

# SNOMED CT expression

A structured combination of one or more [concept identifiers](#) used to express a clinical idea.

## Notes

- An *expression* containing a single [concept identifier](#) is referred to as a [precoordinated expression](#). An *expression* that contains two or more [concept identifiers](#) is a [postcoordinated expression](#).
- The [concept identifiers](#) in a [postcoordinated expression](#) are related to one another in accordance with rules expressed in the [SNOMED CT Concept Model](#).
- These rules allow an *expression* to [refine](#) the meaning of a [concept](#) by applying more specific values to particular attributes of a more general [concept](#).

## Example

- 284196006 |burn of skin| : 363698007 |finding site| = 33712006 |skin of hand|

## Alternatives

- **Expression**

## Related Links

- [Precoordinated expression](#)
- [Postcoordinated expression](#)
- [Focus concept](#)
- [Refinement](#)
- [Context wrapper](#)
- [Compositional Grammar Specification and Guide](#)
- [Logical Model of SNOMED CT expressions](#)