# code

⚠️ This glossary does not provide a formal definition for this term as it has a wide range of meanings, and several of these meanings may be used in connection with SNOMED CT and the services, applications and organization that use SNOMED CT.  For further information please see the disambiguation notes below.

## Disambiguation

- Meanings of the word *code* commonly used in connection with SNOMED CT  and the services, applications and organizations that use SNOMED CT include:
    1. SNOMED CT concept identifiers and expressions used to represent clinical meanings may sometimes be informally referred to as "SNOMED codes".

       ✅ **Recommendation**
          - Instead of referring to a "code" or "SNOMED code" use concept identifier (or where appropriate SNOMED CT expression) to minimize the risk of misunderstanding.

    2. Codes in code systems or classifications that are used with or mapped to/from SNOMED CT.
    3. Software code written in a computer programming language (or compiled as machine executable code) that determines the operation of an application or device.
    4. Codes used to represent characters and symbols in computer storage and communication (e.g. UTF-8).
    5. Cryptographic codes used to support secure access to and/or communication of data.

## References

- SNOMED CT concept identifier

    - A SNOMED CT identifier that uniquely identifies a concept.

- SNOMED CT expression

    - A structured combination of one or more concept identifiers that represents an idea.