



SNOMED CT vs. ICD 9/10





SNOMED Clinical Terms

 A controlled coded clinical terminology for use in Electronic Health Records

SNOMED CT

- Developed in the USA and the UK as a merger of earlier versions of SNOMED with the NHS Clinical Terms (Read Codes)
 - College of American Pathologists in USA
 - National Health Service (NHS) in the UK
- Design based on
 - Identified user requirements
 - Practical experience
 - Scientific principles established in peer reviewed publications
- First released in 2002
- Acquired for the public good by IHTSDO in 2007
- In 2017 IHTSDO adopted the trading name SNOMED International



SNOMED International

Is a not-for-profit company

- Owned by its Members
- Governed by General Assembly of its Members
- Funded by its members based on national wealth

Maintains and delivers SNOMED CT

- Licensed to registered Affiliates
- SNOMED International does not charge for use in Member territories
- Low-cost licenses for institutions in other territories
 - Free in lowest income countries
 - Fee waivers for approved research and 'Public Good' uses



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Meaningful Use

 CMS 'Meaningful Use' incentive program for EHR, Stage 2 Certification criteria:

- SNOMED CT to be used in
 - n Problems
 - Procedures
 - Smoking status
 - Some laboratory tests results
 - Family health history
 - Cancer registry







INTERNATIONAL CODE OF DISEASE (ICD)

- Sviluppato e mantenuto dal WHO
- Nasce come classificazione delle cause di morte
- Attualmente è uno standard di classificazione dedicato all'epidemiologia e alla gestione sanitaria



Evolution of ICD 1909 1893 1929 1948 1975 1990 2017-2018 First medical statistician of the General Register Office of England and Wales submitted his Report in 1855 on nomenclature and statistical classification of ICD-11 ICD-4 ICD-1 ICD-9 diseases. Categories Narrative descriptions International List in which based on of Mental & Behavioral of Causes ctiology disorders he included most of those William Farr of Death ICD-2 (1807 - 1883)ICD-6 **ICD-10** fatal diseases that affect International List International health. of Causes Classification of of Sickness Diseases, Injuries and Death and Causes of Death Prima "versione": 1850 Mental, Psychoneurotic and Personality Disorders

SNOMED CT vs. ICD for the EHR

- ICD-9-CM is accepted as an alternative for problem list in MU1, but not MU2, despite the ubiquity of ICD-9-CM codes in the EHR
- Rationale: SNOMED CT (a clinical terminology) is inherently more suitable than ICD (a medical classification) for capturing clinical information
 - Content coverage
 - Clinical orientation
 - Flexible data entry and retrieval







- Originally conceived by William Farr as a classification of death causes
- Lists only those causes that are statistically/epidemiologically relevant
- 5 groups
 - Epidemic diseases
 - Constitutional or general diseases
 - Local diseases arranged by site
 - Developmental diseases
 - Injuries.







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ICD ALPHABETICAL INDEX: CHAPTERS

XXI CHAPTERS

Chapter	Chapter Title	Codes
I	Infectious and parasitic diseases	A00-B99
ц	Neoplasms	C00-D49
ш	Diseases of the blood & blood-forming organs & disorders of the immune mechanism	D50-D59
IV	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	E00-E99
/v	Mental and behavioral disorders	F00-F99
VI	Diseases of the nervous system	G00-G99
VII	Diseases of the eye and adnexa	H00-H59
VIII	Diseases of the ear and mastoid process	H60-H99
IX	Diseases of the circulatory system	100-199
Х	Diseases of the respiratory system	J00-J99
XI	Diseases of the digestive system	K00-K99
XII	Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	L00-L99



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ICD ALPHABETICAL INDEX: CHAPTERS

Chapter	Chapter Title	Codes
ХШ	Diseases of the musculoskeletal system & connective tissue	M00-M99
XIV	Diseases of the genitourinary system	N00-N99
XV	Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	O00-O99
XVI	Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period	P00-P99
XVII	Congenital malformations, deformations, and chromosomal abnormalities	Q00-Q99
XVIII	Symptoms & abnormal clinical & lab findings, not elsewhere classified	R00-R99
XIX	Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes	S00-T99
XX	External causes of morbidity and mortality	V00-Y99
XXI	Factors influencing health status & contact with health services	Z00-Z99



ICD CODING RULES

• Basic coding guideline:

LETTER	NUMBER	NUMBER	•	NUMBER
А	0	0	•	0
•••				
Ζ	9	9	•	9
TI	1		0.1	

Three-character category

Sub-category

- Three-character categories is mandatory level of coding for international reporting to the WHO mortality database and for general international comparisons.
- Some three-character categories have been left vacant for future expansion / Revision
 - Codes U00–U49 are to be used by WHO for the provisional assignment of new diseases of uncertain etiology.
 - Codes U50–U99 may be used in research, e.g. when testing an alternative sub-classification for a special project. Basic coding guidelines

SPECIAL CHARACTERS: DAGGER AND ASTERISKS



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INCLUIONS AND EXCLUSIONS



Tuberculosis (A15-A19)

Incl.: Infections due to Mycobacterium tuberculosis and Mycobacterium bovis

Excl.: congenital tuberculosis (P37.0)

human immunodeficieny [HIV] disease resulting in

tuberculosis (B20.0)

pneumoconiosis associated with tuberculosis (J65)

sequelae of tuberculosis (B90.-)

silicotuberculosis (J65)



PARKINSON'S DISEASE





SNOMED CT LOGICAL MODEL



Concept = unique clinical meaning, which is referenced using a unique, numeric and machine-readable SNOMED CT identifier (pre-coordinated). The identifier provides an unambiguous unique reference to each concept and does not have any ascribed human interpretable meaning

Description = set of textual descriptions assigned to every concept. These provide the human readable form of a concept. Two types of description are used to represent every concept - Fully Specified Name (FSN) and Synonym.

Relationship = association between two concepts. Relationships are used to logically define the meaning of a concept in a way that can be processed by a computer. A third concept, called a relationship type (or attribute), is used to represent the meaning of the association between the source and destination concepts.







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PARKINSON'S DISEASE

SNOMED	CT Brow	ser					Release: International E	dition 2019-07-31 👻	Perspective: Full -	Feedback Ab	out 👻	-	SNOMED International	Loading healthcare terminology, workdwide
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Group by concept			FH: Parkinsonism	Family history: Parkinsonism (situation)		Extrapyramidal disease (disorder) Parkinsonism (disorder)								
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procedure		0	 Parkinsonian ataxia 	Parkinsonian ataxia (finding)										
finding		13	Parkinsonian facies	Parkinsonian facies (finding)		Children (5)								
situation		2	Parkinson disease 9	Kufor Rakeb syndrome (disorde	er)	- Juver	ile Parkinson's disease (dis	e Parkinson's disease (disorder)						
Parkinsonian shuffle Extrapyramidal gait (finding)			Orthostatic hypotension co-occurrent and due to Parkinson's disease (disorder) Sporadic Parkinson disease (disorder)											
Filter result	ts by Modu		 O/E - Parkinson gait 	On examination - festination- Parkinson gait (finding)		> Young	g onset Parkinson disease	(disorder)						
(core metadata concept)			Primary Parkinsonism Parkinson's disease (disorder)											



SNOMED CT LOGICAL DESIGN





- HIERARCHIES
- SNOMED CT concepts are organized in hierarchies.
- Within a hierarchy concepts range from the more general to the more detailed.
- Related concepts in the hierarchy are linked using the **|is a|** relationship.
- Examples of some of the hierarchies include:
 - | clinical finding|
 - | procedure |
 - |observable entity|
 - |body structure|
 - | organism |



PRE-COORDINATED EXPRESSIONS



- Precoordinated expressions represent the meaning of individual **concepts** which **are predefined in SNOMED CT**.
- Each concept also has a formal logic definition represented by a set of defining relationships to other concepts.



POST-COORDINATED EXPRESSIONS



- Expressions that contain **two or more concept identifiers**.
- Postcoordination **combines concepts** and allows more detail to be added to the meaning represented by a single concept.
- A postcoordinated expression is not just a list of concept identifiers, **it follows a set of rules** that mimic the way attributes and values are used to define SNOMED CT concepts.
- Postcoordinated expressions may be created at run-time by selection of individual facets of a concept.

Example: Postcoordinated representation of "Laparoscopic removal of device from abdomen"					
SNOMED CT does not contain a concept that represents this clinical idea. However, it is possible to represent it using the following postcoordinated					
expression.					
68526006Iremoval of device from abdomen :425391005lusing access device = 6174004Ilaparoscope					

CONCEPT

RELATIONSHIP

CONCEPT



PRE- vs POST-COORDINATION

Example: Precoordinated representation of "Laparoscopic emergency appendectomy"

SNOMED CT contains the concept 174041007llaparoscopic emergency appendectomyl. The identifier of this concept (174041007) can be used (with or without the associated term) as a precoordinated expression to record an instance of this procedure.

The procedure 'laparoscopic emergency appendectomy' has at least three distinct facets: 'removal of appendix', 'using a laparoscope' as 'emergency procedure'. The SNOMED CT concept 174041007 laparoscopic emergency appendectomyl precoordinates these facets as its definition includes the following defining relationships:

- 116680003lis al = 80146002lappendectomyl
- 260870009|priority|=25876001|emergency|
- 425391005lusing access devicel = 86174004llaparoscopel

Example: Postcoordinated representation of "Laparoscopic emergency appendectomy"

Although SNOMED CT contains the concept llaparoscopic emergency appendectomyl, it is also possible to represent this clinical phrase using the following postcoordinated expression.

80146002lappendectomyl:260870009lpriorityl=25876001lemergencyl, 425391005lusing access devicel=86174004llaparoscopel

This postcoordinated expression has exactly the same meaning as the precoordinated expression

174041007|laparoscopic emergency appendectomyl

The fact that the two expressions have the same meaning can be computed because

- 174041007llaparoscopic emergency appendectomyl is a fully-defined subtype descendant of 80146002lappendectomyl; and
- · the only differences between the defining attributes of these concepts are the addition of
 - 260870009|priority|=25876001|emergency|
 - 425391005lusing access devicel = 86174004llaparoscopel

Content coverage

- SNOMED CT has much better clinical coverage than ICD
- Number of codes:
 - SNOMED CT (Clinical finding): 100,000
 - ICD-9-CM: 14,000
 - ICD-10-CM: 68,000
- ICD's focus is statistical less common diseases get lumped together in "catch-all" categories e.g. *J15.8 Pneumonia due to other specified bacteria*, which could result in loss of information
- SNOMED CT is clinically-based document whatever is important for patient care



	SNOMED CT	ICD-9-CM	ICD-10-CM
Congenital skin anomalies	205573006 Focal dermal hypoplasia 79468000 Familial benign pemphigus 5132005 Keratosis pilaris (total 21 codes)	757.39 Other specified congenital anomalies of skin	Q82.8 Other specified congenital malformations of skin
Acidosis	59455009 Metabolic acidosis 12326000 Respiratory acidosis 91273001 Lactic acidosis (total 60 codes)	276.2 Acidosis	E87.2 Acidosis
Brachial plexus disorders	72893007 Brachial neuritis 278065000 Pancoast's syndrome 78141002 Erb-Duchenne paralysis (total 33 codes)	353.0 Brachial plexus lesions	G54.0 Brachial plexus disorders



SNOMED CT is extensible

- u Coverage of SNOMED CT is not limited to existing codes
- u ICD
 - no reproducible method for adding codes
 - Local extension codes are not shareable
- SNOMED CT well-defined rules to extend coverage by modifying or refining existing concepts (post-coordination) e.g.
 - New concept "Left kidney stone" can be created by adding the laterality attribute "*Left*" to "*Kidney stone*"
- u Advantages:
 - Can compute equivalence of new concepts to existing concepts
 - The new concept (left kidney stone) will be recognized as a subtype of existing concepts (kidney stone)



Clinical orientation

- u SNOMED CT terms are words that clinicians use in clinical discourse, but some ICD names are not
 - SNOMED CT: 281430007 Failure of tendon graft
 - ICD-9-CM: E878.2 Surgical operation with anastomosis, bypass, or graft, with natural or artificial tissues used as implant causing abnormal patient reaction, or later complication, without mention of misadventure at time of operation
- Excessive detail in some areas (e.g. external causes of injury)
 - ▶ ICD-10-CM
 - V30.2xxD Person on outside of three-wheeled motor vehicle injured in collision with pedestrian or animal in nontraffic accident, subsequent encounter (ICD-10-CM)
 - More bizarre examples: burning water-skis, turtle bite
 - public health perspective vs. patient perspective



Data entry

- u In ICD, 2 kinds of special codes are needed because it is a statistical classification
 - NOS (Not otherwise specified) or Unspecified codes cases with some missing information and cannot be classified to more specific codes e.g. *Viral pneumonia, unspecified*
 - NEC (Not elsewhere classified) codes cases with more specific information not covered by available codes e.g. Pneumonia caused by Human metapneumovirus is codes as *Viral pneumonia*, *NEC*
- NOS and NEC codes can be confusing for clinical users
- u SNOMED CT
 - no need for NOS or NEC codes
 - Can use codes at any level of specificity as warranted by the clinical situation



Semantic drift of NEC terms

ICD-9-CM in 2003

480 Viral pneumonia
480.0 Pneumonia due to adenovirus
480.1 Pneumonia due to respiratory syncytial virus
480.2 Pneumonia due to parainfluenza virus
480.8 Pneumonia due to other virus not elsewhere classified
480.9 Viral pneumonia, unspecified

ICD-9-CM in 2004

- 480 Viral pneumonia
 480.0 Pneumonia due to adenovirus
 480.1 Pneumonia due to respiratory syncytial virus
 480.2 Pneumonia due to parainfluenza virus
 480.3 Pneumonia due to SARSassociated coronavirus
 - 480.8 Pneumonia due to other virus not elsewhere classified
 480.9 Viral pneumonia, unspecified





Semantic drift of NEC terms

ICD-9-CM in 2003

480 Viral pneumonia
480.0 Pneumonia due to adenovirus
480.1 Pneumonia due to respiratory syncytial virus
480.2 Pneumonia due to parainfluenza virus
480.8 Pneumonia due to other virus not elsewhere classified
480.9 Viral pneumonia, unspecified

ICD-9-CM in 2010

480 Viral pneumonia 480.0 Pneumonia due to adenovirus 480.1 Pneumonia due to respiratory syncytial virus 480.2 Pneumonia due to parainfluenza virus 480.3 Pneumonia due to SARSassociated coronavirus 480.8 Pneumonia due to other virus not elsewhere classified 480.9 Viral pneumonia, unspecified





Data retrieval

Data retrieval is easier in SNOMED CT
Poly-hierarchy
Logical definition



Poly- vs. Strict hierarchy



ICD-9-CM (strict hierarchy to avoid double-counting)

DISEASES OF THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM (520-579)

572 Liver abscess and sequelae of chronic liver disease

572.4 Hepatorenal syndrome



Easier to find codes in polyhierarchy

- u Task: identify all patients suffering from hypertension
- u ICD-9-CM
 - One may be tempted to restrict to *HYPERTENSIVE DISEASE (401-405)*
 - But will be missing
 - n 410.9 Myocardial infarction with hypertension
 - n 642 Hypertension complicating pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium
- **u** SNOMED CT
 - Simple query to get all descendants of 38341003 Hypertensive disorder



Code retrieval using attributes

- u Research interest: diseases caused by arterial occlusion but not those affecting intestinal or renal arteries
- u SNOMED CT
 - Get all descendants of 2929001 Occlusion of artery (183 concepts)
 - Exclude those with 'Finding site' = 'Structure of mesenteric artery' and descendants; or 'Structure of renal artery' and descendants (11 concepts)
- u ICD-9-CM

- 440 Atherosclerosis and descendants (except 440.1 Of renal artery)
- 437.0 Cerebral atherosclerosis
- 414.0 Coronary atherosclerosis
- **b** 362.3 Retinal vascular occlusion descendants
- **•** 747.22 Atresia and stenosis of aorta
- When source terminologies are updated
 - SNOMED CT re-run query
 - ICD-9-CM manually review all codes



Inter-terminology mapping

- The CORE concepts are among the priority list of concepts for mapping in two mapping projects
 - SNOMED CT to ICD-10 map collaborative project between IHTSDO and WHO
 - SNOMED CT to ICD-10-CM map NLM project to support the transition to ICD-10-CM in the US in 2014
- MedlinePlus Connect NLM service to connect patient portals and EHRs to patient education information
 - Accepts CORE concepts as input, which are mapped in the backend to terms used to index MedlinePlus pages

NLM tool for conversion: https://imagic.nlm.nih.gov/imagic/code/map



Terminology research

• Comparison of SNOMED CT to ICD

- Nadkarni PM et al. Migrating existing clinical content from ICD-9 to SNOMED. J Am Med Inform Assoc 2010;17:602-7.
- Steindel SJ. A comparison between a SNOMED CT problem list and the ICD-10-CM/PCS HIPAA code sets. Perspect Health Inf Manag 2012;9:1b.
- Hogan WR et al. Measuring the Information Gain of Diagnosis vs. Diagnosis Category Coding. AMIA Annu Symp Proc 2010;2010:306-10.
- Ontology modularization, translation and graphical representation
 - Lopez-Garcia P et al. Usability-driven pruning of large ontologies: the case of SNOMED CT. J Am Med Inform Assoc 2012;19:e102-9.
 - Abdoune H et al. Assisting the translation of the CORE subset of SNOMED CT into French. Stud Health Technol Inform 2011;169:819-23.
 - Lamy JB et al. A Semi-automatic Semantic Method for Mapping SNOMED CT Concepts to VCM Icons. Stud Health Technol Inform 2013;192:42-6





CONCLUSIONS: ICD



Essential to the big picture view of healthcare

- Group ideas for aggregation and analysis
- Add statistical value to data
- Limited value in an individual patient record
 - Represent one dimension of meaning
 - For example 'viral pneumonia' (J12 or J12.9)
 - Classified as a 'respiratory disease'
 - But not classified as a 'viral disease'
 - No links to body sites, causes, etc.
 - For example, 'viral pneumonia' (J12 or J12.9)
 - Not linked to site 'lung'
 - Not linked to causative agent 'virus'

CONCLUSIONS: SNOMED CT



- Rich semantic structure adds meaning to the EHR
- Adequate detail for clinical recording
- Broad scope of coverage
- SNOMED CT maps to Classifications
 - Existing maps to ICD-9-CM and ICD-10
 - Enhanced rule-based mapping to ICD-10
 - Maps to ICD-10 are used by NLM for mapping to ICD-10-CM

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- SNOMED International and WHO
 - Cooperate on approaches to shared challenges
 - As a common terminology SNOMED CT eases transition to future versions of classifications

NLM SNOMED CT resources

- u NLM Tools for EHR Certification and Meaningful Use <u>http://www.nlm.nih.gov/healthit/meaningful_use.html</u>
- u CORE Problem List Subset <u>http://www.nlm.nih.gov/research/umls/Snomed/core_subset.html</u>
- u Convergent Medical Terminology Subsets http://www.nlm.nih.gov/research/umls/Snomed/cmt.html
- u SNOMED CT to ICD-10-CM Map http://www.nlm.nih.gov/research/umls/mapping_projects/snomedct_to_icd10cm.html
- u ICD-9-CM Diagnostic Codes to SNOMED CT Map <u>http://www.nlm.nih.gov/research/umls/mapping_projects/icd9cm_to_snomedct.html</u>
- u ICD-9-CM Procedure Codes to SNOMED CT Map <u>http://www.nlm.nih.gov/research/umls/mapping_projects/icd9cmv3_to_snomedct.html</u>
- u US Edition of SNOMED CT http://www.nlm.nih.gov/research/umls/Snomed/us_edition.html
- u US SNOMED CT Content Request System https://uscrs.nlm.nih.gov/
- u UMLS-enhanced SNOMED CT browser https://uts.nlm.nih.gov/snomedctBrowser.html
- w NLM Value Set Authority Center (VSAC) <u>https://vsac.nlm.nih.gov/</u>

