**hierarchy**
An arrangement of nodes in which each node is linked to one or more parent nodes.

**Notes**
- In SNOMED CT the nodes are concepts linked to their more general parent concepts by is a relationships.
- Concepts with the most general meanings are presented at the top of the hierarchy, with the concepts linked to them at the level beneath, and so on. At each level down, the meanings of the concepts are increasingly more specific or specialized.

**Related Links**
- Directed Acyclic Graph
- Monohierarchical classification
- Polyhierarchical classification
- Subtype hierarchy