SNOMED CT Implementation in Primary Care

Snap Update for CCGs, CSUs/GP Practices

SNOMED CT is the clinical terminology chosen to replace Read codes within the NHS. Systems used by, or communicating coded clinical data to General Practice service providers must use SNOMED CT as the clinical terminology within the system **FROM** April 2018.

**1 APRIL 2018**

**What you need to know**

Previous communications have stated that the NHS primary care estate must use SNOMED CT as the clinical terminology within the system by 1 April 2018. The deployment rollout of SNOMED will be deployed in phases **from** April 2018.

**Why it is happening**

In order to minimise disruption at year-end for GP practices and CCGs.

**How the phased approach will support the transition**

For the 1st April, all principal clinical system suppliers will:

- Enable systems to preserve both SNOMED CT and Read codes for a period of time to support the transition and implementation planning – More information on dual coding can be found [here](#).
- Ensure national specifications that are provided in SNOMED CT can be supported while suppliers roll-out their solutions e.g. QOF extractions.
- Ensure that new clinical content for general practice that is released in SNOMED CT can be recorded and processed by all end users during the implementation.

**Go-Live**

- The first phase of deployment will start with First of Type (pilot) sites, across all of the principal clinical supplier systems; this will commence after their year-end business processes have been completed.
- Wider rollout will follow the pilot phase once any changes have been undertaken, with expected implementation to be completed by autumn 2018. Principal GP clinical system suppliers will inform GP practices of their deployment plans.

**Animations**

We have been carefully reviewing our resources to update references to deployment. While the animations contain some reference to deployment, this is not their main content. These will therefore continue to be available, and you should refer to the [website](#) for the most recent deployment information.

**Previous Snap Updates**

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