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# Briefing Note for the Member Forum August 2019

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## Initiation and Charge of Devices Working Group

### Purpose

To update the Member Forum on the establishment and activities of the Devices Working Group.

### Background

The Devices Project Group (PG) has met multiple times since 2016 to discuss the feasibility of improving SNOMED CT content in the devices domain. The PG members agreed during the April 2019 SI Business Meeting to establish a Devices Working Group (WG) who would then develop a proof of concept and a process for improving content. The proof of concept would focus on 1-2 subhierarchies of implantable devices. The WG consists of 10 members with both internal and external representation including participants from multiple member countries and regulatory organizations, as well as subject matter experts.

### Issue

The Physical object hierarchy of SNOMED CT contains around 15,000 concepts and lacks a clear, consistent structure and editorial guidance. Duplicated, ambiguous and

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erroneous content are also known issues in this hierarchy. Previous work and discussions revealed that developing and implementing a single concept model for this hierarchy is not feasible. Instead, organizing principles along with the use of selected attributes are needed for each subhierarchy (e.g., shunts, stents).

## Current activities

The Devices WG was initiated in May 2019 and has been meeting regularly since then. Among the WG activities thus far is the development of organizing principles and selected modeling with attributes for two areas of devices: breast implants and shunts.

## Plan for sharing initial work

The proof of concept developed by the WG will be presented to the Devices PG at the October 2019 SI Business Meeting. It will also be shared on the Devices Project area of Confluence.

## Future plans

A proposal for future work will be presented to the Devices PG at the October 2019 SI Business Meeting.

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