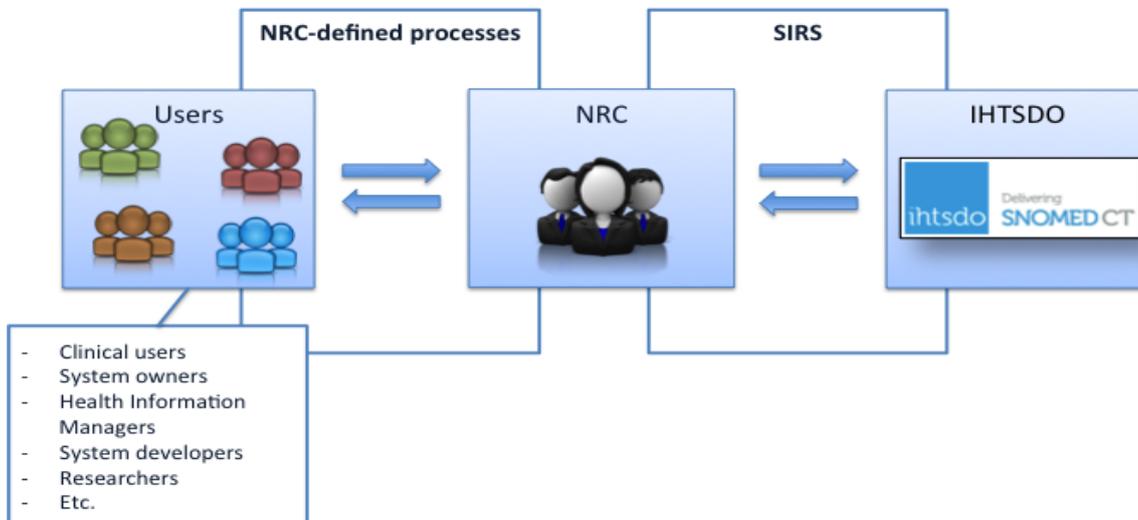# 12. Change requests

SNOMED CT is developed for implementation and use in health IT systems, so it is essential for successful adoption that the terminology fulfill user requirements. To facilitate continued development and enhancement of SNOMED CT, SNOMED International is dependent on ongoing feedback from users. A significant responsibility of an NRC is therefore to provide SNOMED International with feedback from users in the Member countries on errors, limitations and suggestions for changes to the SNOMED CT content. Regarding management of change requests, each NRC must:

1. Maintain a record of problems and other issues reported within the Member country, and
2. Document, submit and support requests for proposed updates and enhancements to SNOMED CT

An NRC must therefore provide a mechanism for supporting requests from users, both related to the National Edition (where it exists) and International Edition of SNOMED CT. Requests for the International Edition should be communicated to SNOMED International, whereas requests for the National Edition must be managed locally.

Figure 10. NRCs manage user requests for changes to both the National and International Editions of SNOMED CT

How user requests are submitted to the NRC is up to each NRC to decide. An NRC can choose to have its own request submission system, but the solution could also be a simple mailing system or a file-transfer system. This depends on the level of SNOMED CT use (and hence, the number of requests) within the Member country. An NRC could decide to have a simple system in the NRC-establishment phase and then launch a more sophisticated system when the number of requests increases.

SNOMED CT International Requests Submission System (SIRS)

SIRS is SNOMED International's online request submission system, which allows Member countries' NRCs and other authorized users to submit requests for change or addition of new content to the International Edition of SNOMED CT. Hence, all user requests for the International Edition of SNOMED CT should go via the NRC, and each NRC should have access to SIRS. Concepts of only national relevance should not be submitted to SNOMED International. It is the responsibility of the NRC to determine which request is specific to its country and which are of international relevance. NRCs should be aware of the editorial principles for SNOMED CT and only submit requests that meet those principles.

Requests submitted to SIRS are reviewed by SNOMED International Authors, and requests that meet the SNOMED CT International Edition inclusion criteria are added to the International Edition. SIRS is an online tool, which enables users to view the current status of all requests that have been made through the system, see Figure 11.

Figure 11 Screenshot from SIRS. Example of overview of requests submitted to the system.

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SNOMED CT® International Request Submission (SIRS) System

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Recent Requests

Request 1 .. 10 of 100

Batch Id	Id	Topic	Request Type	Status	Submitted On	Last Modified ▼	Last Modified By	Manager Name	Summary	Actions
393948	393997	77971008 Iridocyclitis (disorder)	Retire Description	In Process	08/21/14	09/09/14	Manager	Kathleen Brown	129408016	
402384	402401	Maternal Connective tissue disease (situation)	Other	Clarification Requested	09/08/14	09/09/14	Manager	Maria Braithwaite	704141008|Maternal Connective Tissues Disease (situation)	
393642	393795	Clinical finding	Retire Concept	In Process	08/19/14	09/09/14	Manager	Cathy Richardson	200026009	
393642	393794	Clinical finding	Retire Concept	In Process	08/19/14	09/09/14	Manager	Cathy Richardson	200016002	
393949	393999	Non-neuroinvasive California encephalitis virus infection (disorder)	Retire Concept	In Process	08/21/14	09/08/14	Manager	Kathleen Brown	419226000	
393642	393861	Clinical finding	Add Parent	In Process	08/19/14	09/08/14	Manager	Cathy Richardson	62410004 Is a 95839005	
393642	393817	Clinical finding	Add Parent	Construction phase	08/19/14	09/08/14	Manager	Cathy Richardson	236016008 Is a 2704003	
393642	393820	Clinical finding	Add Parent	Construction phase	08/19/14	09/08/14	Manager	Cathy Richardson	24807004 Is a 234076002	
393642	393818	Clinical finding	Add Parent	Construction phase	08/19/14	09/08/14	Manager	Cathy Richardson	197456007 Is a 2704003	
398142	398152	Organism	New Concept	Accepted - in scope	09/02/14	09/05/14	Manager		Nontoxigenic Vibrio cholerae (organism)	

Request 1 .. 10 of 100

Show 10 ▼ requests per page   Previous Next

Summary

My Requests:
Submitted: 4
Accepted: 4
Approved: 4
Draft: 0

What's New

July 2014

SIRS Version 2.2.2.RELEASE: For more details about this release, see the README file.

Current Release

January 2014 - SNOMED CT International

Important Dates

January 31, 2014

SNOMED CT International Release

April 27-30, 2014

IHTSDO Business Meeting Copenhagen, Denmark

July 2014

SNOMED CT International Release

October 26-31, 2014

SNOMED CT Implementation Showcase 2014 Amsterdam, Netherlands

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Users are notified by email when a request changes status (accepted, not accepted, in process, or clarification requested). If a request is not accepted, a reason is provided to the requestor. A requestor who is unhappy with the reason for not non-acceptance can appeal using a formal appeals process.

For up-to-date information about current arrangements and for access to SIRS see http://snomed.org/sirs

Further details on requesting content changes, or the addition of new content, are available from http://www.snomed.org/snomed-ct/change-or-add-snomed-ct. The document "Customer Guidance For Requesting Changes to SNOMED CT" is available for download from this page. The document provides details of how to make a request, and what details need to be provided by the requester as part of the process.

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[1] Change requests to the International Edition are submitted to SNOMED International via the online SNOMED CT International Request Submission (SIRS) system