

# ICNP to SNOMED CT (Diagnoses) Equivalency Table

## Release Notes - July 2016



Leading healthcare  
terminology, worldwide

|                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| Date             | 20160930 |
| Document Version | 1.1      |
| Release Status   | FINAL    |

### Page At A Glance

- [1 Introduction](#)
- [2 Background](#)
- [3 Motivation](#)
- [4 Design](#)
  - [4.1 Versions](#)
  - [4.2 Source](#)
  - [4.3 Target](#)
  - [4.4 Direction](#)
  - [4.5 Cardinality](#)
- [5 Content](#)
  - [5.1 Changes from January 2016 release](#)
- [6 Obtaining the equivalency table](#)
- [7 Feedback](#)
- [8 Technical Notes](#)
  - [RF2 package format](#)

© 2021 International Council of Nurses and International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation. All rights reserved. SNOMED CT® was originally created by the College of American Pathologists.

This document forms part of the ICNP Reference Set Production package distributed by International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation, trading as SNOMED International, on behalf of ICN. For those in SNOMED International Member Countries, it is subject to the SNOMED CT® Affiliate License, details of which may be found at <https://www.snomed.org/snomed-ct/get-snomed>. For those in SNOMED International non-member countries, users require a licence from ICN before requesting access to the package [ADD LINK TO ICN PROCESS](#).

No part of this document may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, or stored in any kind of retrieval system, except by an Affiliate of SNOMED International in accordance with the SNOMED CT® Affiliate License. Any modification of this document (including without limitation the removal or modification of this notice) is prohibited without the express written permission of SNOMED International.

Any copy of this document that is not obtained directly from SNOMED International [or a Member of SNOMED International] is not controlled by SNOMED International, and may have been modified and may be out of date. Any recipient of this document who has received it by other means is encouraged to obtain a copy directly from SNOMED International [or a Member of SNOMED International]. Details of the Members of SNOMED International may be found at <http://www.snomed.org/members/>.

~~Access to the ICNP reference set is provided SNOMED International, on behalf of ICN.~~

~~Access within SNOMED International member countries is provided by the Member National Release Centre in each country, via the relevant Member webpage. Affiliates of SNOMED International in non member countries can access the table through their MLDS (Member Licensing & Distribution Service) account once they have an ICNP licence from ICN. Those in non member countries who are not using SNOMED CT in systems and only want access to ICNP can gain access to the ICNP 2010 SNOMED CT equivalency table to enable them to migrate existing data.~~

~~The equivalency table is also available for download from the ICN website: **FOR DISCUSSION WITH ICN AS THEY WILL NEED TO MANAGE THE LICENSING IF THEY DO THIS**~~

~~Users of the ICNP 2010 SNOMED CT equivalency table must comply with the licensing agreements of both ICN and SNOMED International.~~

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Background
- 3 Motivation
- 4 Design
  - 4.1 Versions
  - 4.2 Source
  - 4.3 Target
  - 4.4 Direction
  - 4.5 Cardinality
- 5 Content
  - 5.1 Changes from January 2016 release
- 6 Obtaining the equivalency table
- 7 Feedback
- 8 Technical Notes
  - RF2 package format

## 1 Introduction

The International Classification of Nursing Practice (ICNP) to SNOMED CT nursing diagnoses (problems) equivalency table is a product of an ongoing programme of work carried out under a pre-existing collaboration agreement between the International Council of Nurses (ICN) and the International Health Terminology Standards Organisation (IHTSDO). The work commenced in May 2014 and the first joint release of the candidate baseline equivalency table took place in April 2015, for review and feedback.

## 2 Background

The overarching aim of the collaboration agreement, first established in 2010 and updated in September 2014, was to advance terminology harmonisation and foster interoperability in health information systems. Joint work would build on previous efforts, culminating in joint publication of:

- a) An equivalence table between the International Classification for Nursing Practice (ICNP®) and SNOMED Clinical Terms (SNOMED CT®) for nursing diagnoses
- b) An equivalence table between ICNP and SNOMED CT for nursing interventions.

The initial effort centred on nursing diagnoses, specifically problems – the focus of this release document. Other related work includes the identification of SNOMED CT equivalencies for ICNP nursing interventions and in the future ICNP positive nursing diagnoses (i.e. goals or expected outcomes).

## 3 Motivation

The ICNP, a product of the ICN, is a terminology that enables nurses to describe and report their practice in a systematic way. The resulting information is used to support care and effective decision-making, and to inform nursing education and health policy. SNOMED CT is the most comprehensive and precise clinical health terminology product in the world, owned and distributed around the world by The International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation (IHTSDO). The equivalency table is intended for use by nurses, and other interested professional groups. Robust systems and processes within ICN and IHTSDO assure the integrity of both terminologies.

As ICNP is intended for use by and for nurses, ICN has been able to focus attention on the development of ICNP specifically for nursing practice. This has resulted in a rich and comprehensive resource that nurses can use to describe and report in detail the things that they assess (diagnoses e.g. nausea) and the things that they do (interventions e.g. counseling). The potential benefits of a consistent approach to capturing nursing data are far-reaching. However, nurses do not practice in isolation, they practice alongside many other disciplines. One of the potential risks of a specific nursing-focus is that nursing will be somehow disconnected from a larger health information landscape.

The table of equivalents provides a vehicle for transforming ICNP-encoded data into SNOMED CT (e.g. an ICNP concept in a local system can be transformed via the table to the equivalent SNOMED CT concept for use in a multidisciplinary record). By providing a robust pathway from ICNP to SNOMED CT, the table of equivalents helps to ensure that users of ICNP can continue to use their preferred terminology while remaining a central part of the bigger picture and wider implementation of SNOMED CT globally.

## 4 Design

Decisions concerning source concepts, target concepts and validity of equivalencies were made by consensus of all parties (ICN, IHTSDO and the IHTSDO Nursing Special Interest Group (SIG)). In addition, the Nursing SIG has provided international validation of the content included in the set prior to publication.

### 4.1 Versions

The version of ICNP used is the July 2015 release.

The version of SNOMED CT used is the July 2016 International Release.

### 4.2 Source

The source is a subset of 805 ICNP diagnostic concepts.

### 4.3 Target

All target concepts are drawn from SNOMED CT Clinical Findings and Situation. As part of the work, new concepts were identified as relevant and needed within SNOMED CT. These were modeled as Clinical Findings.

### 4.4 Direction

The direction is from the ICNP classification to SNOMED CT International Release.

### 4.5 Cardinality

The cardinality for all equivalencies in the table is one-to-one.

## 5 Content

The ICNP to SNOMED CT nursing diagnoses (problems) equivalency table covers just one semantic type – nursing diagnoses (problems) – with equivalent ICNP and SNOMED CT concepts for each problem. The table comprises 488 active equivalencies, representing a subset of ICNP and a subset of SNOMED CT – equivalencies have not been identified for all ICNP diagnoses, or for all SNOMED CT Clinical Findings.

### 5.1 Changes from January 2016 release

The following was removed from the equivalency table:

ICN ID 10001005 | Impaired Ability To Transfer | to SCT ID 714914005 | Impaired ability to transfer location (finding) |

The mapping to SCTID 34095006 was corrected by inactivating the previous mapping (with an invalid ICNP mapTarget of 10041822), and adding the new active mapping with the correct ICNP mapTarget of 10041882.

## 6 Obtaining the equivalency table

The equivalency table was released in April 2015 as a technology preview/candidate baseline and has subsequently been maintained according to the release schedules of ICNP and SNOMED CT. The baseline release of the equivalency table was released after July 2015, following agreement between ICN and IHTSDO.

Access within IHTSDO member countries is provided by the Member National Release Centre in each country, via the relevant Member page. Affiliates of IHTSDO in non-member countries can access the table through their Member Licensing and Distribution Service (MLDS) account. Please contact [info@ihtsdo.org](mailto:info@ihtsdo.org) for more information if required.

The equivalency table is available for download from the ICNP website:  
<http://www.icn.ch/what-we-do/icnp-download/>

Users of the table should comply with licensing arrangements for both ICNP and SNOMED CT.

## 7 Feedback

Feedback should be sent jointly to [info@ihtsdo.org](mailto:info@ihtsdo.org) and [aamherdt@uwm.edu](mailto:aamherdt@uwm.edu). Feedback should include any issues relating to implementation, suggestions for future content inclusion or general comments regarding the subset.

## 8 Technical Notes

### RF2 package format

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:

1. ...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
2. ...files that just 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.

---

#### Approvals

| Final Version | Date     | Approver       | Comments |
|---------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| 1.0           | 20161009 | Jane Millar    | Approved |
| 1.0           | 20160921 | Lesley MacNeil | Approved |

---

#### Draft Amendment History

| Version | Date     | Editor          | Comments   |
|---------|----------|-----------------|--|
| 0.1     | 20160905 | Monica Harry    | Initial draft  |
| 1.1     | 20161014 | Andrew Atkinson | Added notes about fix for ID error in previous release + Updated in line with Jane's sign off comments |

Download .pdf here: