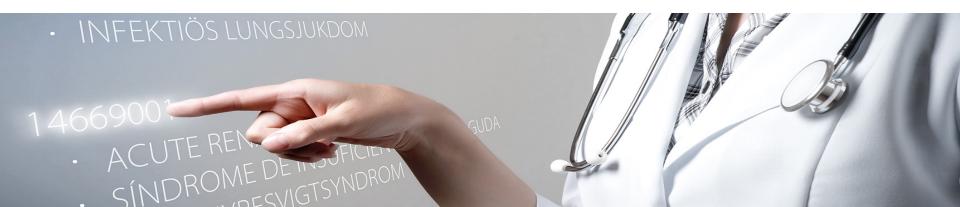


### SNOMED CT Implementation Roadmap

Expo 2017 Tutorial

David Markwell and Jon Zammit SNOMED International





#### Overview

#### Part 1

- Adoption and Planning
- Development or Procurement
- Specification and Procurement
- Approaches to Implementation
- Procurement

#### Part 2

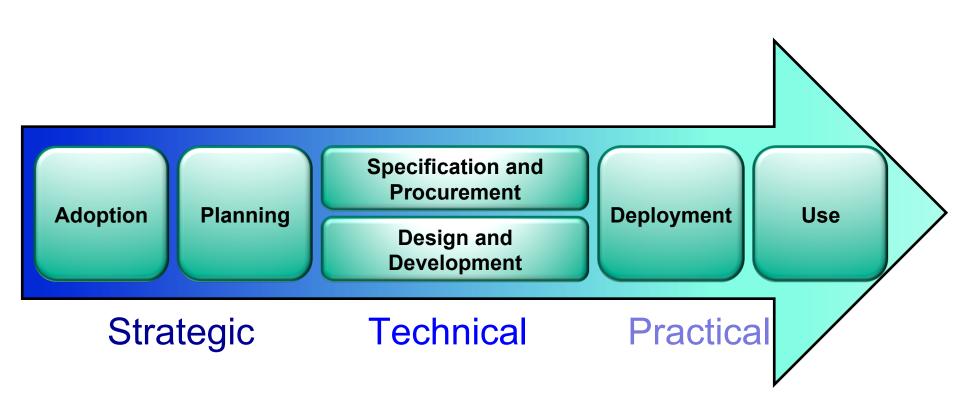
- Design and Development
- Implementation Guidance
  - Example: Search and Data Entry
- Deployment & Use

#### **Questions**



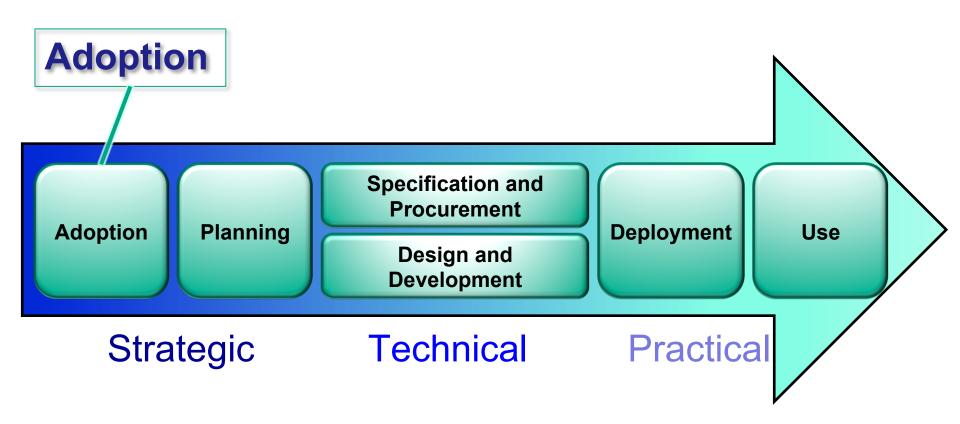


### **SNOMED CT Implementation Stages**





### **SNOMED CT Implementation Stages**





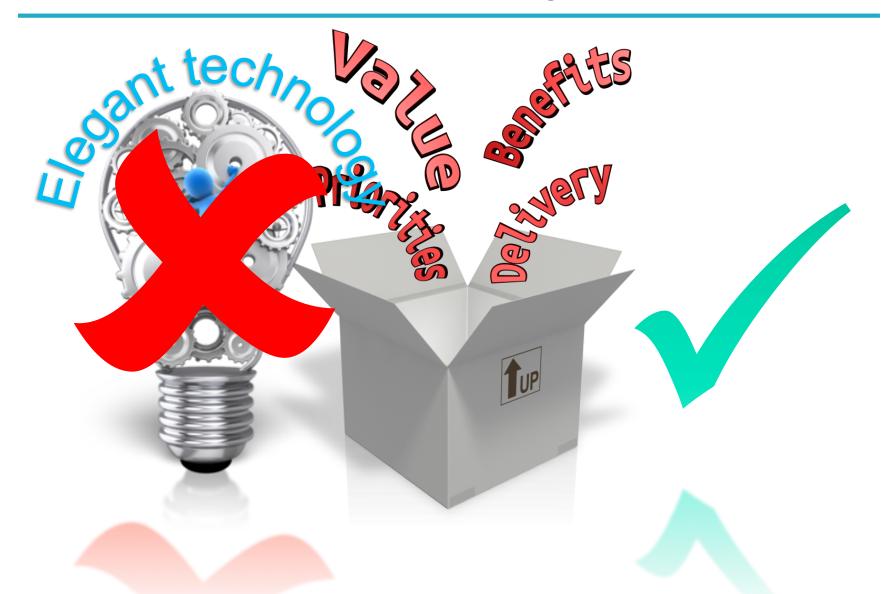
### Adoption Occurs at Many Levels

- National adoption
- Organizational adoption
- Adoption in standards
- Vendor adoption
- Project adoption





### Adoption Depends on Delivering Value



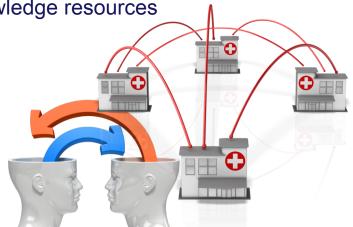


### Benefits of SNOMED CT Implementations

A solid foundation for clinical records



Interoperable information and knowledge resources



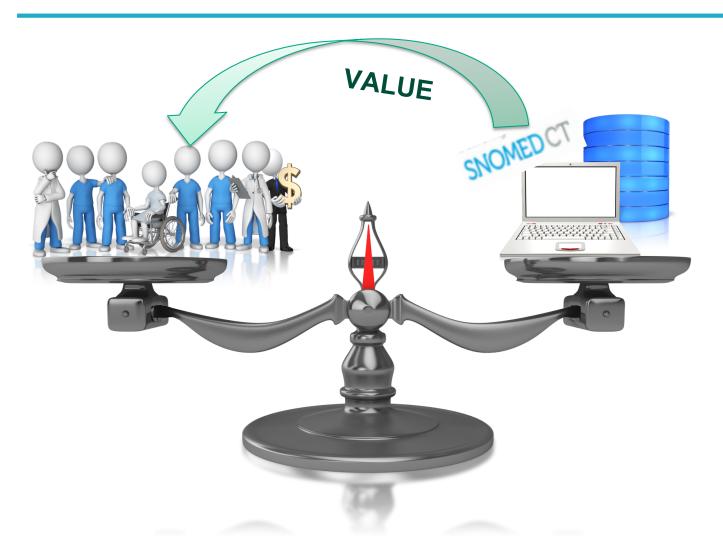


Improved Clinical and Business Intelligence





### Approach to Successful SNOMED CT adoption





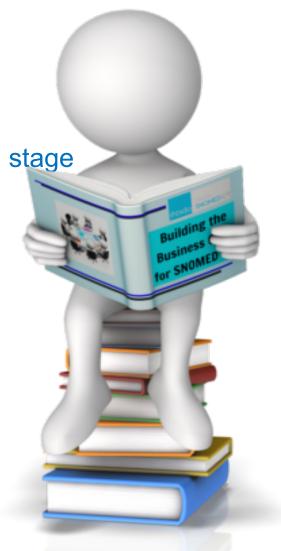
### Approach to Successful SNOMED CT adoption





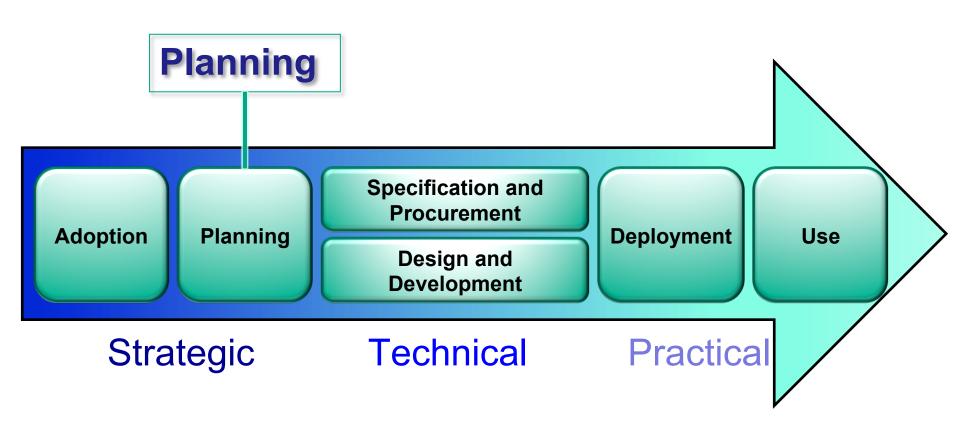
### Building the Business Case for SNOMED CT

- Published in 2014
- Sets out the business case for SNOMED CT
  - Costs of adoption
  - Implementation stages
  - Qualitative and quantitative benefits of each stage
- Available for download from our website www.snomed.org
  - Direct link <a href="http://snomed.org/businesscase">http://snomed.org/businesscase</a>





### **SNOMED CT Implementation Stages**





### **Planning**

- Planning how SNOMED CT will be used
- Identifying
  - Existing systems to be modified
  - New systems required
- Determining whether to
  - Design and develop
  - Specify and procure
- Awareness of dependencies
- Setting realistic timescales





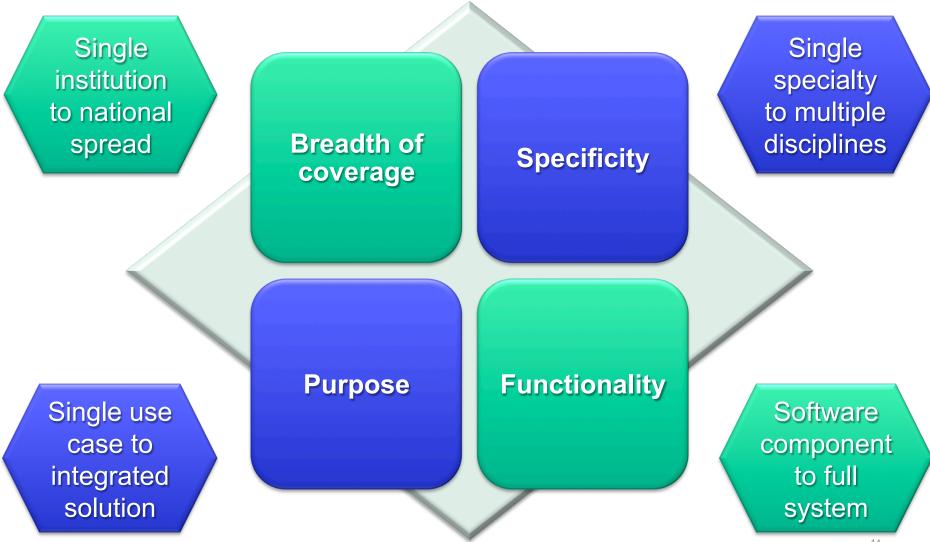
### Understand Where Are You Starting From?

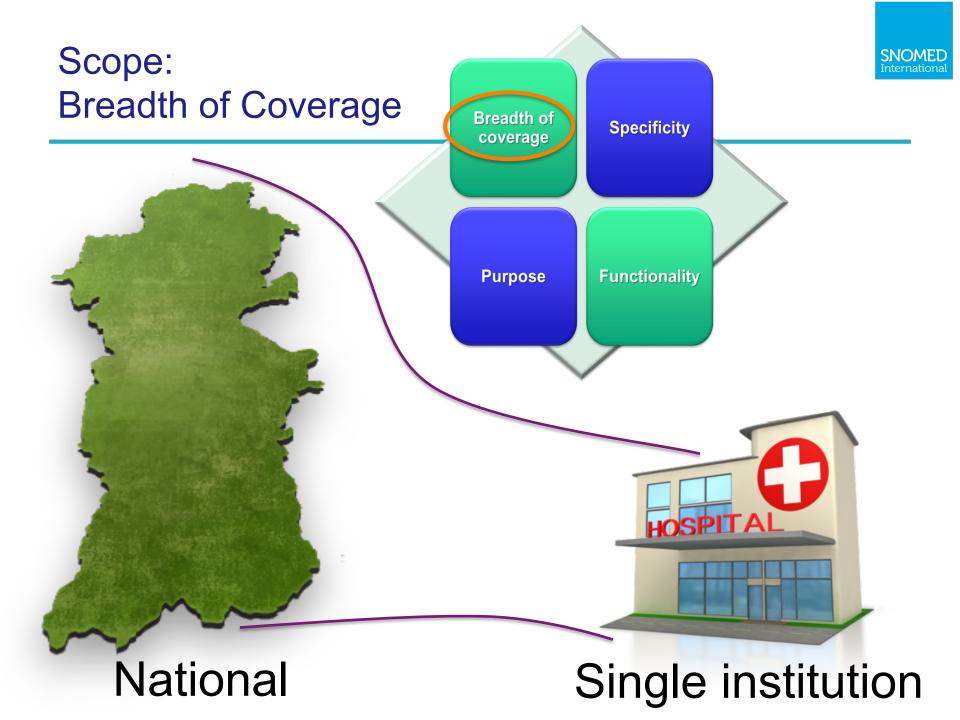
- A new system a fresh start on a 'greenfield site'
  - Addressing new requirements with SNOMED CT
  - Using SNOMED CT as part of a new development
- Replacing a relic of earlier development
  - Replacing a system without losing functionality or information
  - Including SNOMED CT as part of the new solution
- An evolving system
  - Updates to a system that includes use of SNOMED CT
  - Step by step progress to add SNOMED CT enabled functionality

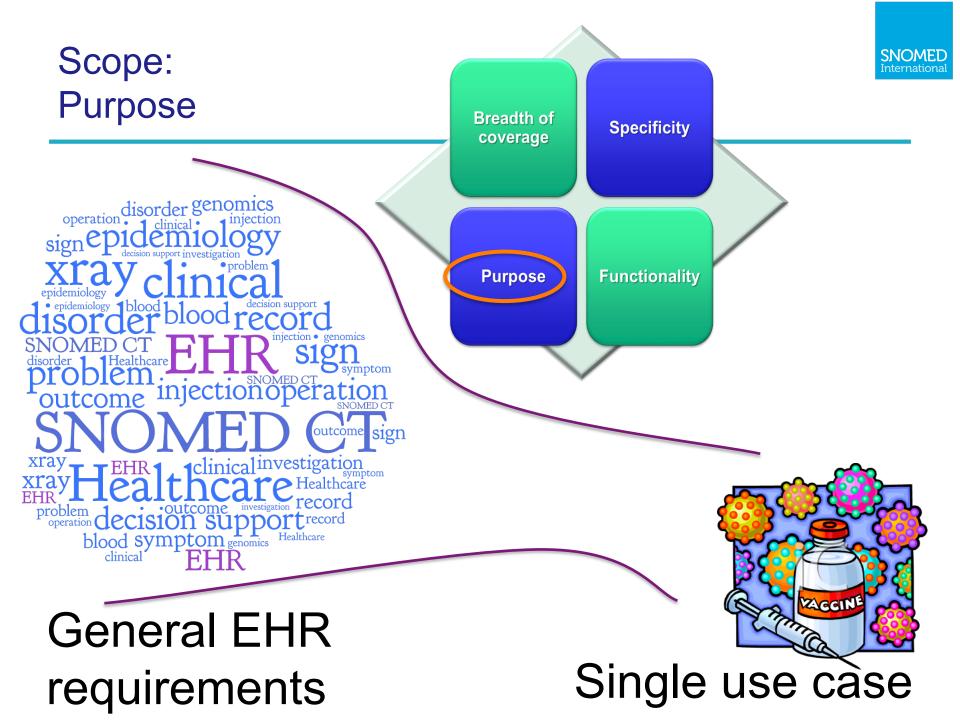


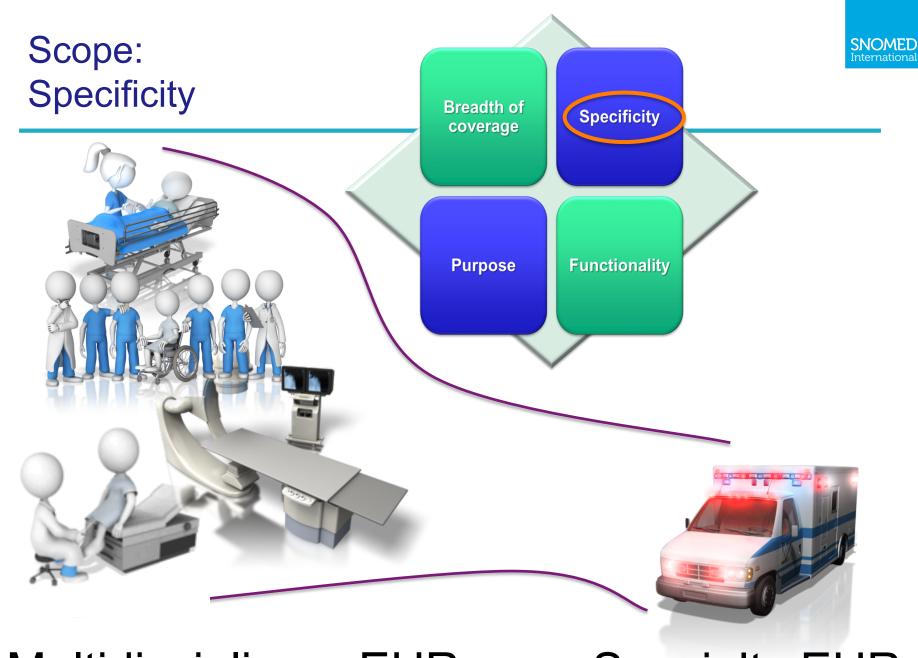


#### Understand the Scope of Intended Implementation



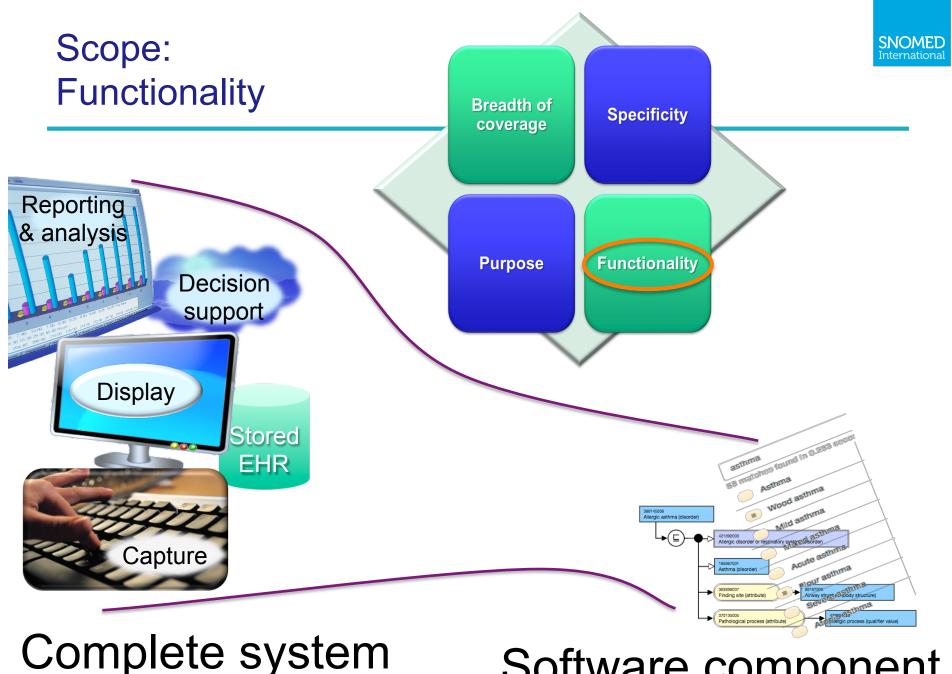






Multidisciplinary EHR

Specialty EHR



Software component

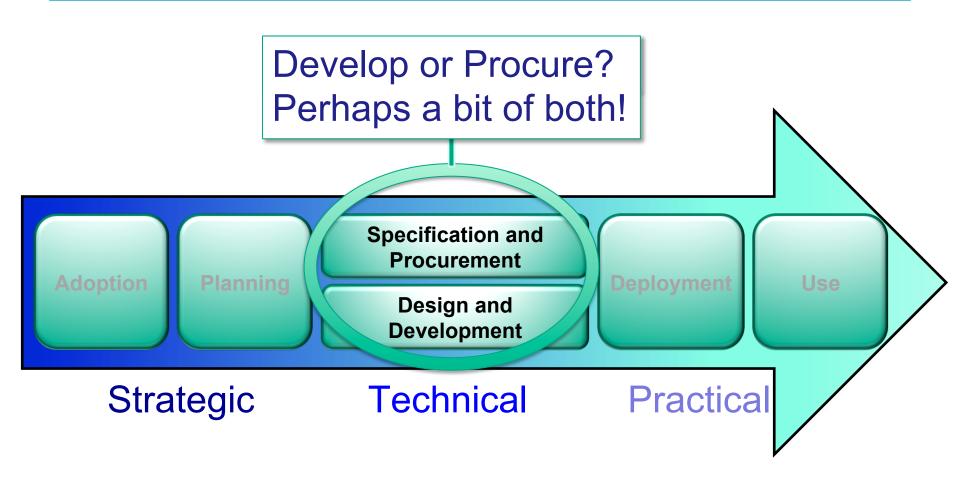


### Plan to Make Implementation a Team Effort



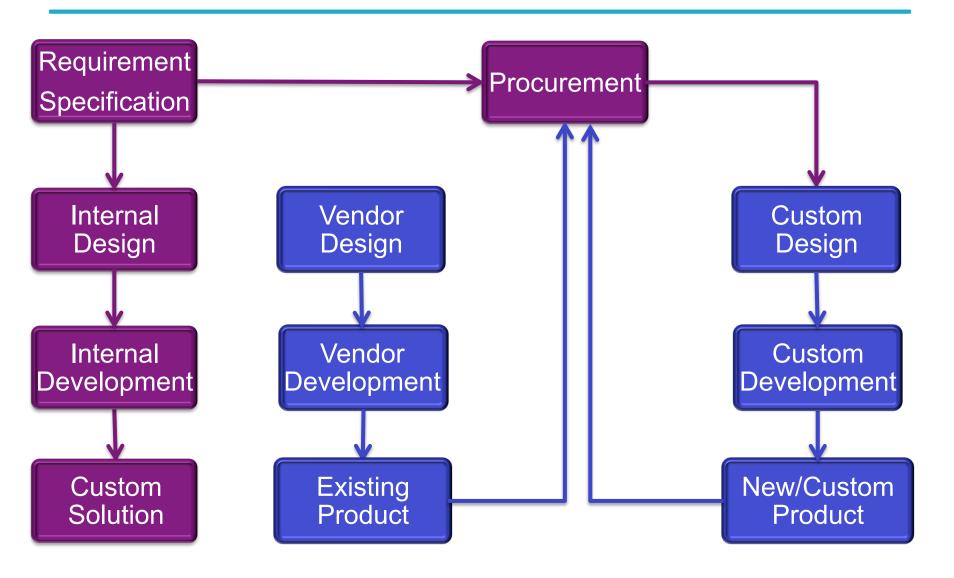


### **SNOMED CT Implementation Stages**



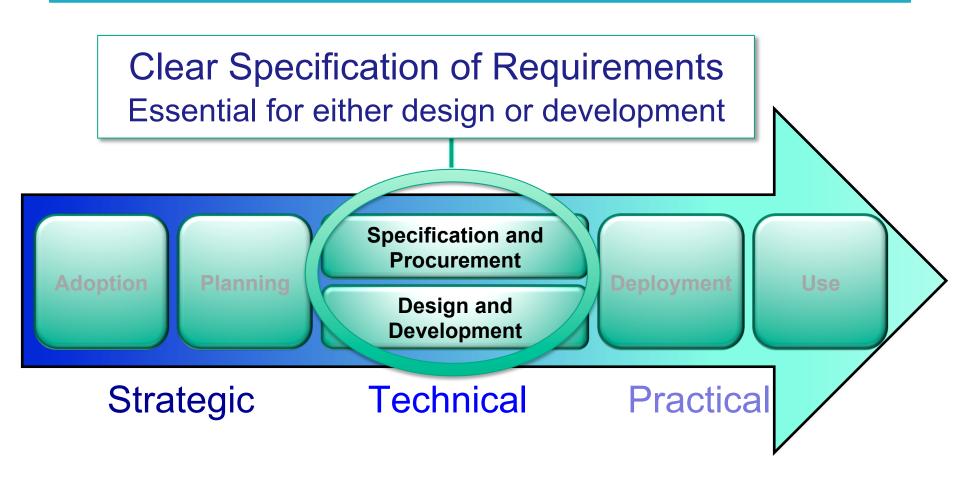


### Development and Procurement - Different Routes to a Common Goal





### **SNOMED CT Implementation Stages**





### Pitfalls When Specifying Requirements

- It is not enough to say 'Implement SNOMED CT'
  - Some of those responding to a procurement may interpret SNOMED CT implementation in a limited way
- SNOMED CT implementation is not all or nothing
  - There are different approaches to SNOMED CT implementation
- Benefits depend the approach
  - Choose an approach that meets your immediate requirements ... but consider the impact on next steps ...
  - A short-term solution may delay enhancements that meet future requirements and deliver additional benefits

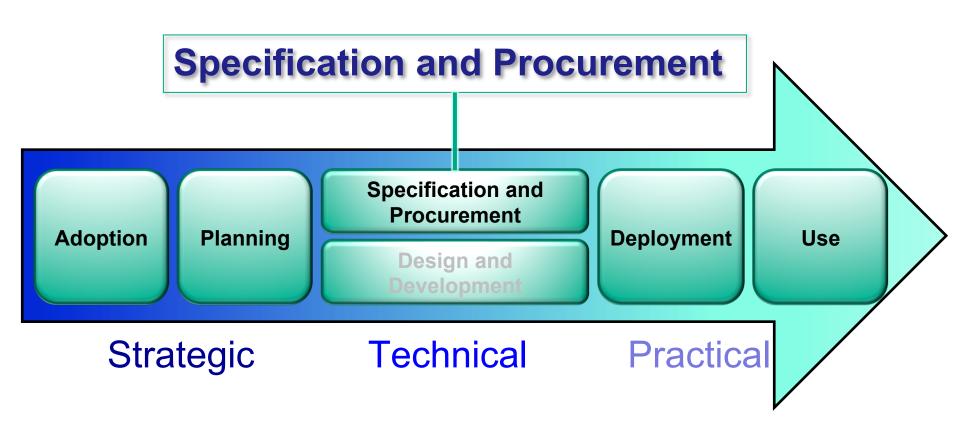


### Identifying Requirements

- Clearly document
  - Objectives what benefits should be delivered
  - Outcomes what measurable changes are to be achieved
  - Practical use how current working practices will be supported
- SNOMED CT specific requirements
  - May vary depending on overall objectives
  - Should not be specified in isolation but should be considered in the context of the overall solution
  - May impact all stages of the clinical information life cycle

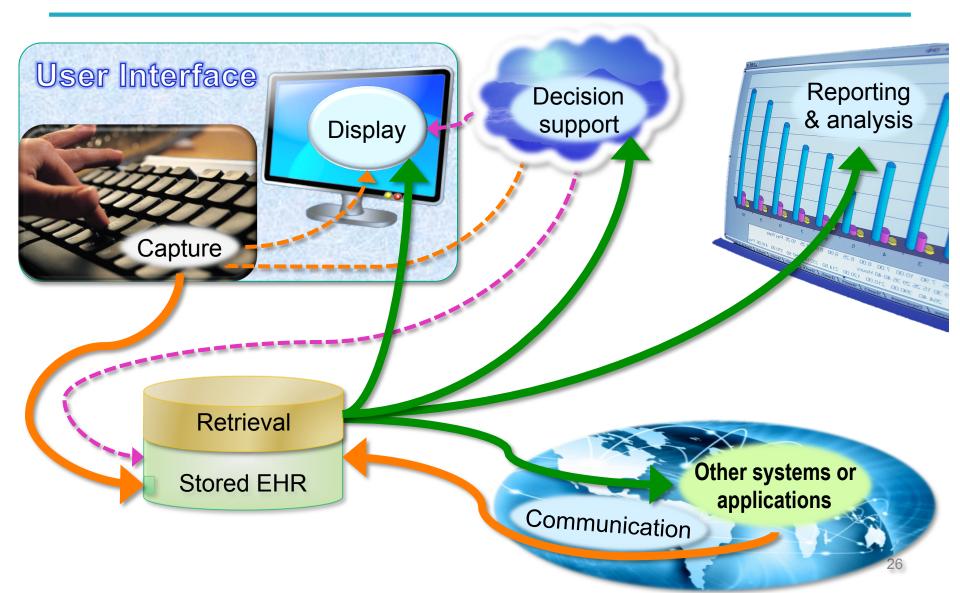


### **SNOMED CT Implementation Stages**





### Clinical Information Life Cycle





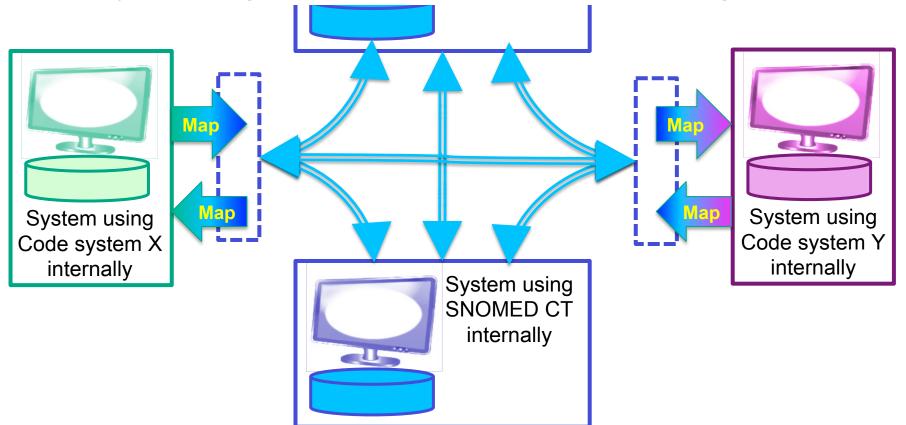
# Specifications Should Cover All Stages in the Clinical Information Life Cycle

- Data capture
  - Easy to use as part of clinical working practice of all intended users
- Storage
  - Structured and/or indexed to enable effective retrieval
- Display
  - Information relevant to different intended users readily accessible and displayed in ways relevant that support their work
- Communication
  - Meeting needs for sharing or transfer of required information in standard or agreed forms
- Reporting and analysis
  - Effective retrieval to meet requirements of clinical users and other stakeholders (e.g. epidemiologists, management, researchers)
- Make sure the selected solution meets your requirements
  - Include acceptance tests for all stages
  - All aspects of your requirements should be tested



# Approaches to Using SNOMED CT Common Terminology for Communication

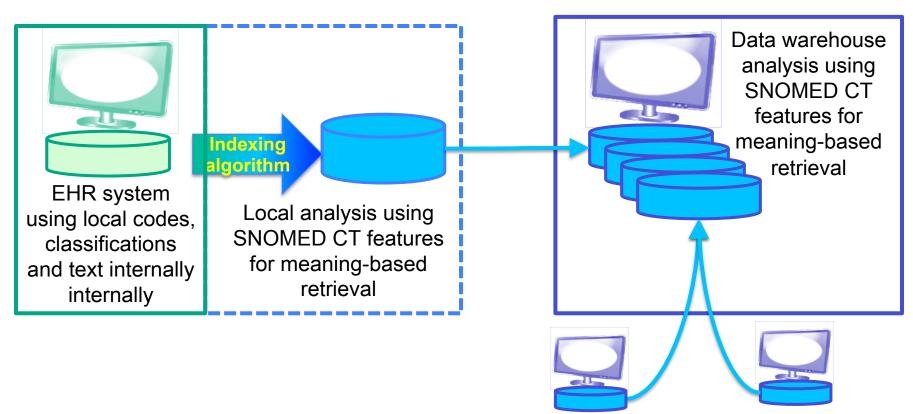
- Existing systems using different code systems internally
- Map to and from SNOMED CT as a common terminology for communication
- New systems using SNOMED CT communicate without needing to map





# Approaches to Using SNOMED CT Indexing for Analytics

- EHR system using local codes, classification and text to represent records
- Algorithmic rules map and index data with SNOMED CT codes or expressions
  - For local analysis using SNOMED CT semantics
  - For export to data warehouse for larger scale aggregation and analysis





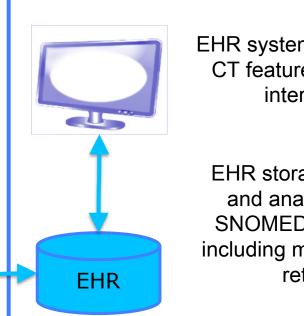
# Approaches to Using SNOMED CT Use of SNOMED CT for Internal Storage

- Data capture (and display) use a local or proprietary user interface terminology
- Interface terminology is mapped or linked to SNOMED CT
- EHR system uses SNOMED CT for storage, indexing and communication
- Reporting and analytics use EHR system uses local **SNOMED CT features** or proprietary interface including meaning-based terminology retrieval EHR storage, reporting and analysis all use SNOMED CT features including meaning-based **EHR** retrieval



### Approaches to Using SNOMED CT Full Use of SNOMED CT

- Data capture (and display) uses SNOMED CT interface features including
  - Synonyms and language reference sets
  - Subsets and ordered lists represented as SNOMED CT simple or ordered reference sets
  - Searches using subtype filtering to limit list
- EHR system uses SNOMED CT for storage, indexing and communication
- Reporting and analytics use SNOMED CT semantics to support meaning-based retrieval



EHR system SNOMED
CT features as user
interface

EHR storage, reporting and analysis all use SNOMED CT features including meaning-based retrieval



### Multistep Approaches and Tailor-made Solutions



- Stepwise approaches may allow your requirements to be met in stages
  - Ensure each stage delivers benefits to motivate use
  - Lack of short-term benefits may reduce enthusiasm for future steps

- A tailor made solution may meet all your stated requirements
  - But your requirements for SNOMED CT may evolve
  - Can the solution be adapted to meet emerging requirements or will you need to start again?



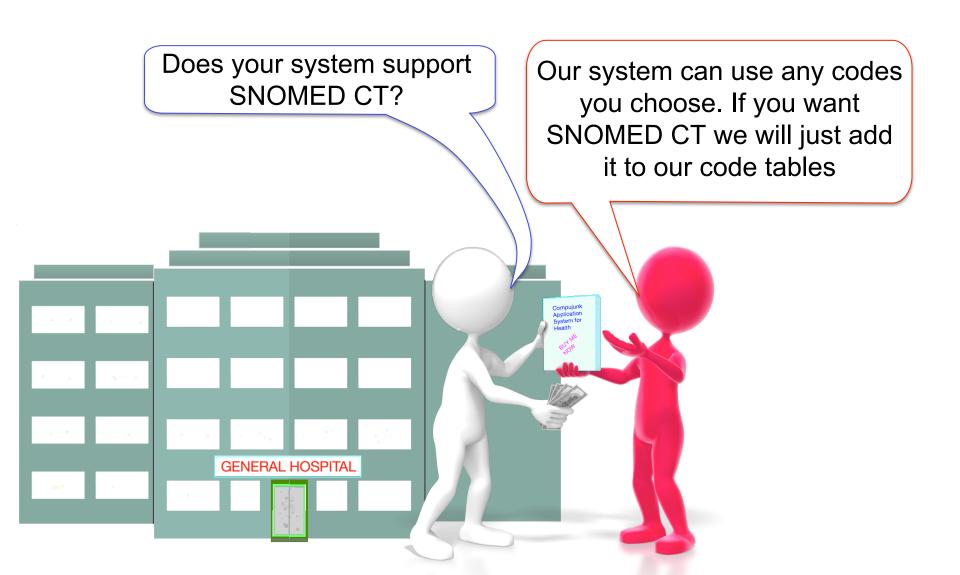
# Warnings and Hopeful Signs in a Procurement





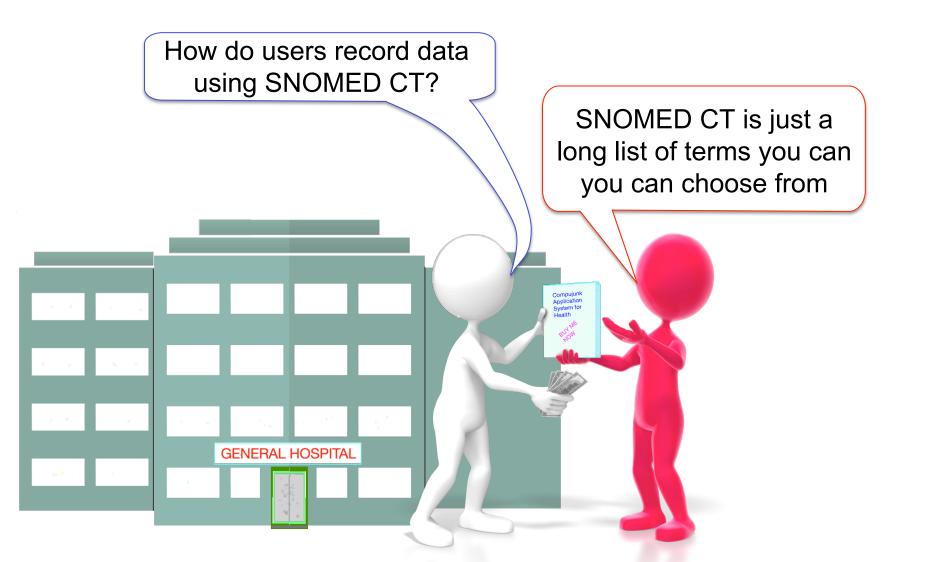


### Warning Signs During Procurement



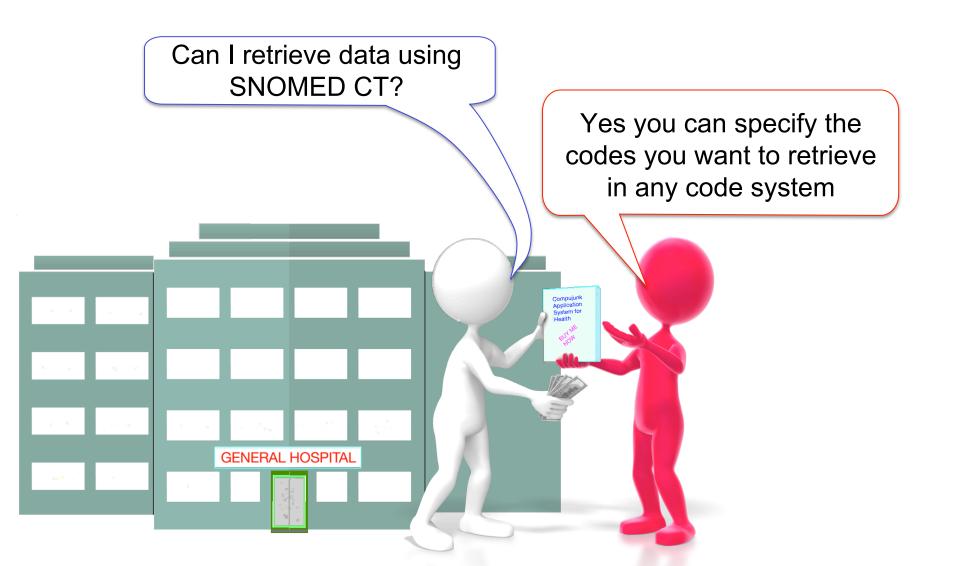


### Warning Signs During Procurement



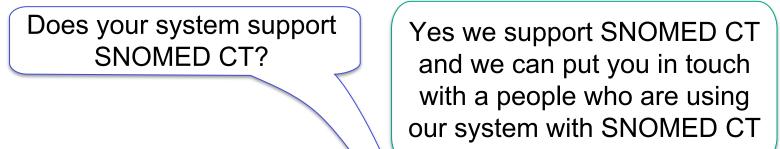


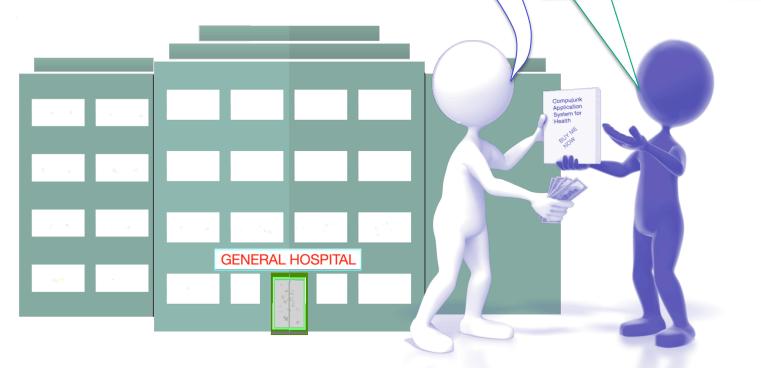
### Warning Signs During Procurement





## Positive Signs During Procurement



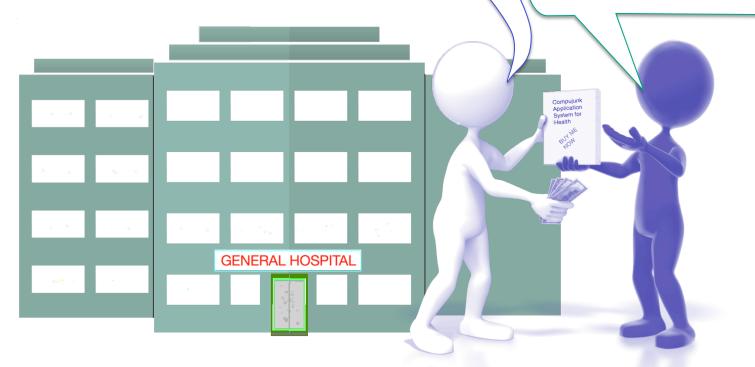




# Positive Signs During Procurement

What features of SNOMED CT does your system support?

Our proposal details the SNOMED CT features the system supports for data entry, retrieval, etc. It also notes features we don't support and future planned enhancements ...





#### Overview - Part 2

#### Part 1

- Adoption and Planning
- Development or Procurement
- Specification and Procurement
- Approaches to Implementation
- Procurement

#### Part 2

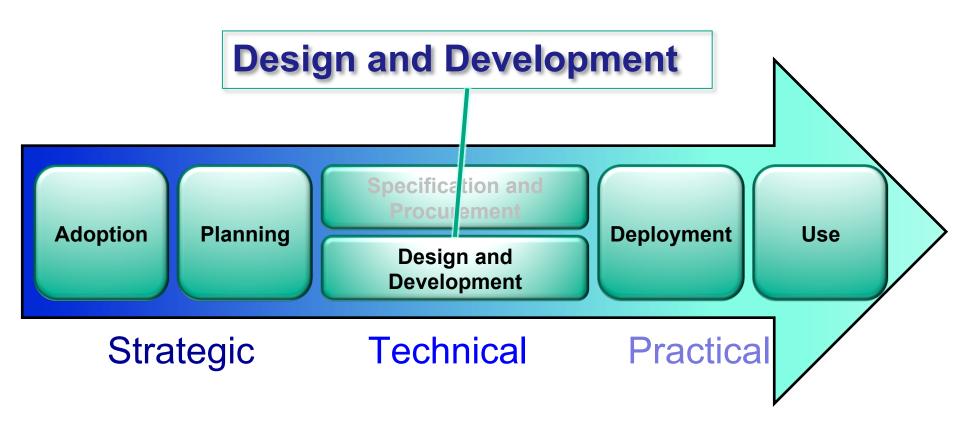
- Design and Development
- Implementation Guidance
  - Example: Search and Data Entry
- Deployment
- Use of SNOMED CT

#### **Questions**





# SNOMED CT Implementation Stages



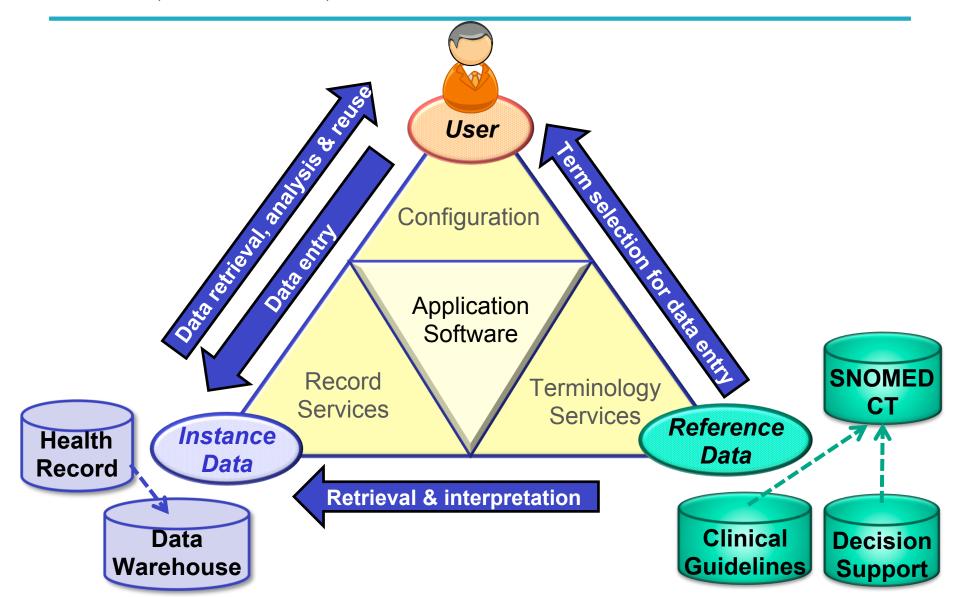


#### Team Contributions to Specification and Design

- Clinical input to user interface design and motivation
  - Compatible with clinical practice
  - Identify benefits that will encourage use
- System architects and software designers
  - Robust system design delivering necessary performance
  - Support for SNOMED CT logical design
- Guidelines and decision support developers
  - Support use of SNOMED CT for knowledge linkage
- Management
  - Alignment with key reporting and audit requirements
- Epidemiology and Clinical Research
  - Identify key features for epidemiology and clinical research

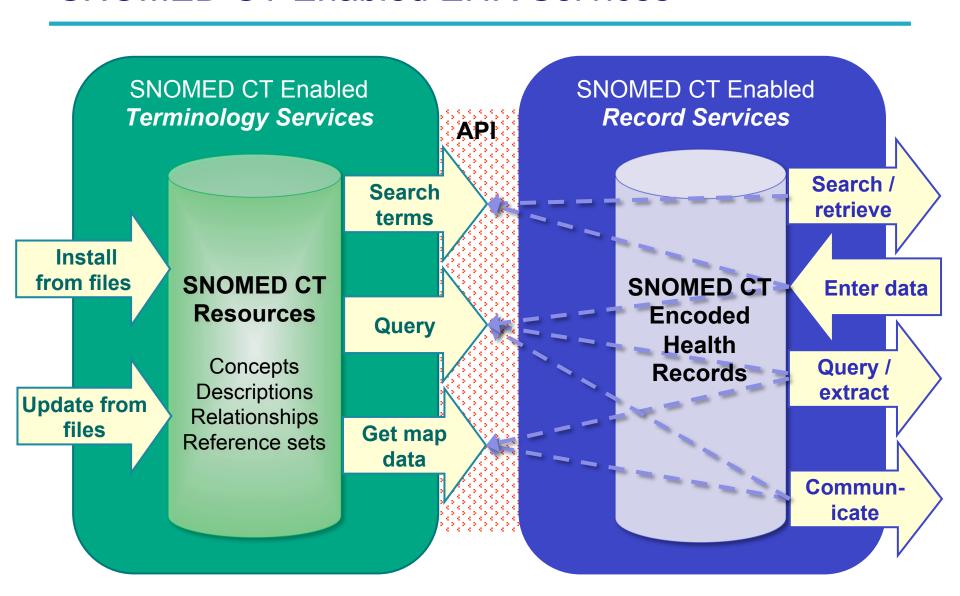


#### Users, Software, Services and SNOMED CT





#### **SNOMED CT Enabled EHR Services**





#### **SNOMED CT Enabled Services**

Software services that support effective use of SNOMED CT as part of health record systems

- Record services
  - Services that directly manage patient health records
  - Data entry, display, retrieval, communication and record sharing
- Terminology services
  - Services manage and provides access to terminology resources
  - Installing, searching, navigating and using the terminology
- Knowledge resource services
  - Clinical guidelines
  - Decision support
- Analytics services
  - Data warehousing
  - Reporting and auditing

# Design and Development: Recommendations for SNOMED CT Implementers

- Make use of SNOMED CT features including ...
  - Synonyms and language preferences
  - Enhanced meaning-based retrieval
  - Reference sets to customize for different uses
  - Constrained searches appropriate to a particular context
  - Extensions that meet national and local requirements
- Make use of the guidance we offer
  - Refer to the Technical Implementation Guide (TIG)
- Avoid common pitfalls
  - Thinking of SNOMED CT as just a code system replacement
  - Simplistic searches that return long unstructured lists of matches
  - Failing to update to the latest SNOMED CT release



# Implementation Guidance Example

Search and Data Entry





## Search and Data Entry

#### Search

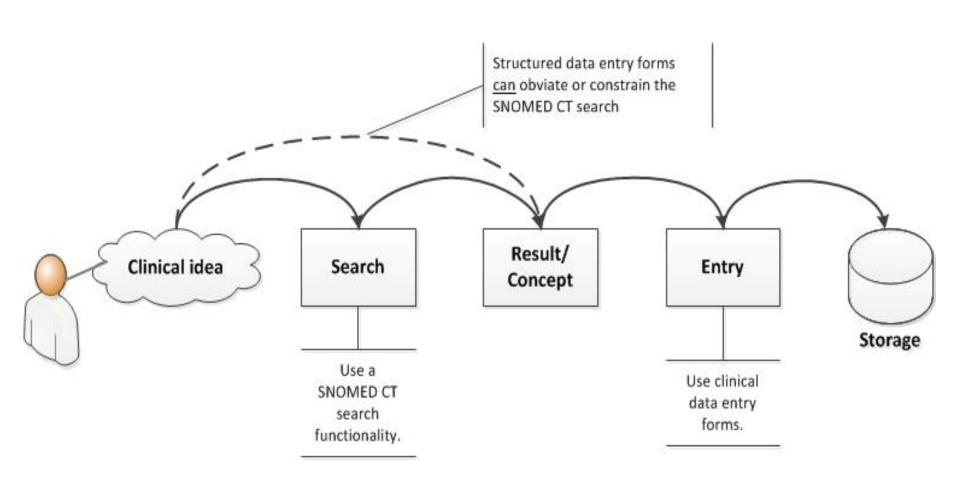
- Process by which a user finds a concept to represent a clinical idea
- Needs to be quick and easy for users
- SNOMED CT can make this easier

# Data Entry

- Process by which a user submits information containing relevant SNOMED CT concept identifiers for storage in an EHR
- Approach depends on the setting



## Relationship Between Search and Data Entry





# Use Cases for Searching SNOMED CT

- Select a clinical meaning for data entry at point of care
- Design a data entry template
- Create a query or report
- Bind SNOMED CT to information models
- Bind SNOMED CT to knowledge artifacts
- Develop a reference set
- Evaluate terminology content
- Author SNOMED CT content (extensions or translations)
- Develop maps from SNOMED CT to other code systems



#### Approaches to Searching

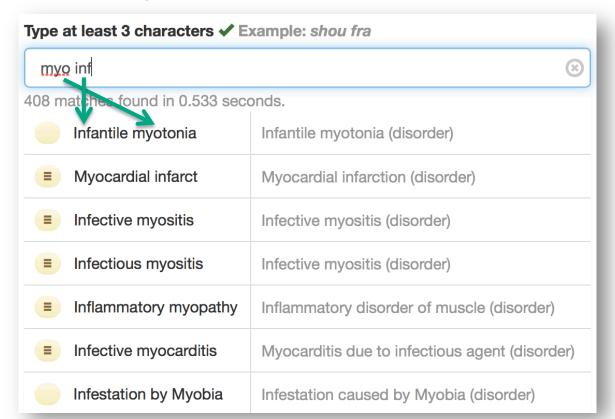
- Search by Terms
- Search by Identifiers
- Constrain Searches
- Extend Searches
- Techniques to
  - Improve Search Speed
  - Optimize Display of Search Results





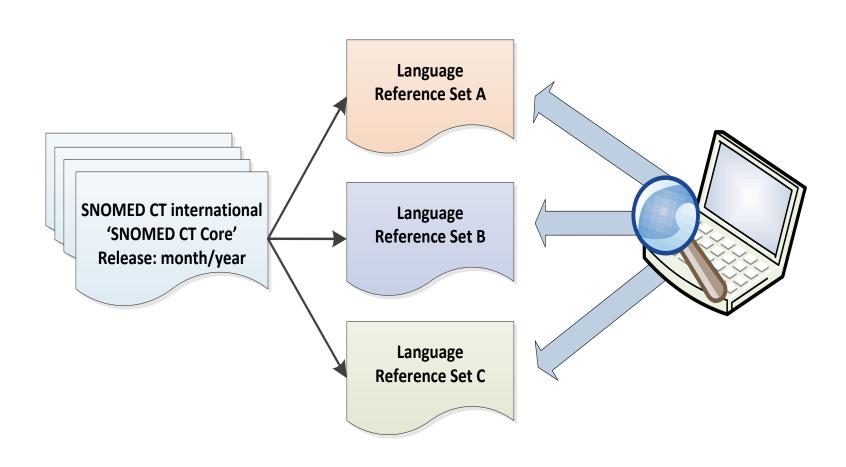
#### Search by Terms

- User configurable search strings:
  - Words or parts of words in any order usually the best option
  - Precise matching word or phrase
  - Contains a string or pattern



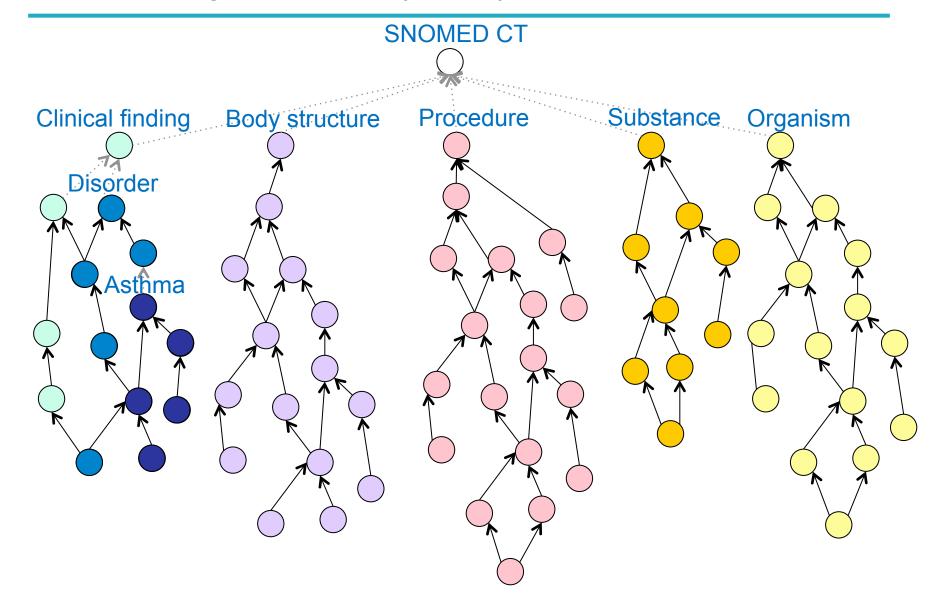


# Constraining Searches by Language or Dialect



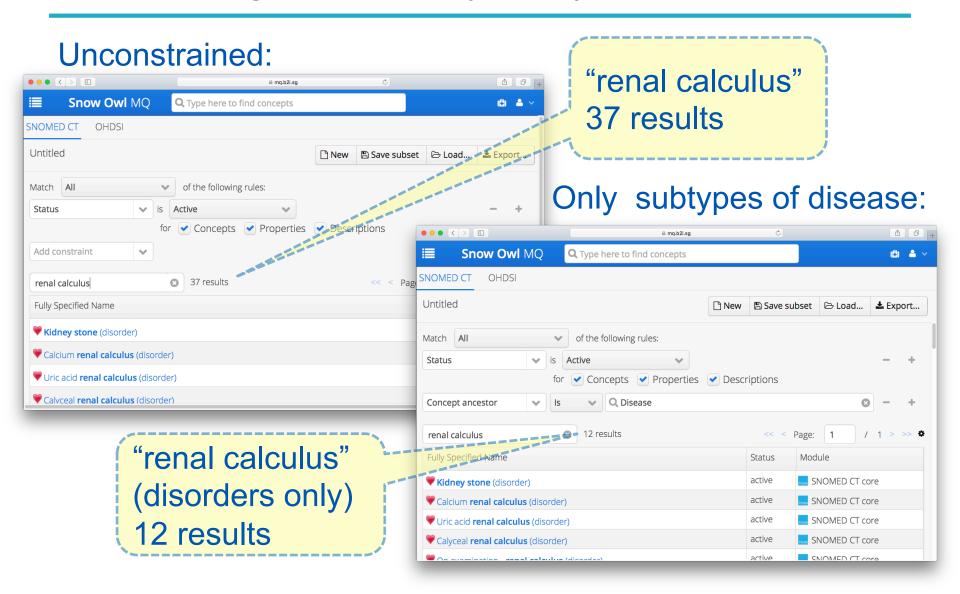


#### Constraining Searches by Subtype



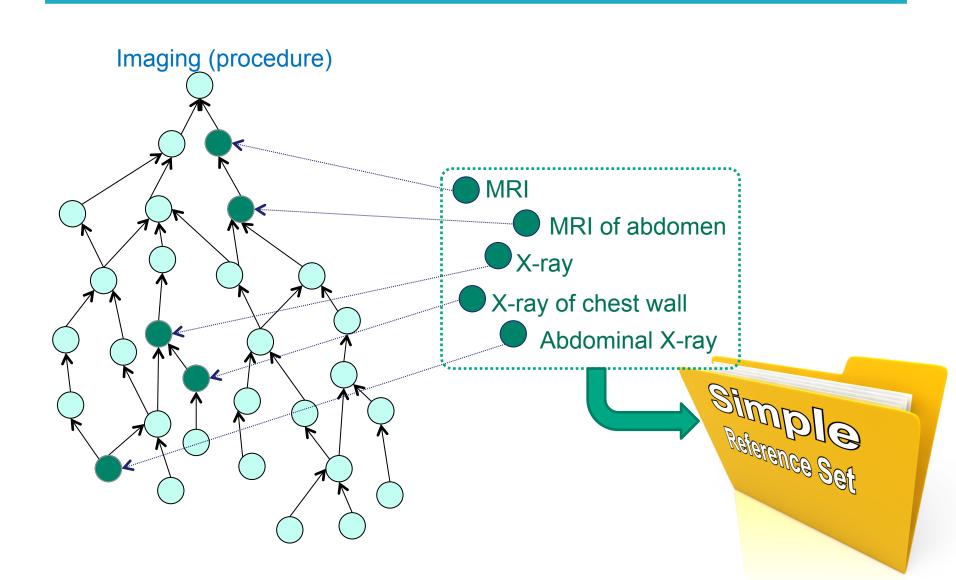


## Constraining Searches by Subtype – Example





## Constraining Searches by Reference Sets





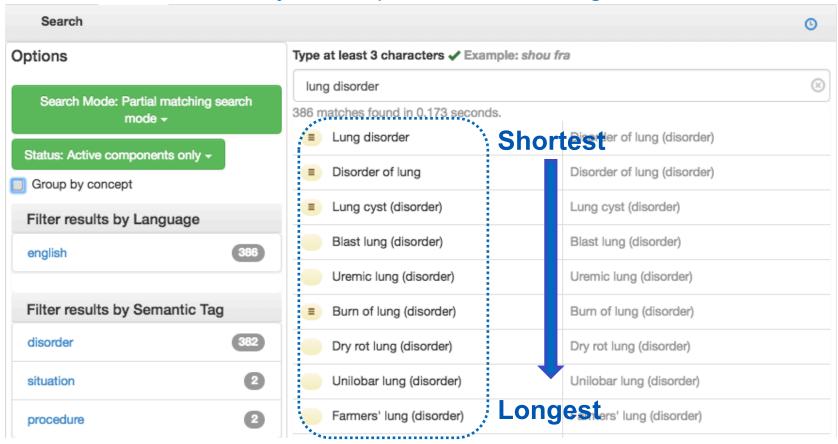
#### Improving Search Speeds

- Real time searching
  - Don't wait for the search button to be pressed
- Indicate estimated number of matches before search
  - Give the user feedback ... if nothing matches their phrase they should stop typing and consider rephrasing
- Optimize indexing
  - Do not assume a generic search algorithm is the best way to search a terminology like SNOMED CT
  - Implement filters for constraints in ways that minimize impact on search performance



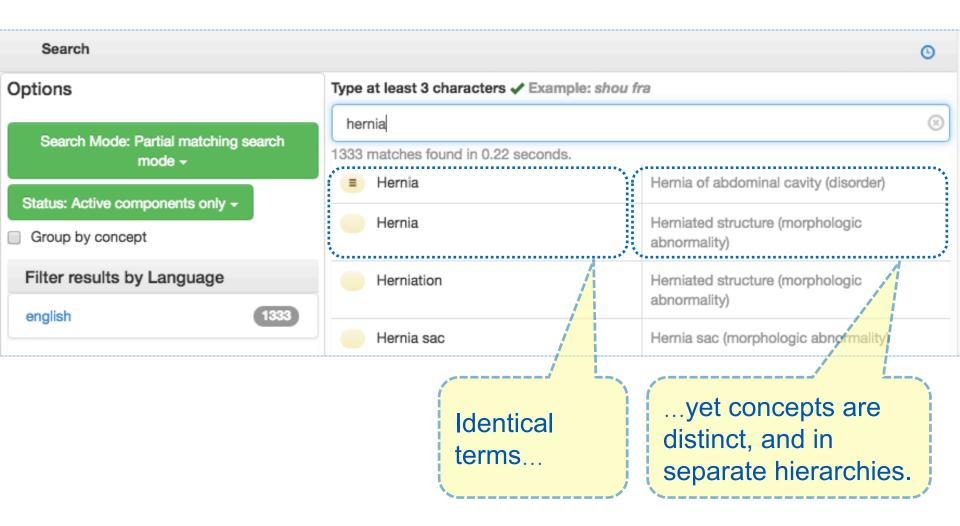
#### Order Search Results Rationally

- Shortest matching results first
  - More user friendly than alphabetical ordering





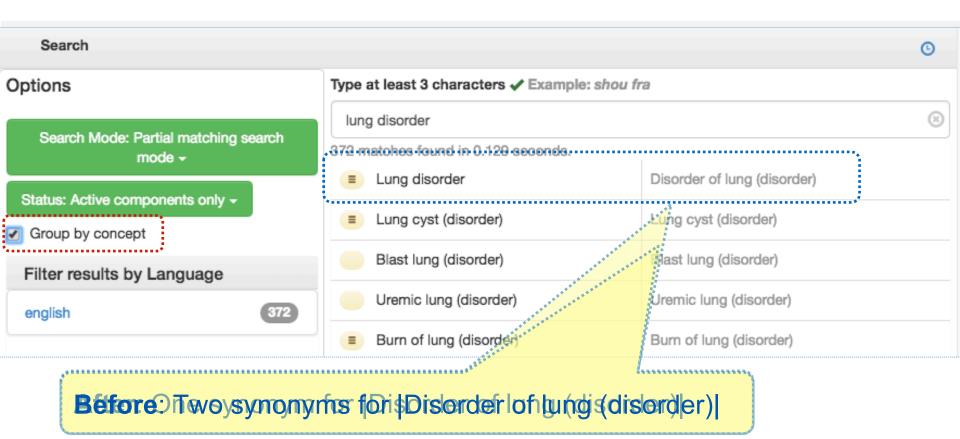
# Distinguishing Identical Terms for Different Concepts





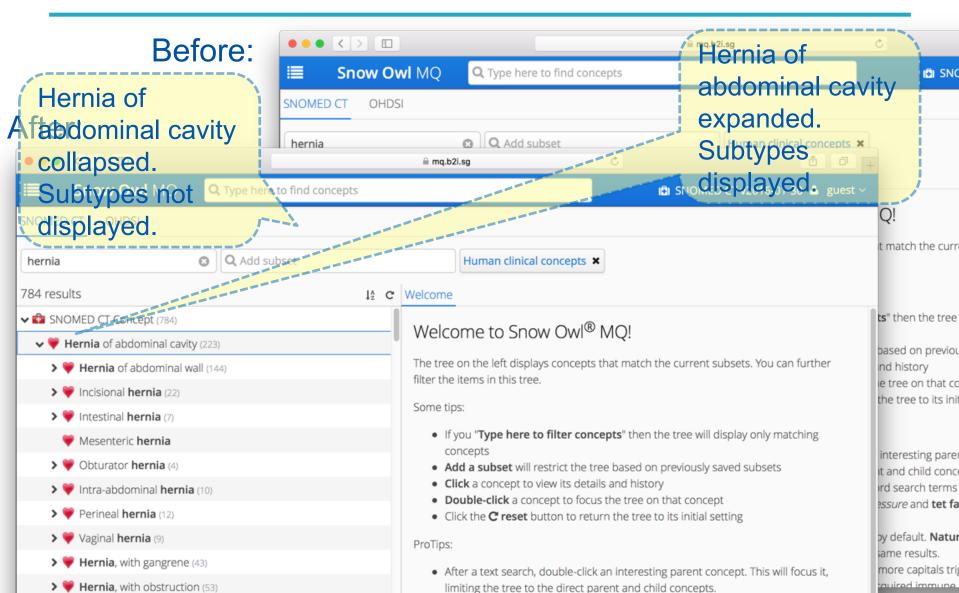
# Avoid Displaying the Same Concept More than Once

- Filter search results by description type
- Filter search results by closest match





# Rationalize Search Results by Subsumption





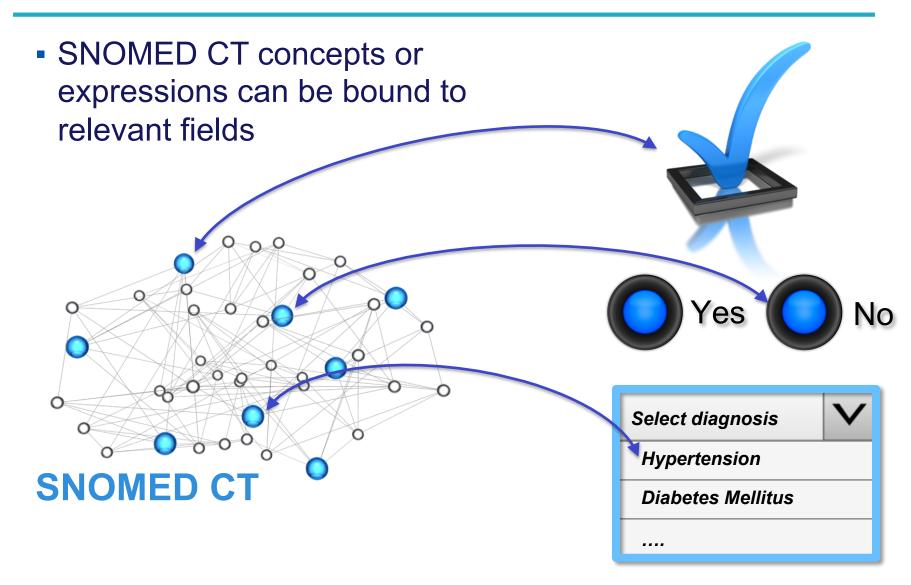
#### SNOMED CT Data Entry

- Key Requirements
  - Interfaces are easy to use
  - Must facilitate meaning based retrieval
- Data Entry Techniques
  - Structured
    - Characteristics and tools
    - Capturing Clinical Detail with Postcoordination
  - Semi-Structured
    - Combining Structured with Free Text
  - Natural Language Processing
- Consideration of Context
  - Interface Design and Data Representation





#### Characteristics of Structured Data Entry Interfaces





#### Characteristics of Structured Data Entry Interfaces

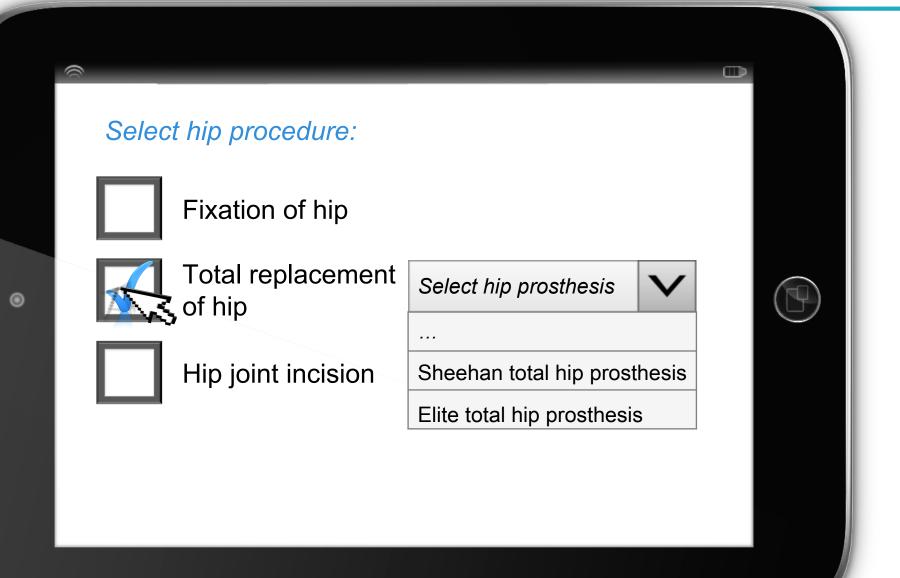
- SNOMED CT expressions can be bound to a data entry tools such as
  - Check boxes
  - Radio buttons
  - Selection lists
  - Graphical selection
- When these tools are used to enter data, the bound SNOMED CT expressions can be stored



Select diagnosis	V
Hypertension	
Diabetes Mellitus	

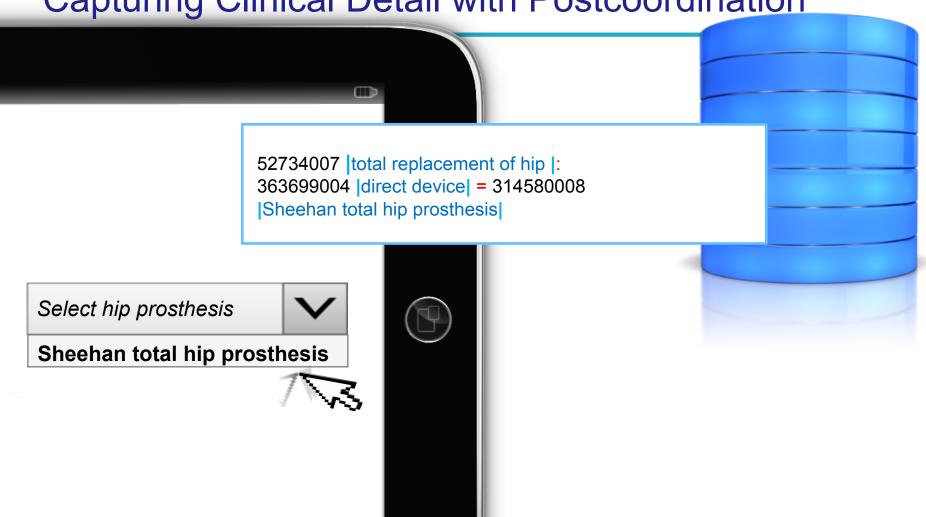


#### Capturing Clinical Detail with Postcoordination





Capturing Clinical Detail with Postcoordination



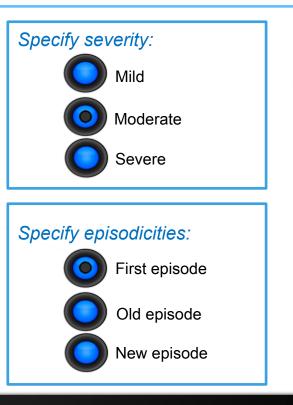


# Capturing Clinical Detail with Postcoordination

373573001 |clinical finding present|: { 246090004 | associated finding| = (65363002 |otitis media | : 246112005 | severity| = 6736007 |moderate|, 246456000 |episodicity| = 255217005 |first episode|) }

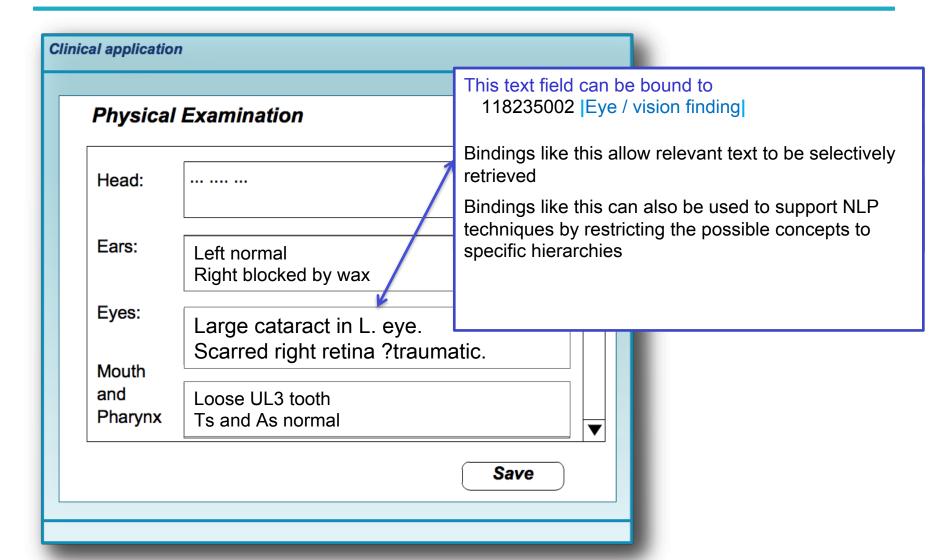
Select inflammatory disorder of ear:







## Combining Structured Data with Free Text





#### Natural Language Processing

- Enables a computer program to analyze and extract meaning from human language
- Clinical NLP uses SNOMED CT's concepts, descriptions and relationships analyze free text





## **Natural Language Processing**

- Enables a computer program to analyze and extract meaning from human language
- Clinical NLP uses SNOMED CT's concepts, descriptions and relationships analyze free text

#### **Challenges**

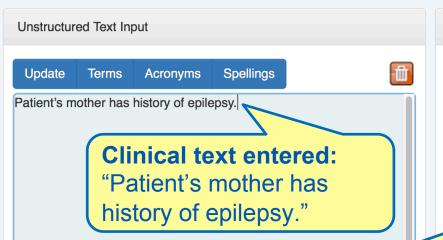
 Spelling errors, grammatical errors, abbreviations, unexpected synonyms, unusual vernacular phrases, hidden contextual information



# http://clinithink.com/clix-notes/



**Fullscreen** 



▼ Structured Output

SNOMED

Standard View Filtered View Advanced View

UID: 6b729552-8e06-4f35-84b8-66a850656126 Type:

LRAFindingObservation obs\_time: UNSPECIFIED session\_time: UNSPECIFIED meaning:

243796009 | Situation with explicit context | :

{408732007 | Subject relationship context | =72705000 | Mother |

,408731000 | Temporal context | =410513005 | Past | ,246090004 | Associated finding | =84757009 | Epilepsy |

,408729009 | Finding context | =410515003 | Known present

#### **Encoded data (Expression):**

243796009 | Situation with explicit context |:

{408732007 |Subject relationship context|

= 72705000 | Mother |, 408731000 |

Temporal context| = 410513005 |Past|,

246090004 |Associated finding| =

84757009 | Epilepsy |, 408729009 | Finding

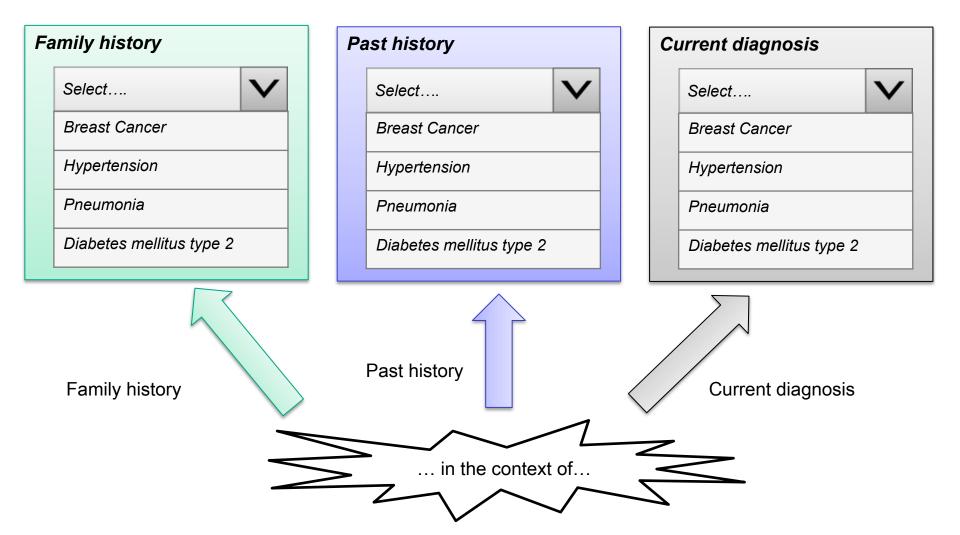
context| = 410515003 |Known present|}

owledge Links

Cross Maps



#### Interface Design and Data Representation

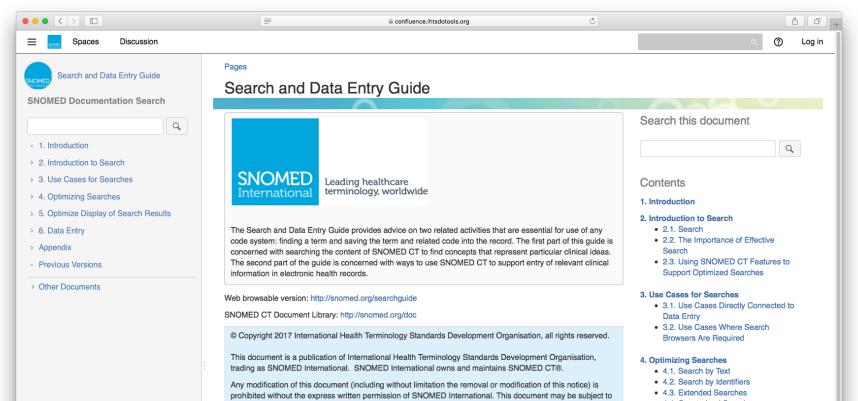




#### Search and Data Entry

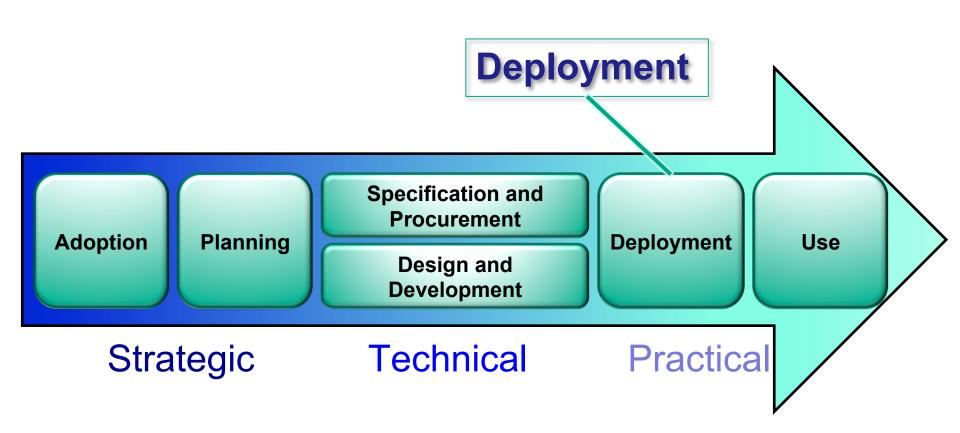
# For more information please refer to:

 Search and Data Entry Guide: http://snomed.org/searchguide





# **SNOMED CT Implementation Stages**



# Deployment and use of SNOMED CT Enabled Systems



- Delivery
  - Installation
  - Resolution of dependencies and integration of systems
- Configuration for specific uses and specialties
  - User interface configuration
  - Report and query configuration
- User training including
  - Clinical users
  - Reporting and analytics
- Maintenance
  - SNOMED CT version updates

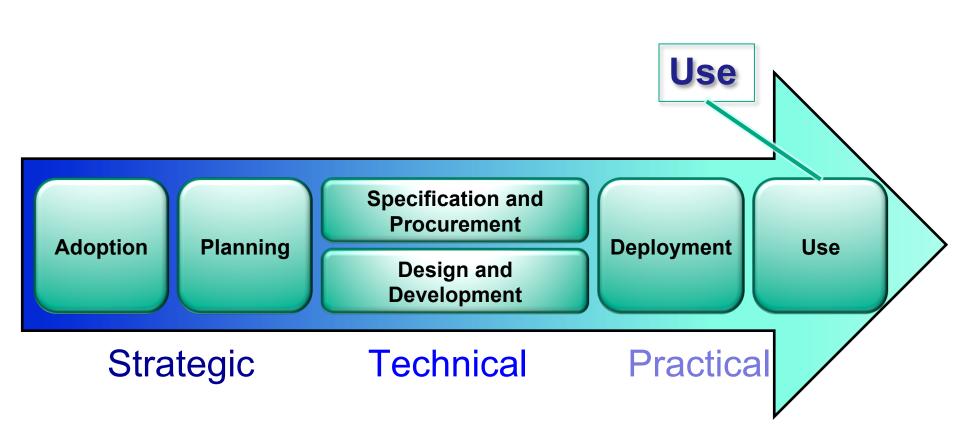


#### Deployment Needs Informed Users

- Inform all users about benefits
  - Focus on key features and benefits of meaning-based retrieval
- Involve clinical users in configuration decisions
  - Adapt data capture and display to fit working practices in different departments
    - For example ensuring searches and pick lists are relevant
- Inform data analysts about SNOMED CT semantics
  - SNOMED CT provides benefits for analytics
    - Full benefit realization requires awareness of the logical semantic definitions provided by SNOMED CT
  - Engage analysts in configuring reports that use these features to meet requirements



# **SNOMED CT Implementation Stages**





#### Use needs Motivated Users

- Involve 'clinical champions' who understand
  - The requirements that drive day to day use of an EHR
  - The way the EHR system meets those requirements
  - The contribution of SNOMED CT to delivery of benefits
- Provide users with practical benefits
  - Motivate consistent use by providing useful and interesting information derived from their use of the system
- Respond to user input
  - Address issues and emerging requirements



#### SNOMED CT in Use Around the World

- SNOMED CT is used in more than 50 countries
- National policy endorses use of SNOMED CT in several countries, including
  - Australia
  - Canada
  - England
  - India
  - Netherlands
  - Singapore
  - Sweden
  - United States
- Examples of SNOMED CT deployments
  - http://snomedinaction.org/





#### **SNOMED** in Action - Domains

- Clinical research
  - Public health
- Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE)
- Electronic prescriptions
- Immunization history
- Infection prevention
- Electronic health records
  - Hospital, Emergency care, Outpatient, Primary Care, Personal
- Specialties
  - Rheumatology, Pathology, Oncology, Ophthalmology, Optometry, Surgery
- And many more ...



#### Summary

- Adoption requires identification of specific benefits
- Plan implementation taking account of key objectives
  - Plan implementation as a team effort
- A clear specification of requirements is needed for
  - Procurement
  - Design and development
- When designing and developing
  - Take note of SNOMED CT implementation guidance
- Deployment and use needs informed and motivated users
- Provide users with value from the information they record



#### Links to Further Information

- Technical Implementation Guide (TIG)
  - http://snomed.org/tig
- Vendor Introduction to SNOMED CT
  - http://snomed.org/vendorguide
- Learn More using our E-Learning courses:
  - http://snomed.org/elearning
- SNOMED in Action
  - http://snomedinaction.org
- SNOMED CT Presentations
  - http://snomed.org/expo
- Any Questions?