

SNOMED CT® UK Drug Extension

General Overview

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12.0	19-Apr-2017	Update to NHS Digital template Added content previously represented in the RF2 Supplementary Notes
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Reviewers

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Glossary of Terms

Term / Abbreviation	What it stands for
dm+d	NHS Dictionary of Medicines and Devices
HSCIC	Health and Social Care Information Centre
NHSBSA	National Health Service Business Services Authority
SNOMED International	SNOMED International is the trading name of the International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation (IHTSDO)
UK NRC	UK National Release Centre

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1. Introduction

This document provides a brief description of the UK specific files included in this release of the SNOMED CT¹ UK Drug Extension. For the majority of implementations of the SNOMED CT UK Drug Extension you will require access to the SNOMED CT UK Edition (comprised of the International Edition and the UK Clinical Extension) in addition to the drug extension data.

Please refer to the SNOMED CT User Guide as a first step to aiding your understanding of the structure and content of SNOMED CT. For a full technical description of the files please refer to the SNOMED CT Technical Implementation Guide and the SNOMED CT Technical Reference Guide. This supporting documentation can be found at <https://confluence.ihtsdotools.org/display/DOC>. Further details and registration for the download of terminology products can be found on the NHS Technology Reference Data Update and Distribution Service (TRUD) website <https://isd.digital.nhs.uk/>.

2. Release Format

The SNOMED CT UK Edition was previously released by the UK National Release Centre (UK NRC) in two formats; Release Format 1 (RF1) and Release Format 2 (RF2). From 1st April 2018 the SNOMED CT UK Drug Extension is only fully supported in RF2 format.

The three release types within Release Format 2 are Full, Snapshot and Delta. Details on the differences between these are available in the SNOMED International SNOMED CT Release File Specification which can be found at <https://confluence.ihtsdotools.org/display/DOCRELFMT/SNOMED+CT+Release+File+Specifications> The Release File Specification also includes the file naming convention.

Points to note about RF2:

- In the RF2 Resources folder there is an index file:
res_UKRF1SubsetToRF2ReferenceSetMapping_GB1000001_YYYYMMDD.txt
This provides for each RF1 subset the equivalent reference set (refset) in RF2.
- Where RF1 subsets had the same structure, they are represented within the same reference set file in RF2.
- In RF2 there is a Metadata refsets folder. These files provide reference sets that are specific to the RF2 format and had no equivalent in RF1.

In RF2 the folder structure and documentation are an on-going development as the UK NRC develops its RF2 product suite, and international discussions continue on extension consistency. Any feedback or comments should be directed to information.standards@nhs.net with a subject line of RF2.

¹ SNOMED® and SNOMED CT® are registered trademarks of the International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation (IHTSDO®) (www.snomed.org). SNOMED CT® was originally created by the College of American Pathologists.

3. UK Extension Filenames

SnomedCT_UKDrugRF2_PRODUCTION_YYYYMMDDT000001Snomed\Terminology\Content

sct2_Concepts_<ReleaseType> _GB1000000_YYYYMMDD.txt

sct2_Descriptions_<ReleaseType> -en-GB_GB1000000_YYYYMMDD.txt

sct2_Relationships_<ReleaseType> _GB1000000_YYYYMMDD.txt

Where <ReleaseType> is either Full, Snapshot or Delta depending on the type of RF2 file. These are the three release types within Release Format 2. Full details on the differences between these are available in the IHSTDO Technical Implementation Guide.

The refsets identifying the XML format NHS dm+d concept classes and those dm+d attributes represented in the SNOMED data are in the file;der2_Refset_SimpleFull_GB1000001_YYYYMMDD.txt

The refsets identifying the Trade Family and Trade Family Group concepts are also in this file.

Further information on the refsets published can be found in Subset Overview document in this release or on the data Dictionary 4 Care webpage at <https://dd4c.digital.nhs.uk/dd4c/>

Further technical information associated with the UK specific files can be found within the document doc_UKSnomedCTTechnicalOverview_Current-en-GB_GB1000000_YYYYMMDD.pdf in the SNOMED CT UK Edition release.

4. UK History files

Previously in RF1 the UK Component History files have been published to include changes made to UK concepts. The SNOMED CT July 2003 Release is the history baseline.

The history mechanism in RF2 is different to that for RF1. RF2 incorporates a robust way to record component history; with every component change being recorded in the release type Full. The baseline for the RF2 history mechanism is 31st January 2004. Further details on this are provided in the IHTSDO Technical Implementation Guide and IHTSDO SNOMED CT Starter Guide.

5. Historical rows

To complete the MOVED TO and MOVED FROM relationship combinations for a number of International Edition concepts, additional historical relationships have been added to the UK Extension to indicate the extension origins. Whilst this creates an error in terms of the number of historical rows, the additional historical data is felt to be preferable.

6. Mechanisms for specifying Descriptions for use in the UK

SNOMED CT concepts have a number of descriptions but, as the NHS preferred drug terminology, dm+d descriptions for medicines and devices should be used as the Preferred term in NHS implementations. These descriptions can be identified using the National Health Service Realm language reference set.

Complete coverage of Description preferences requires member data from the 'Pharmacy part' and 'Clinical Part' of the National Health Service Realm language reference set to be merged, including a dependency on the 'Pharmacy Part' to specify Description preferences for Concepts published and maintained in 'Clinical' chapters (e.g. 'Substances' and 'Qualifier values'). To access all descriptions referenced this way – which include some from the UK Drug extension – it is necessary to load content from both UK Drug and UK Clinical Descriptions files.

7. SNOMED CT UK Drug Extension

The SNOMED CT UK Drug Extension data files cannot be implemented alone and should be combined with the appropriate data files from both the International Release and the UK Clinical Extension to provide the full SNOMED CT data.

The SNOMED CT UK Drug Extension now comprises NHS dictionary of medicines and devices (dm+d) derived content, historical CTv3 derived and some content unique to the extension such as radiopharmaceuticals, Trade Family and Trade Family Group concepts.

The NHS dm+d, as the NHS preferred drug terminology, is the de facto UK SNOMED CT Drug Extension and all UK SNOMED CT medicines and devices codes must be taken from this source.

The data contained in the UK Drug Extension files and relating to the dm+d derived concepts is a subset of the data in the original dm+d XML format data. The five main concept classes (VTM, VMP, AMP, VMPP and AMPP) are fully included. However not all of the attributes and associations from the XML format are replicated in the UK Drug Extension data.

At its simplest SNOMED CT is a three table terminology (Concepts, Descriptions and Relationships) designed to comply with all the principles of good terminology practice; at its simplest dm+d is a nine table (five main concept classes plus associated data) dictionary designed to support the business processes of the NHS and comply with good vocabulary practice wherever possible. Translation of dm+d into the UK Drug Extension involves representing these nine tables in the three table SNOMED CT format.

Translation of dm+d into the SNOMED CT UK Drug Extension provides dm+d concepts with:

- Fully Specified Name (to follow SNOMED CT naming convention) and UK Preferred term for each concept.
- A valid SNOMED CT Description Id for each description (e.g. Fully Specified Name, Preferred Term etc.) associated with a dm+d concept.
- Relationships to SNOMED CT International concepts. Each dm+d concept will have a SNOMED CT defined relationship either to an appropriate supertype concept in the

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SNOMED CT core or to another dm+d concept that is itself linked (directly or indirectly) to a SNOMED CT core concept.

- Inherited defining relationships (where appropriate).
- Specific defining relationships. Relationships to other core defined concepts; and
- Historical relationships.

In addition to the data from the original XML format dm+d two extra refsets are included in the SNOMED CT UK Drug Extension data. These are the Trade Family (TF) and Trade Family Group (TFG) refsets and are provided to facilitate system vendors in their implementation of dm+d.

The diagram below illustrates concepts and SNOMED CT relationships that have been used in the SNOMED CT UK Drug Extension refsets:

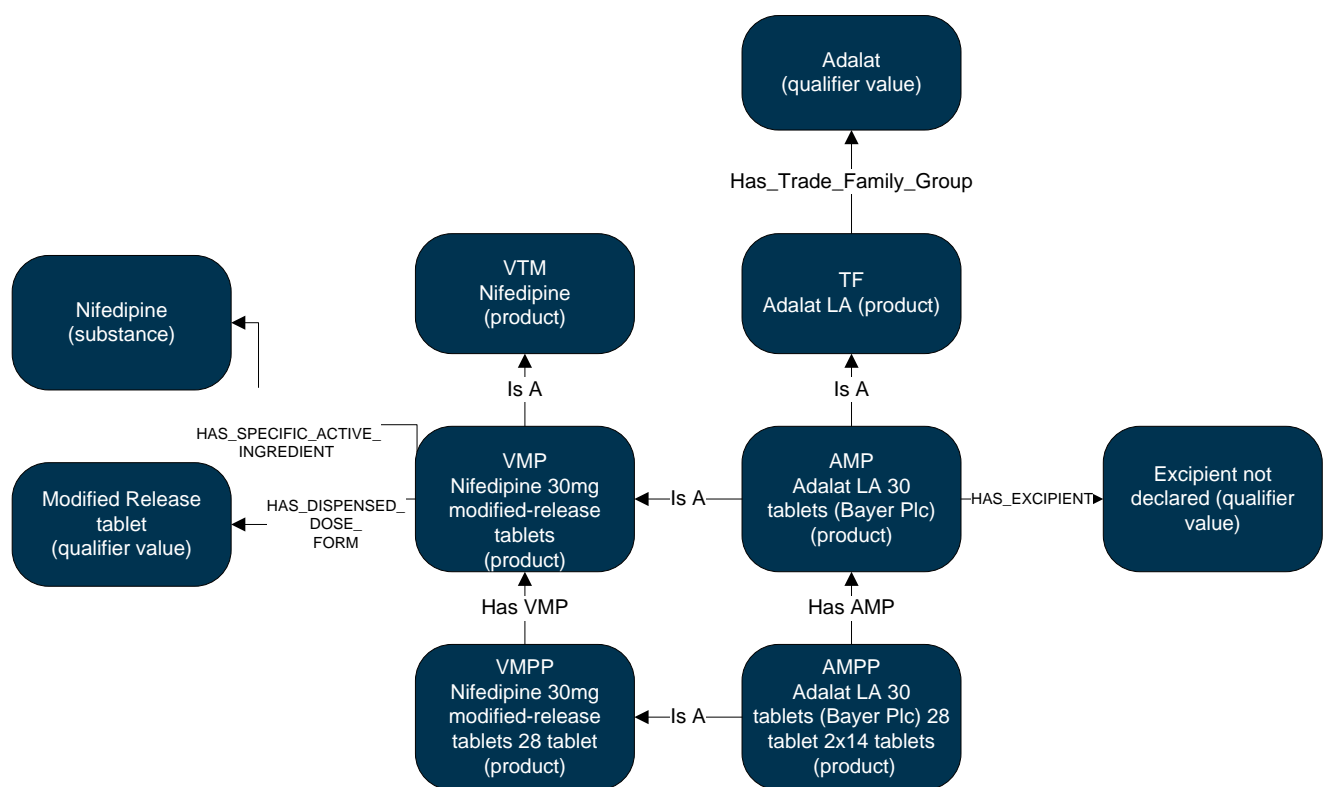


Figure 1 - SNOMED CT UK Drug Extension

In addition to the relationships shown in Figure 1 - SNOMED CT UK Drug Extension above VMP concepts also carry relationships to indicate Prescribing Status, Availability and Basis of Strength Substance where it differs from the substance in the HAS_SPECIFIC_ACTIVE_INGREDIENT relationship.

SNOMED CT inheritance means that the associated AMP concept will inherit the relationships and values attached to their associated VMP concept and in addition all UK Drug extension concepts will inherit relationships such as HAS_ACTIVE_INGREDIENT and HAS_DOSE_FORM from the SNOMED CT International core data where it has been allocated either to that concept or to a parent concept.

8. Additional information sources

The SNOMED CT UK Drug Extension Editorial policy is available for download from the web page <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/dictionary-medicines-and-devices-dmd>

For further detail on the UK dm+d refsets please see the Subset Overview document for the SNOMED CT UK Drug Extension in the release and the DD4C web page <https://dd4c.digital.nhs.uk/dd4c/>

For further information on the SNOMED CT refset mechanism, refer to the Technical Implementation Guide <https://confluence.ihtsdotools.org/display/DOCTIG> .

All UK SNOMED CT medicines and devices data in the original XML format are updated weekly and available for download from the NHS Technology Reference Data Update and Distribution Service (TRUD) (<https://isd.digital.nhs.uk/>) within the within the “NHSBSA dm+d” pack.