

# word equivalent

A word or abbreviation that has the same meaning as another word or abbreviation.

## Notes

- Recognition of *word equivalents* may be useful to support more inclusive text searches for [SNOMED CT concepts](#).

## Example

- The words "heart" and "cardiac" can be considered equivalent. However, these two words tend to be used in different contexts. As a result many concepts with synonyms including the word "heart" do not have synonyms including the word "cardiac" and vice versa. Therefore, in some cases, expanding a search for terms including either "heart" or "cardiac" may assist location of an appropriate concept.

## Related Links

- [Phrase equivalent](#)
- Terminology Services Guide
  - [6.1.5.3 Word equivalents table](#)