

Tooling

There are numerous tools that NRCs may need, depending on the extent to which they customize or extend the SNOMED CT International Edition.

The tools necessary for an NRC depend on what services the NRC will deliver and what approach the NRC will take to deliver its services. However, at a minimum, an NRC needs a platform where SNOMED CT can be made available to users, i.e. a tool to support distribution to users of the International Edition (received from SNOMED International) and potential National Extensions. Moreover, if the NRC decides to develop National Extensions, including a national translation or national Reference sets, tools are also required to support these tasks. Figure 8 shows various types of tooling that an NRC can use to support its work with SNOMED CT.

Figure 8 Tools useful for an NRC.

Work task	Tool
Distribution	Tools for distribution of the International Release of SNOMED CT and National Extensions
Change requests	Tools for management requests for changes to the International and National Edition of SNOMED CT
Development and customization	Tools for development and management of Extensions, Reference sets, maps
QA and file creation	Tool for creating release files and for running QA rules etc. (so that release files can be quality assured before they are distributed to users)
Search and browsing	Tools for exploring the content of the International and/or National Edition of SNOMED CT

Later sections of this document present the typical practice and tools related to each of the above work tasks .

SNOMED International Tooling service

NRCs are free to choose or develop tools to enable distribution and management of SNOMED CT and national derivatives in their countries. However, SNOMED International puts great effort into development of SNOMED International tooling services, which represent a range of services and tools that have been made available to support SNOMED International, Members, and the Community of Practice. Over time, SNOMED International aims to include tools necessary to support the full range of essential NRC functions in its tooling services.

Tooling service developments are now based on SNOMED International's Open Tooling Framework (OTF) and the source code is made available under an Apache v2 open source licence (where feasible). This framework is a set of standardized application programming interfaces (APIs), bound by a set of principles that define fundamental software services. These services are consumed by business applications, which are being developed to satisfy the tooling requirements of SNOMED International and its Members.

SNOMED International tooling services are listed at <https://www.snomed.org/software-tools>.

Details of [implementation tooling](#) are also provided on the SNOMED CT Implementation Support Portal.

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