description type

An indication of the intended use of a term of a SNOMED CT description when applied to the associated concept.

Notes

- The *description type* is represented by the value of the description.*typeId* attribute.
- Permitted values include the following (other types may be defined in future):

typeId (with term)	Further information
9000000 0000000 3001 |Ful ly specified name|	**fully specified name** A description that represents the meaning of a concept in a way that is unambiguous and independent of the context in which it is used. • A description that represents the meaning of a concept in a way that is unambiguous and independent of the context in which it is used.
9000000 0000001 3009 |Sy nonym|	**synonym** A word or phrase that expresses the meaning of a SNOMED CT concept in a specified language. • A word or phrase that expresses the meaning of a SNOMED CT concept in a specified language.
9000000 0000055 0004 |De finition|	**textual definition** A narrative text explanation of the meaning of a concept that may exceed the maximum permitted length for a fully specified name. • A narrative text explanation of the meaning of a concept that may exceed the maximum permitted length for a fully specified name.

> ⚠ The Preferred term is **not** a distinct description type, it is the synonym marked as preferred for use in the *language reference set* for a specified language context.

Related Links

- Description Format Reference Set
- Fully specified name
- Synonym
- Textual definition
- Language context
- Language reference set