General Modeling

SNOMED CT is arranged as a polyhierarchy. A hierarchy is defined as an ordered organization of concept codes linked together through IS A relationships. Concept codes are linked to their more general parent concept codes directly above them in a hierarchy. Concepts with more general meanings are usually located at the top of the hierarchy and then at each level down the hierarchy the meanings become increasingly more specialized.

For general modeling information, use the following links to jump to the following pages:

- Changes to Components
- Conjunction and Disjunction
- General Concept Inclusions (GCIs)
- Grouper Concept
- Sufficiently Defined vs Primitive Concept
- Proximal Primitive Modeling
- Intermediate Primitive Concept Modeling
- Relationship Group

Templates

In addition to the guidance found in the Editorial Guide, please see information on the use of templates at SNOMED CT Modeling Templates and Description Patterns.

Templates are created by authors in an attempt to standardize the modeling, naming, case significance, etc. of certain subhierarchies of the terminology, though it is recognized that not every concept may conform to a prescribed pattern. The modeling approach may be difficult to apply in all cases, but domain-specific templates are being developed to ensure modeling consistency and accuracy.