

2.8 URIs for Unpublished Content

Background

The URI formats, defined in the previous sections of this document, can be used to identify SNOMED CT content that has been officially published, and may therefore be stored in an Electronic Health Record and exchanged between clinical systems. However, during the process of creating a SNOMED CT release, concepts may exist in a pre-published state. These concepts are considered to be "work in progress" and subject to change or removal, prior to their official publication. For a variety of reasons (including testing, early adoption etc), users may require a way to identify this unpublished content.¹ Note that the terminology or code system for SNOMED CT will always be specified as <http://snomed.info/sct>, even when the version of this terminology is an unpublished version, e.g. <http://snomed.info/xsct/900000000000207008>

SNOMED International already uses the X (eXperimental) indicator for alpha & beta releases of International and national editions of SNOMED CT, eg xSnomedCT_BelgiumExtensionRF2_PREPRODUCTION_20210315T120000Z/Snapshot/Terminology/xsct2_Concept_Snapshot_BE1000172_20210315.txt. This additional 'x' is added to make it clear that the contents have not been "officially" published.

Form

Unpublished Editions and Versions

The URIs that identify unpublished editions (i.e. the current build) and unpublished versioned editions (i.e. versions) take the following respective forms:

<http://snomed.info/xsct/{moduleId}>

<http://snomed.info/xsct/{moduleId}/version/{timestamp}>

Unpublished SNOMED CT Components

The URIs that identify components relative to an unpublished edition or version take the following respective forms:

<http://snomed.info/xsct/{moduleId}/id/{sctId}>

<http://snomed.info/xsct/{moduleId}/version/{timestamp}/id/{sctId}>

Examples

The following table shows some examples of URIs for unpublished artifacts.

Table 2.8-1: Examples

Resource	URI
SNOMED CT International Edition, current build	http://snomed.info/xsct/900000000000207008
SNOMED CT International Edition, 20220131 beta release	http://snomed.info/xsct/900000000000207008/version/20220131
The concept 1163215007 Pressure injury in the current build of the SNOMED CT International Edition	http://snomed.info/xsct/900000000000207008/id/1163215007
The concept 1163215007 Pressure injury in the 20220131 beta release of the SNOMED CT International Edition	http://snomed.info/xsct/900000000000207008/version/20220131/id/1163215007

For a more extensive list of SNOMED CT edition URI examples, please refer to [4.4.2 Edition URI Examples](#)

Footnotes

RefNotes

- ¹ This topic was first raised in the context using SNOMED with the HL7 FHIR specifications, and further detail on the use case is given here [URI Proposal: Addition of xsct](#). This use case only requires the 'version' format of an unpublished substrate to specify the 'version' of the code system - e.g. <http://snomed.info/xsct/900000000000207008/version/20220131>.