

6.3 Expression With Refinements

One or more [refinements](#) may be added to a [concept](#) to qualify it. This is done by putting the [concept](#) to be qualified before a colon and the qualifying [expression](#) after. The qualifying [expression](#) is of the form "attribute = value". The example below describes an operation to remove an ovary (i.e. an 'oophorectomy') using a laser.

```
83152002 |Oophorectomy| : 405815000 |Procedure device| = 122456005 |Laser device|
```

The next example, shown below, describes the right hip joint.

```
182201002 |Hip joint| : 272741003 |Laterality| = 24028007 |Right|
```

Where more than one qualifying attribute is required, these can be separated using a comma. The example below describes the removal of an ovarian structure using a laser device.

```
71388002 |Procedure| :  
  405815000 |Procedure device| = 122456005 |Laser device| ,  
  260686004 |Method| = 129304002 |Excision - action| ,  
  405813007 |Procedure site - direct| = 15497006 |Ovarian structure|
```

A further example, below, describes the emergency removal of the appendix:

```
65801008 |Excision| :  
  405813007 |Procedure site - direct| = 66754008 |Appendix structure| ,  
  260870009 |Priority| = 25876001 |Emergency|
```

Refinements may also be applied to a conjoined [concept](#). For example, the following two expressions are equivalent (because an 'ulna' is a bone in an 'upper limb'):

```
313056006 |Epiphysis of ulna| : 272741003 |Laterality| = 7771000 |Left|
```

```
119189000 |Ulna part| + 312845000 |Epiphysis of upper limb| : 272741003 |Laterality| = 7771000 |Left|
```

Note that there are no brackets round "

```
119189000 |Ulna part| + 312845000 |Epiphysis of upper limb|
```

" in the above example, as the refinement automatically applies to the conjoined concept.