

# intensional subset definition

A subset definition in which the membership is represented by a set of rules specifying the conditions for inclusion.

## Notes

- The [SNOMED CT expression constraint language](#) is the standard way to represent an *intensional subset definition* of a subset of SNOMED CT concepts.
- A row in a [Query Specification Reference Set](#) is the standard way to distribute an *intensional subset definition* of a subset of SNOMED CT concepts.

## Example

- An example of an intensional subset definition is *concepts that are types of respiratory disease characterized by edema*. This is represented as follows in [expression constraint language](#):  
`< 19829001 |disorder of lung| : 116676008 |associated morphology| = 79654002 |edema|`

## Related Links

- [Intensionally defined subset](#)
- [Extensional subset definition](#)
- [Extensionally defined subset](#)
- [Practical Guide to Reference Sets](#)
- [Wikipedia comparison of extensional and intensional definitions](#)