

# subtype

A specialization of a [concept](#), sharing all the definitional attributes of that [concept](#), but with at least one additional distinguishing feature<sup>1</sup>.

## Notes

- *Subtypes* are transitive, that is if A is a *subtype* of B and B is a *subtype* of C, then A is also a *subtype* of C.
- The term *subtype* is synonymous with [subtype descendant](#). However, it may be helpful to use the term *subtype descendant* to emphasize inclusion of all *subtypes* not just [subtype children](#).

## Example

- [87628006 |Bacterial infectious disease \(disorder\)|](#) is a *subtype* of [40733004 |Infectious disease \(disorder\)|](#).
- [10001005 |Bacterial sepsis \(disorder\)|](#) and [197171003 |Bacterial peritonitis \(disorder\)|](#) are *subtypes* of [87628006 |Bacterial infectious disease \(disorder\)|](#) (and thus also *subtypes* of [40733004 |Infectious disease \(disorder\)|](#)).

## Disambiguation

Not to be confused with:

- The term *subtype* is sometimes used incorrectly to refer **only** to [concepts](#) that are directly related to a parent [concept](#) via a single [|is a| relationship](#). The correct term for a directly related *subtype* concept is [subtype child](#).

## Related Links

- [Subtype](#)
  - [subtype child](#)
  - [subtype children](#)
  - [subtype classification](#)
  - [subtype descendant](#)
  - [subtype hierarchy](#)
  - [subtype relationship](#)
  - [subtype test](#)
- [Supertype](#)

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<sup>1</sup> Note that the distinguishing features may or may not be represented in the [concept definition](#) of the *subtype*.