

## 4 Logical Design

The logical design of a [SNOMED CT extension](#) is technically consistent with that of the [International Edition](#). Both represent and version SNOMED CT components and reference sets in release files that conform to the [Release Format 2](#) specification. This makes it easier for consumers of the [International Edition](#) to implement extensions. [Figure 4-1](#) illustrates the logical design of a typical SNOMED CT local edition and its relationship to the associated local extension, [National Edition](#) and [International Edition](#).

### Figure 4-1: Logical design of a SNOMED CT local edition

Every [SNOMED CT extension](#) includes one or more [modules](#), and each [module](#) contains either [SNOMED CT components](#) or [reference sets](#) (or both). Modules may be dependent on other modules. A national or local [extension](#) uses a [namespace identifier](#) issued by SNOMED International to ensure that all extension components can be uniquely identified (across all [extensions](#)). A SNOMED CT edition includes the contents of a focus module together with the contents of all the modules on which it depends. This includes the modules in the [International Edition](#) and possibly other modules from a national and/or local extension.

The following subsections explain this logical design in more detail:

- [4.1 Namespaces](#)
- [4.2 Modules](#)
- [4.3 Extensions](#)
- [4.4 Editions](#)
- [4.5 Release Packages](#)