Ensuring the Quality of SNOMED CT

Joint MB/GA Closed Session
SNOMED International Business Meeting
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Ensuring the Quality of SNOMED CT

Maintaining the quality of SNOMED CT is of core importance and rigorously undertaken by the organization on an ongoing basis.

Quality through expert personnel

Quality through guidance and training

Quality through process

Quality through collaboration

Experienced Authors, Clinical backgrounds, Varied Domains
Editorial & Mapping Guidelines, Customer Guidance
Automated Rules Validation, Pattern evaluation
Alignment with Standards, SME groups, Stakeholders
SNOMED International is initiating a project to undertake a broader examination across all hierarchies

Through the Quality Initiative project we will provide a greater focus on correcting structural anomalies as well as modification of content, resulting in a higher value of clinical accuracy.
What is the Scope of the Quality Initiative?

• Initial QI work will start with the clinical findings hierarchy, identifying problems associated with *cardinality, defining attributes and relationship grouping*, as well as associated quality issues in the foundation hierarchies, such as *anatomy* and *substance*.

• Work will also target template creation within the process for immediate use to safeguard these changes and increase our QA standard.

*The impact of this maintenance will first be reflected in the July 2018 release, with continued improvements in subsequent releases.*
The strategy of correction will encompass best efforts to balance the work required by the QI Initiative with requested content changes:

- In order to apply best practice and methodologies of correction, maintenance activities most likely will defer some content updates to later releases.

- The organization’s capacity to add new content will be contingent on available resources, clinical urgency of received content change requests, and timing of ongoing QI changes in consideration of potential impact.

*In all cases where there is a known impact to patient care, new content can continue to be submitted in line with Content Request Service Guidelines and Criteria for Content Acceptance.*
Notification to the Community

- Early visibility of the Quality Initiative and its known impacts to Members and other stakeholders was communicated on February 22nd, 2018 via snomed.org, Confluence, and Member Forum specific communication channels.

- Scope updates regarding the Quality Initiative will be posted on Confluence on the Early Visibility page communicating planned changes to upcoming Snomed CT International releases.