

# SNOMED CT extension

A set of terminology [components](#) and [reference set members](#) that add to and are dependent on the [SNOMED CT International Edition](#).

## Notes

- An *extension* is created, structured, maintained, and distributed in accordance with [SNOMED CT](#) specifications and guidelines.
- An *extension* consists of one or more [modules](#). All components and reference set members maintained in an extension include a module identifier that assigns them to a module in that extension.
- *SNOMED CT extensions* may be created and maintained by [SNOMED International](#) itself or by [SNOMED International Members](#) or [Affiliate licensees](#) to which *SNOMED International* has assigned a [namespace identifier](#).
- Components that are created by *Members* or *Affiliates* are identified using [SCTIDs](#) that include the [namespace identifier](#) assigned to that organization. This ensures that they do not collide with other [SCTIDs](#), and can be traced to an authorized originator. Identifiers of extension *components* and *reference set members* created by *SNOMED International* are not required to include a namespace identifier.
- *Extensions* released by *SNOMED International* contain *components* and *reference set members* that extend, rather than being an essential part of, the [SNOMED CT International Edition](#). However, *SNOMED CT International Extensions* are considered to be part of the overall [International Release](#).
- [Members](#) may create, maintain, and distribute *extensions* to address specific national, regional, and language requirements. [SNOMED International Affiliates](#) may also create, maintain, and distribute *extensions* to meet the needs of particular software solutions and customers.

## Alternatives

- [Extension](#)

## Related Links

- [SNOMED CT Edition](#)
- [SNOMED CT Release](#)
- [Change or Add to SNOMED CT](#)
- [Extensions Practical Guide](#)