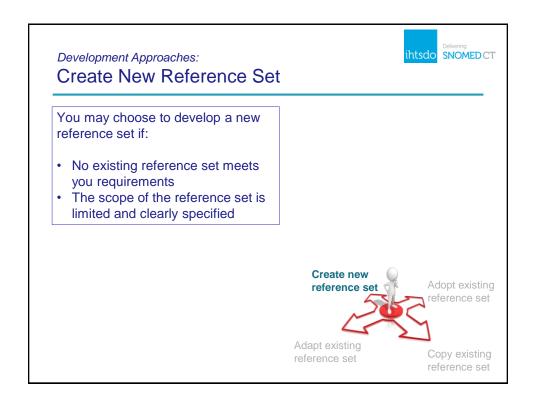


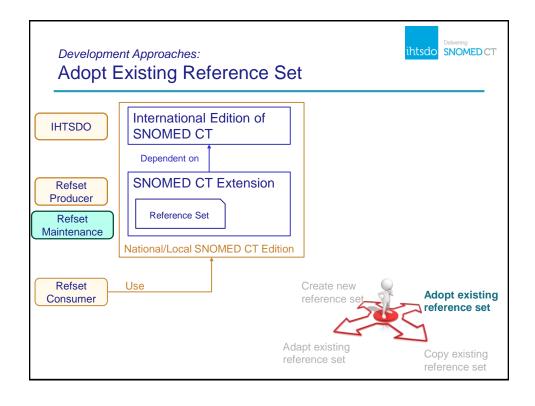


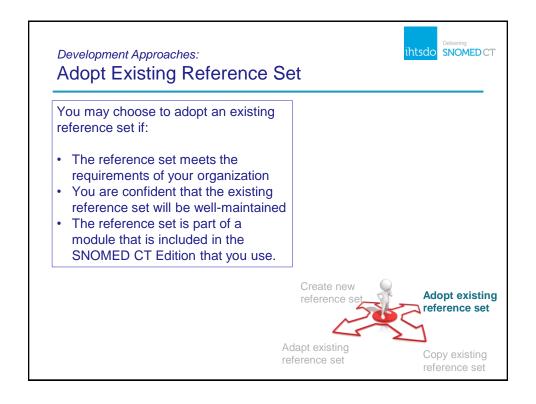


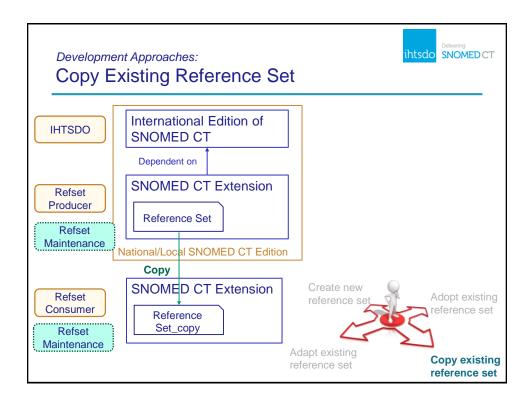


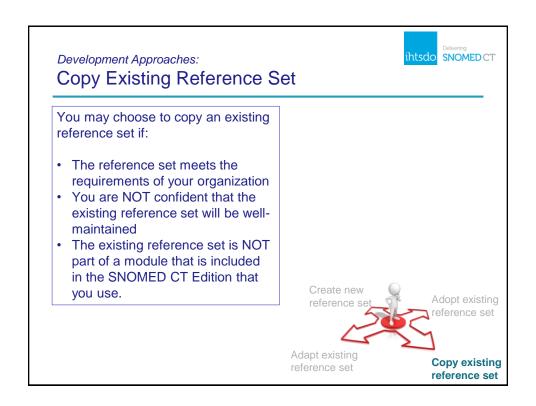


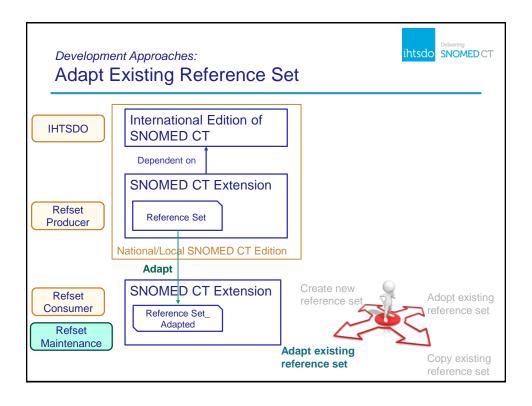


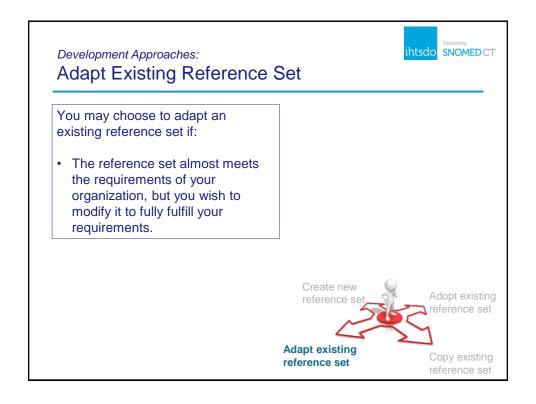


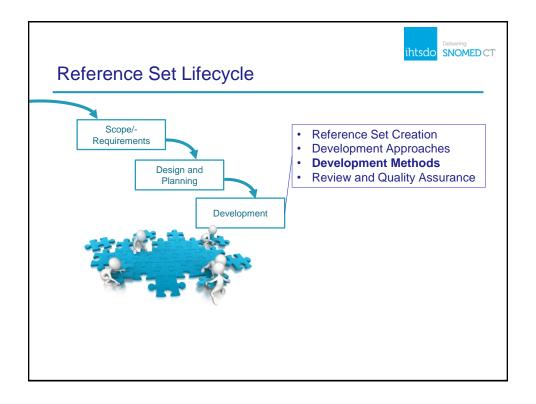


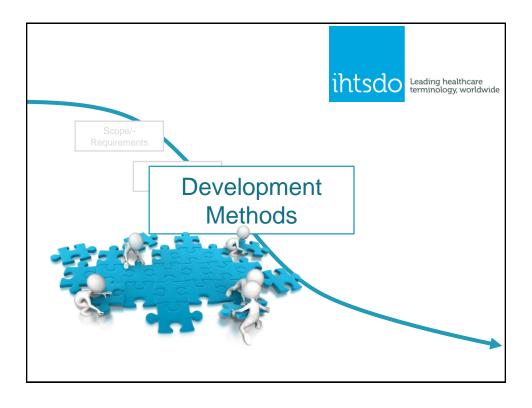


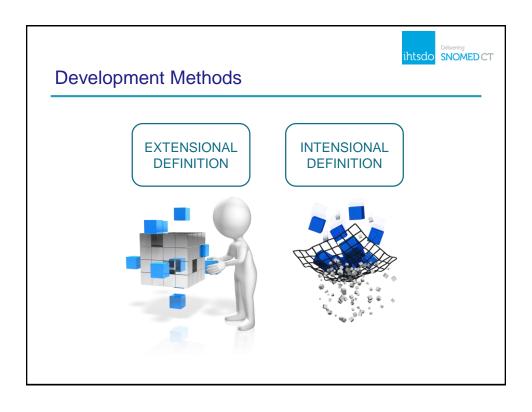


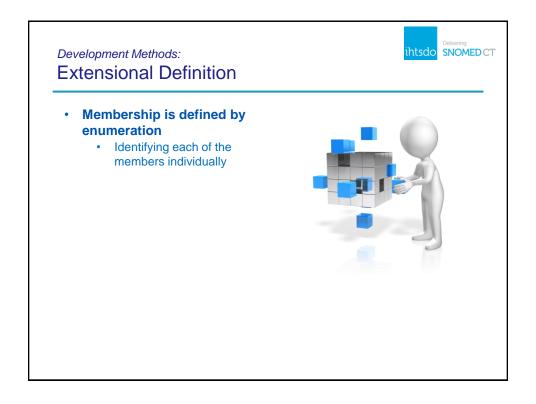


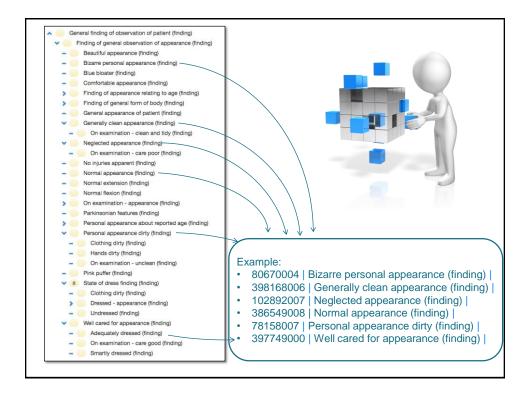


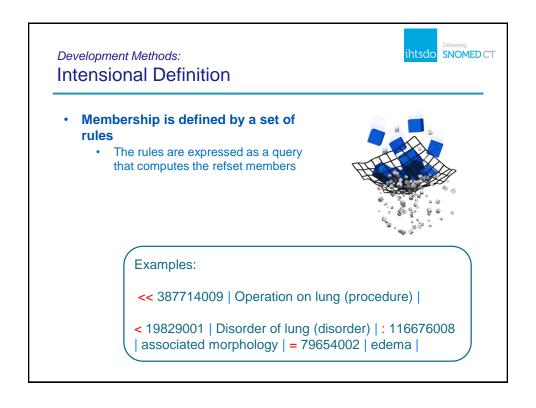


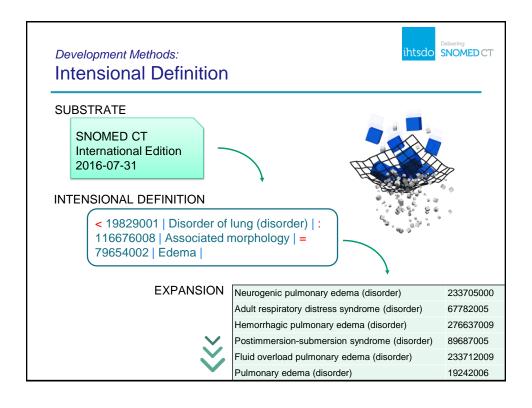


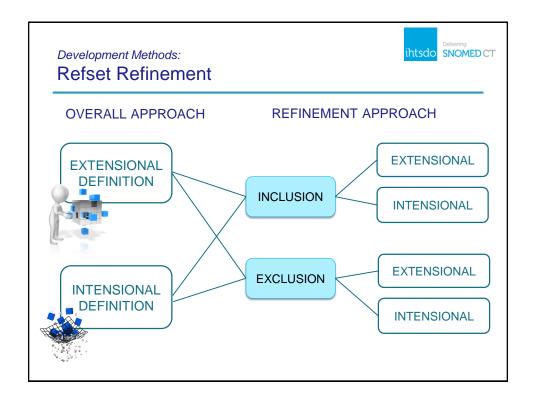


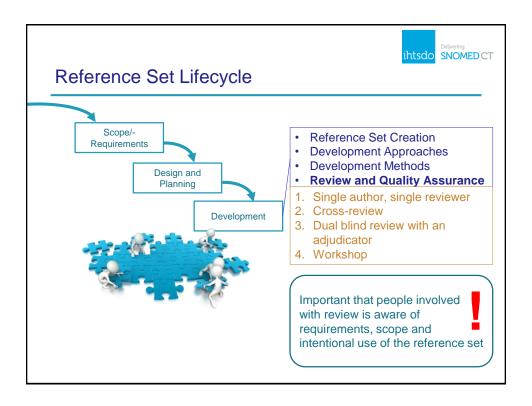


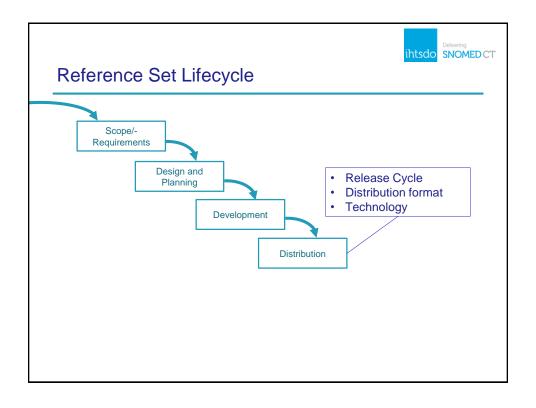


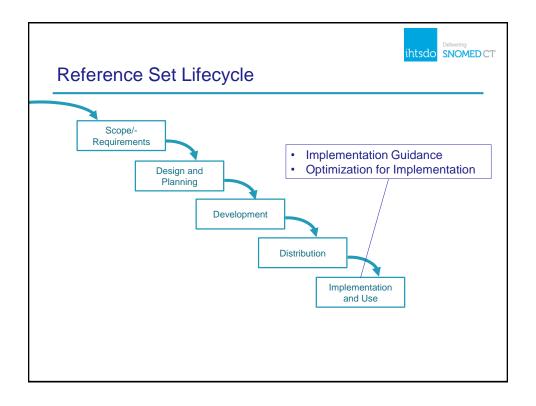


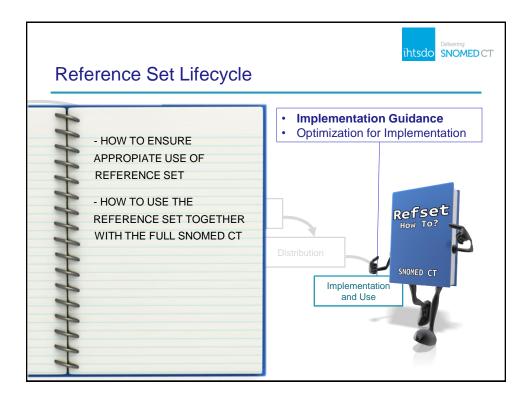


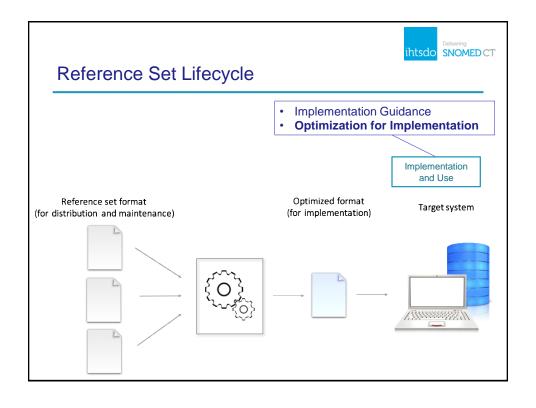


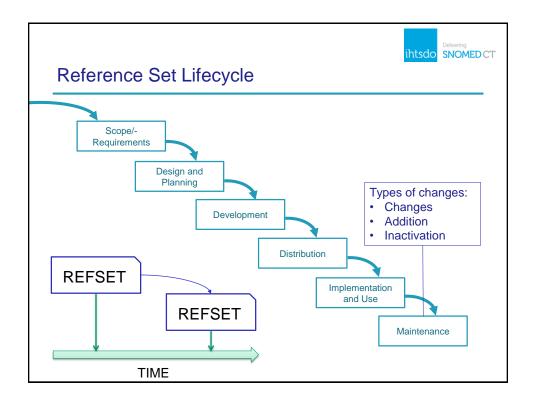














## Reference Set Lifecycle

- One way of determine refset changes is by creating and comparing two views of the refset:
- SNAPSHOT view (of previous version)
  - Contains one version of every member released up to the time of the snapshot.
  - Each member contained in a snapshot is the most recent version of that member at the time of the snapshot.
- DELTA view (of new version)
  - Contains only reference set member versions created since the previous reference set release.
  - Each reference set member version in the DELTA view represents either a new reference set member or a change to an existing member.

Reference Set Lifecycle				
		Value of active column in the new release of the reference set (DELTA view)		
		0	1	NOT PRESENT
Value of active column in previous release of the reference set (SNAPSHOT view)	0	Inactive member changed (not significant)	member REACTIVATED	NO CHANGE
	1	member INACTIVATED	CHANGED member	NO CHANGE
	NOT PRE- SENT	n/a	<b>NEW</b> member	n/a



## Reference Set Lifecycle

#### JANUARY 2016

id	effectiveTime	active	Referenced ComponentId	Referenced ComponentTerm
Α	20160131	1	82272006	Common cold
В	20160131	1	6142004	Influenza
С	20160131	1	55604004	Avian influenza

#### **JULY 2016**

id	effectiveTime	active	Referenced ComponentId	Referenced ComponentTerm
Α	20160131	1	82272006	Common cold
В	20160131	1	6142004	Influenza
С	20160131	1	55604004	Avian influenza
С	20160731	0	55604004	Avian influenza
D	20160731	1	3928002	Zika fever



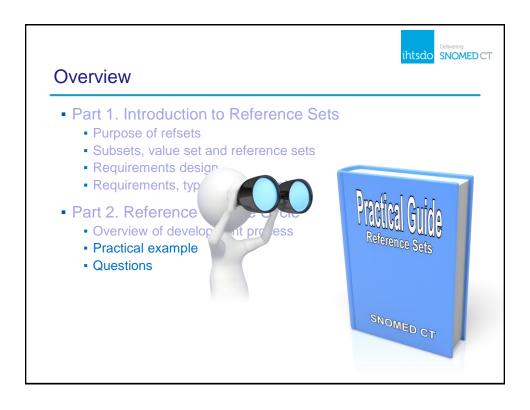
## Reference Set Lifecycle

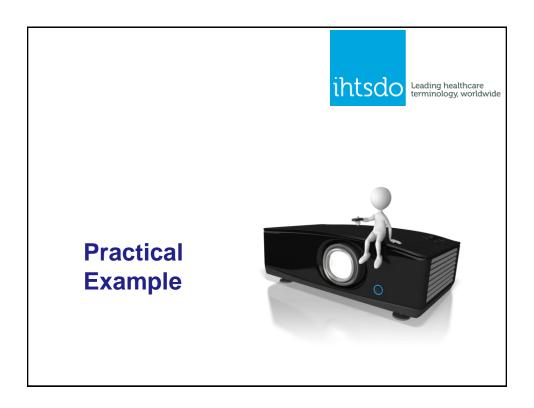
#### SNAPSHOT VIEW\_20160131

id	effectiveTime	active	Referenced ComponentId	Referenced ComponentTerm
Α	20160131	1	82272006	Common cold
В	20160131	1	6142004	Influenza
С	20160131	1	55604004	Avian influenza

#### DELTA VIEW\_20160731

id	effectiveTime	active	Referenced ComponentId	Referenced ComponentTerm
С	20160731	0	55604004	Avian influenza
D	20160731	1	3928002	Zika fever







#### **Demonstration**

- IHTSDO Refset Management & Translation Tool
  - http://snomed.org/tools
  - https://confluence.ihtsdotools.org/display/REFSET
- Refset Management Tool
  - Enables the management & creation of reference sets against the International Edition of SNOMED CT and Member extensions.
  - Provide a directory of existing reference sets that can be searched and downloaded to be used by others



#### **Demonstration**

- Extensional Refset Example:
  - Rare Diseases concepts

7199000, 9014002, 13213009, 16631009, 22053006, 23238000, 24700007, 30188007, 31323000, 44785005, 51615001, 58606001, 62067003, 63702009, 65389002, 65880007, 74911008, 75053002, 76670001, 77128003, 80651009, 82275008, 88044005, 128241005, 190794006, 195353004, 230418006, 230791000, 234542004, 236403004, 239928004, 252246005, 387732009, 387759001, 396338004, 410795001, 417357006, 423590009, 699310000, 716997004

Concept to add

190905008 | Cystic fibrosis (disorder) |

- Intensional Refset Example
  - Lung Procedure Refset
    - << 387714009 | Operation on lung (procedure) |
  - Refset of lung disorders with an associated morphology equal to descendantsOrSelf of inflammation.
    - < 19829001 : 116676008 = << 23583003



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