description type

An indication of the intended use of a term of a SNOMED CT description when applied to the associated concept.

Notes

- The *description type* is represented by the value of the description.*typeId* attribute.
- Permitted values include the following (other types may be defined in future):

typeId (with term)	Further information
900000000000003001 | Fully specified name|	**fully specified name** ○ A description that represents the meaning of a concept in a way that is unambiguous and independent of the context in which it is used.
900000000000013009 | Synonym |	**synonym** ○ A word or phrase that expresses the meaning of a SNOMED CT concept in a specified language.
900000000000550004 | Definition |	**textual definition** ○ A narrative text explanation of the meaning of a concept that may exceed the maximum permitted length for a fully specified name.

> ⚠ The Preferred term is **not** a distinct description type, it is the synonym marked as preferred for use in the *language reference set* for a specified language context.

Related Links

- Description Format Reference Set
- Fully specified name
- Synonym
- Textual definition
- Language context
- Language reference set