

SNOMED CT March 2020 International Edition - SNOMED International Release notes

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Introduction

Background

SNOMED CT terminology provides a common language that enables a consistent way of indexing, storing, retrieving, and aggregating clinical data across specialties and sites of care.

SNOMED International maintains the SNOMED CT technical design, the content architecture, the SNOMED CT content (includes the concepts table, the descriptions table, the relationships table, a history table, and ICD mappings), and related technical documentation.

Purpose

This document provides a summarized description of the content changes included in the March 2020 **INTERIM** release of SNOMED Clinical Terms® (SCT) International Release.

It also includes technical notes detailing the known issues which have been identified and agreed to be released. These are content or technical issues where the root cause is understood, and the fix has been discussed and agreed, but has yet to be implemented.

The SNOMED International Release Notes are available alongside the **INTERIM** March 2020 International Edition release.

Scope

This document is written for the purpose described above and is not intended to provide details of the technical specifications for SNOMED CT or encompass every change made during the release.

Audience

The audience includes National Release Centers, WHO-FIC release centers, vendors of electronic health records, terminology developers and managers who wish to have an understanding of changes that have been incorporated into the **INTERIM** March 2020 International Edition release.

Content Development Activity

Summary

This **INTERIM** International Edition Release has been created as part of the ongoing global effort to tackle the Coronavirus outbreak, and as such includes the updated Coronavirus descriptions for Members and implementers. This is a full International Edition Release package containing changes to the content detailed in the news item (<https://www.snomed.org/news-and-events/articles/changes-coronavirus-descriptions>) under the following conditions:

- following SNOMED International's critical incident policy, there will **NOT** be a recall of the January release, simply an update in response to international renaming, to ensure that SNOMED CT is current when assisting with the global Coronavirus effort
- implementers are *encouraged* to update to the new edition, however, they are **NOT** obliged to do so as the concept modelling and identifiers are not being modified
- the entirety of these changes will also be incorporated into the upcoming July 2020 International Edition Release

New content added for 2019 novel coronavirus

A set of new components have been added and refined for the March 2020 release:

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RF2 file	Number of Changes	Changes for this release																																																																											
Description files	37	<p><u>24 records added, with all 7 Coronavirus concepts having 3x records added each (1x FSN = 2x Synonyms) plus Core concept description added back in referencing March 2020:</u></p> <table> <tr> <th>ConceptID</th><th>DescriptionID</th><th>Term</th></tr> <tr> <td>840534001</td><td>3950925017</td><td>COVID-19 vaccination</td></tr> <tr> <td>840544004</td><td>3950926016</td><td>Suspected COVID-19</td></tr> <tr> <td>840535000</td><td>3947177019</td><td>Antibody to severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (substance)</td></tr> <tr> <td>840535000</td><td>3947178012</td><td>Antibody to severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2</td></tr> <tr> <td>840535000</td><td>3947179016</td><td>Antibody to SARS-CoV-2</td></tr> <tr> <td>840536004</td><td>3947180018</td><td>Antigen of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (substance)</td></tr> <tr> <td>840536004</td><td>3947181019</td><td>Antigen of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2</td></tr> <tr> <td>840536004</td><td>3947182014</td><td>Antigen of SARS-CoV-2</td></tr> <tr> <td>840539006</td><td>3947183016</td><td>Disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (disorder)</td></tr> <tr> <td>840539006</td><td>3947184010</td><td>Disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2</td></tr> <tr> <td>840539006</td><td>3947185011</td><td>COVID-19</td></tr> <tr> <td>840546002</td><td>3947186012</td><td>Exposure to severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (event)</td></tr> <tr> <td>840546002</td><td>3947187015</td><td>Exposure to SARS-CoV-2</td></tr> <tr> <td>840546002</td><td>3947188013</td><td>Exposure to severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2</td></tr> <tr> <td>840533007</td><td>3947189017</td><td>Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (organism)</td></tr> <tr> <td>840533007</td><td>3947190014</td><td>SARS-CoV-2</td></tr> <tr> <td>840533007</td><td>3947191013</td><td>Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2</td></tr> <tr> <td>840534001</td><td>3947192018</td><td>Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 vaccination (procedure)</td></tr> <tr> <td>840534001</td><td>3947193011</td><td>SARS-CoV-2 vaccination</td></tr> <tr> <td>840534001</td><td>3947194017</td><td>Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 vaccination</td></tr> <tr> <td>840544004</td><td>3947195016</td><td>Suspected disease caused by SARS-CoV-2</td></tr> <tr> <td>840544004</td><td>3947196015</td><td>Suspected disease caused by severe acute respiratory coronavirus 2</td></tr> <tr> <td>840544004</td><td>3947197012</td><td>Suspected disease caused by severe acute respiratory coronavirus 2 (situation)</td></tr> <tr> <td>138875005</td><td>3947198019</td><td>SNOMED Clinical Terms version: 20200309 [R] (March 2020 Interim Release)</td></tr> </table> <p><u>Plus 15 records inactivated, with all 7 Coronavirus concepts having 1 description inactivated each, plus the 1 Core concept description record inactivated as still referencing January 2020.</u></p>	ConceptID	DescriptionID	Term	840534001	3950925017	COVID-19 vaccination	840544004	3950926016	Suspected COVID-19	840535000	3947177019	Antibody to severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (substance)	840535000	3947178012	Antibody to severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2	840535000	3947179016	Antibody to SARS-CoV-2	840536004	3947180018	Antigen of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (substance)	840536004	3947181019	Antigen of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2	840536004	3947182014	Antigen of SARS-CoV-2	840539006	3947183016	Disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (disorder)	840539006	3947184010	Disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2	840539006	3947185011	COVID-19	840546002	3947186012	Exposure to severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (event)	840546002	3947187015	Exposure to SARS-CoV-2	840546002	3947188013	Exposure to severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2	840533007	3947189017	Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (organism)	840533007	3947190014	SARS-CoV-2	840533007	3947191013	Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2	840534001	3947192018	Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 vaccination (procedure)	840534001	3947193011	SARS-CoV-2 vaccination	840534001	3947194017	Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 vaccination	840544004	3947195016	Suspected disease caused by SARS-CoV-2	840544004	3947196015	Suspected disease caused by severe acute respiratory coronavirus 2	840544004	3947197012	Suspected disease caused by severe acute respiratory coronavirus 2 (situation)	138875005	3947198019	SNOMED Clinical Terms version: 20200309 [R] (March 2020 Interim Release)
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Language refset files	88	<p>16 records updated, with all 16 language refset records from January 2020 being changed from Preferred to Acceptable as part of these changes.</p> <p>Plus 30 records inactivated, due to the inactivation of both language refset records for all 7 original concepts created in January 2020, plus the inactivation of the original January 2020 Core description.</p>																																																																											

		Plus 48 records added, with both Language records (EN-GB + EN-US) for each of the 24 new Descriptions above.
Attribute Value files	15	15 records added, due to the inactivations of the descriptions (above).
ExtendedMap files	3	3 records added, due to the ICD-10 map records added for the new Coronavirus content.
ModuleDependency files	3	3 records updated, as expected for March 2020 effectiveTimes
Readme file		March 2020 dates updated + Coronavirus explanations added, as expected
Concept files	0	<i>No changes required</i>
Relationship files	0	<i>No changes required</i>
OwlExpression files	0	<i>No changes required</i>
Stated Relationship files	0	<i>No changes required</i>
TextDefinition files	0	<i>No changes required</i>
SimpleMap files	0	<i>No changes required</i>
Simple Refset files	0	<i>No changes required</i>
MRCM AttributeDomain files	0	<i>No changes required</i>
MRCM AttributeRange files	0	<i>No changes required</i>
MRCM Domain files	0	<i>No changes required</i>
Association Reference files	0	<i>No changes required</i>

SNOMED CT derived products

ICD-10 map

The SNOMED CT to the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision (© World Health organisation 1994) 2016 Version map (SNOMED CT to ICD-

10 Map) is included in the SNOMED CT International release as a Baseline. The SNOMED CT to ICD-10 Map was created to support the epidemiological, statistical and administrative reporting needs of SNOMED International member countries and WHO Collaborating Centres.

The SNOMED CT to ICD-10 Map is released in Release Format 2 (RF2) only. It is located in the file der2_iisssccRefset_ExtendedMapFull_INT_20200309.txt, which is in the Map folder under Refset, in each of the three RF2 Release Type folders.

The SNOMED CT to ICD-10 Map is released as Refset 447562003 [ICD-10 complex map reference set (foundation metadata concept)].

Content development activity summary

The map is a directed set of relationships from SNOMED CT source concepts to ICD-10 target classification codes. The SNOMED CT source domains for the MAP are limited to subtypes of 404684003 [clinical finding], 272379006 [event] and 243796009 [situation with explicit context]. The target classification codes are ICD-10 2016 release.

Mapped content for March 2020

The map provided for the March 2020 release has been updated in line with the Coronavirus changes for both the January 2020 and March 2020 International Edition releases:

referencedComponentId	mapAdvice	mapTarget	correlationId	mapCategoryId
840539006	ALWAYS U07.1 POSSIBLE REQUIREMENT FOR ADDITIONAL CODE TO FULLY DESCRIBE DISEASE OR CONDITION	U07.1	447561005	447637006
840546002	ALWAYS Z20.8	Z20.8	447561005	447637006
840544004	MAP SOURCE CONCEPT CANNOT BE CLASSIFIED WITH AVAILABLE DATA	-	447561005	447638001

We would welcome feedback on any issues that users of the map may detect when using the map. Issues should be submitted via mapping@snomed.org

Technical Guide Exemplars

The Technical Guide Exemplars document has now been moved from the International Edition release package to a Confluence page. This page can be found as part of the ICD-10 Mapping Technical Guide (see Appendix B), which is hosted here: <http://snomed.org/icd10map>

ICD-O Map

No changes to the ICD-O map were required for this Interim release.

SNOMED CT to OWL conversion and classification

The repository containing the toolkit enabling simple SNOMED CT to OWL conversion and classification can be found here, including documentation on its use: <https://github.com/IHTSDO/snomed-owl-toolkit>

Please contact SNOMED International at support@snomed.org if you would like to provide any feedback on ways to extend and improve the new toolkit.

Technical notes

Known Issues

Known Issues are content or technical issues where the root cause is understood, and the resolution has been discussed and agreed but has yet to be implemented. This can be due to a number of reasons, from lack of capacity within the current editing cycle, to the risk of impact to the stability of SNOMED CT if the fix were to be deployed at that stage in the Product lifecycle.

For the SNOMED CT March 2020 International edition, the following Known Issues were identified, and agreed to be resolved in future editing cycles:

Key	Summary	Description
No issues found		

Resolved Issues

Resolved issues are Known Issues which were not fixed as part of the previous release lifecycle, but which have now been resolved in the latest release. They can also be issues found during the Alpha and Beta testing of the current release, which were resolved before the final deployment of the associated Member release. Finally they can be issues which were reported or found during the testing phase, but which have been closed without any action taken.

The Resolved Issues for the Snomed CT March 2020 International edition can be found here:

Key	Summary	Description	Resolved
ISRS-737	RVF Assertion failure: c82246b1-a137-40c5-8653-554c9ce82c6b	assertionUuid: "c82246b1-a137-40c5-8653-554c9ce82c6b" assertionText: "Active preferred terms for active concepts are unique in the same hierarchy", "failureCount": 2, "firstNInstances": [<ul style="list-style-type: none">• {"conceptId": "420559008", "detail": "Preferred term=L is duplicated in hierarchy (qualifier value)"}• {"conceptId": "258770004", "detail": "Preferred term=L is duplicated in hierarchy (qualifier value)"} RESOLUTION: The SNOMED International Content team have investigated these potential duplicates (as part of the International Edition validation) and confirmed that they are all valid terms. These potential issues have therefore been whitelisted, and can be safely ignored with no action currently required.	2020-Mar-09
ISRS-738	DROOLS assertion failure: "Active concepts must have at least one IS A relationship."	assertionText: "Active concepts must have at least one IS A relationship.", failureCount: 1, firstNInstances: [<ul style="list-style-type: none">• {conceptId: "138875005", detail: "Active concepts must have at least one IS A relationship."} RESOLUTION: SNOMED International Content Team confirmed that as this is the root concept (138875005 [SNOMED CT Concept (SNOMED RT+CTV3)]) it is the only exception to this rule, and will therefore never have an IS_A relationship. The rule now appears to be running correctly, and so no editing changes are required - this one concept just needs to be manually whitelisted in all future validation runs.	2020-Mar-09
ISRS-740	RVF Assertion failure: 7e70ea3e-c4dd-4ae3-8b75-0f0567e42d64	testCategory: "component-centric-validation,ICD-MAP,INT", assertionUuid: "7e70ea3e-c4dd-4ae3-8b75-0f0567e42d64", assertionText: "Active ICD 10 extended maps must have valid mapAdvice values for corresponding mapCategory", failureCount: 1, firstNInstances: [{conceptId: "840544004", detail: "ExtendedMap: id=c0d288cb-4500-5d6d-90e3-a1b1469ad9bf : misaligned mapCategory and mapAdvice for Non Classifiable"} RESOLUTION: MapAdvice fixed in time for the March 2020 International Edition release.	2021-Mar-02
3 issues			

Technical updates

RF2 package format

For future reference, the RF2 package convention dictates that it contains all relevant files, regardless of whether or not there is content to be included in each particular release. Therefore, the package contains a mixture of files which contain both header rows and content data, and also files that are intentionally left blank (including only a header record). The reason that these files are not removed from the package is to draw a clear distinction between files that:

- have been deprecated (and therefore removed from the package completely), due to the content no longer being relevant to RF2 in this or future releases, and
- happen to contain no data in this particular release (and are therefore included in the package but left blank, with only a header record), but are still relevant to RF2, and could therefore potentially contain data in future releases.

This allows users to easily distinguish between files that have purposefully been removed or not, as otherwise if files in option 2 above were left out of the package it could be interpreted as an error, rather than an intentional lack of content in that release.

RF2 file consumption

The changes are delivered in the usual Delta, Full + Snapshot files, with the Delta relative to the January 2020 International Edition release.



The current plan is to also include the same changes in the July 2020 International Edition, for those users who do not consume this March 2020 Interim release package.

For those who do use this March 2020 content, you should then avoid using the Delta files from the July 2020 International Edition, which will necessarily include duplicate records for these few changes. The July 2020 Full and Snapshot files will work without issue for all users, regardless of whether or not they utilised this March 2020 release package.

Early visibility of impending change in the July 2020 International edition

Please see the following page for details of all upcoming changes planned for July 2020 and beyond: [July 2020 Early Visibility Release Notice - Planned changes to upcoming SNOMED International Release packages](#)

Document links

All links provide information that is correct and current at the time of this Release. Updated versions may be available at a later date, but if so these will need to be requested from the relevant SNOMED International teams.

NOTE: To access any of the links in the pdf document, please visit the Release Notes @ <https://confluence.ihtsdotools.org/display/RMT/SNOMED+CT+March+2020+International+Edition+-+SNOMED+International+Release+notes>

Approvals

Final Version	Date	Approver	Comments
1.0	09 Mar 2020	Monica Harry	Approved
1.0	09 Mar 2020	Maria Braithwaite	Approved
1.0	09 Mar 2020	Rory Davidson	Approved

Draft Amendment History

Version	Date	Editor	Comments
0.1	202003 09	Andrew Atkinson	First draft for review and comment
1.0	09 Mar 2020	Maria Braithwaite / Andrew Atkinson	Final updates, including map record count update

