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SNOMED CT[®]

UK Drug Extension

General Overview of UK Drug Extension Reference Sets

Document management

Revision History

Version	Date	Summary of Changes
6.0	26-Mar-2013	Changes from 'Core' release to 'International' release Rebranded as HSCIC
6.1	10-Oct-2013	Correction of status for UK Language subset
7.0	28-May-2014	Update to include RF2 release
8.0	17-Sep-2014	Contact details updated
9.0	07-Jan-2015	Removal of the Administrative changes section. Update of contact details
10.0	27-May-2015	Revised document format. Inclusion of new subsets
11.0	06-Jan-2016	Inclusion of new subsets
12.0	22-Jun-2016	Inclusion of new subsets
13.0	05-Aug-2016	Inclusion of new subset and name change for QOF nicotine replacement subset. Update to new corporate document format
14.0	01-Feb-2017	Inclusion of new Enhanced Services subsets
15.0	01-Apr-2018	Change UKTC to UK NRC (UK National Release Centre)
16.0	16-May-2018	Inclusion of new refsets
17.0	11-Jul-2018	Inclusion of new refsets and removal of Seasonal Flu vaccines subset
18.0	08-Aug-2018	Inclusion of new refset
19.0	01-Oct-2018	Removal of Great Britain English language subsets
20.0	31-Oct-2018	Inclusion of new refset
20.1	20-Feb-2019	Inclusion of new refsets
20.2	20-Mar-2019	Inclusion of new refsets
20.3	15-May-2019	Inclusion of new refset
20.4	04-Sep-2019	Inclusion of new dm+d Association refset
20.4	02-Oct-2019	Inclusion of new refsets
20.5	30-Oct-2019	Inclusion of new refset
20.7	19-Feb-2020	Inclusion of new refsets
20.8	15-Apr-2020	Inclusion of new COVID-19 refsets
20.9	13-May-2020	Inclusion of new refsets, title renamed from Subset to Reference Set
20.10	10-Jun-2020	Inclusion of new COVID-19 NSAID refset
20.11	28-Oct-2020	Inclusion of new ES HPV Refset
20.12	17-Feb-2021	Inclusion of new refsets
21.00		Removal of subset IDs. Addition of Refset IDs. Update to refset name.
21.1	14-Apr-2021	Inclusion of new ES Direct oral anticoagulants refset
21.2	12-May-2021	Change of official address
21.3	04-Aug-2021	Inclusion of new refsets

21.4	24-Nov-2021	Inclusion of new refsets
21.5	22-Dec-2021	Inclusion of new refsets
21.6	16-Mar-2022	Inclusion of new refsets

Reviewers

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Name	Signature	Title	Date	Version
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Glossary of Terms

Term / Abbreviation	What it stands for
dm+d	NHS Dictionary of Medicines and Devices
IHTSDO	International Health Terminology Standards Development Organization
NHSBSA	National Health Service Business Services Authority
RF2	Release Format 2 (RF2) is the format used for the publication of SNOMED CT data.

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Purpose of this Document

This document provides information relating to the reference sets provided within the SNOMED CT¹ UK Drug Extension. Further information on SNOMED CT and reference sets can be found at: <https://digital.nhs.uk/snomed-ct>

For a full description on the use, technical structure and implementation of SNOMED CT and reference sets, please refer to the SNOMED International Starter Guide and the SNOMED International Technical Implementation Guide (TIG) provided within the Document Library on the SNOMED International website (<https://confluence.ihtsdotools.org/display/DOC>).

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Introduction

This document is provided for those who may wish to use the SNOMED CT reference sets provided within the release files of the UK Drug Extension in Release Format 2 (RF2). Reference sets provided in RF2 are also referred to as *refsets* (see Section 3.2.1 the TIG for further information). This document uses the term ‘refsets’ throughout. Some refsets are also subsets of SNOMED CT components. The term subset was widely used with SNOMED CT Release Format 1 but is less commonly used in RF2.

You can find definitions for [reference set](#) and [subset](#) in the [SNOMED Glossary](#).

SNOMED CT refsets have a range of purposes and vary in size from a single member to ones with over 100,000 members. The common use of refsets in systems include:

- To simplify the user interface

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- To improve data quality
- To maintain consistency between different implementations
- To enable interoperability between different clinical systems
- To support statutory reporting requirements

A brief description of the UK refsets included in the SNOMED CT UK Drug Extension can now be found within the on-line [Data Dictionary for Care](#); information on international refsets can be found with the international release.

Refsets are a derivative of the SNOMED CT UK Drug Extension and should be used in conjunction with the SNOMED CT UK Edition files. Except where otherwise specified, all refsets are of national use rather than local use and of potential relevance to all health professions, system suppliers, record, and messaging designers.

Scope

The scope of this document is the SNOMED CT UK refsets (RF2) released in the UK Drug extension.

Release Formats

Prior to 2018 SNOMED CT data was previously released in 2 formats: Release Format 1 (RF1) and Release Format 2 (RF2). The 1 April 2018 UK Edition was the final publication of the data in RF1 format.

From 18 April 2018 the SNOMED CT UK Drug Extension is only fully supported in RF2 format.

In most cases each of the concept subsets within the RF1 release have been provided as a simple reference set in the RF2 release, and each description subset in RF1 has an equivalent language reference set in RF2. This is the delivery mechanism RF2 uses for such artefacts. RF2 has an inbuilt mechanism for managing the history of such a subset at a given point within its file structure and data. Please refer to the SNOMED International [SNOMED CT Starter Guide](#) and the SNOMED International [SNOMED CT Technical Implementation Guide](#) to aid your understanding of the structure and content of SNOMED CT and of the specific detail relating to reference sets.

The refset files are additional to the core tables included in the release and are provided in the Refset folder in RF2. Refsets of the same type in a folder are provided in a single file within that folder for ease of implementation.

Management, Quality Assurance and Validation

Refsets are dynamic (based on a query specification) and can vary from release to release, (based on a specific hand-picked set of concepts). Future releases of refsets are subject to iterative refinement both because of end-user feedback and upon review at each subsequent SNOMED CT release in relation to the original specification. Refsets may need to change in both the size and scope of the files if underpinning policy is revised or underlying SNOMED CT content changes.

Named refset owners are responsible for the quality assurance and maintenance of their refset and for managing changes to the refset which may result from the content changes in the bi-annual release or dm+d data.

Where refsets have no current owner or specific use case defined, they are only maintained using a technical process for SNOMED CT content updates; there is no clinical effort applied over and above re-running the refset specification and reconciling any retirements to their replacements.

Information on individual refsets including ownership, purpose, scope, and status are now made available online at the [Data Dictionary for Care](#) rather than in this document.

General Information in relation to refsets

NHS Realm Language Reference set

Some domains of use require language refsets to identify their preferred descriptions for use with the concepts identified by the refset. Wherever possible, descriptions are harmonised with the NHS Realm Language refset, but where this is not possible a language refset enables the required synonym for a particular domain to be identified. As a general rule the specialist professional bodies for a given domain of use will guide the content of the NHS Realm Language reference set and thus individual language refsets will only be developed where a particular professional body identifies specific descriptions different to those in the NHS Realm Language Reference set.

In an implementation using the RF2 files, the NHS Realm Language reference set should be used to provide the UK Fully Specified Name, Preferred Term and Synonyms.

Requests for Change

Unless stated otherwise (for example where requests go through the owner of the refset), requests for changes to SNOMED CT UK Drug Extension refsets will be handled via requests sent to the [Information Standards helpdesk](#) with the subject line 'SNOMED CT UK Drug Extension Refset Request'.

Historical refsets

Over time refsets may be withdrawn or deprecated for a number of reasons. This information will now be provided within the Data Dictionary for Care as part of the information held on the refset. Refsets which are no longer released will be shown with the status of "Deprecated". In RF2 the details will be available in the release of type 'Full' if the refset metadata concept remains active, but all members of the refset will be inactive. When the refset metadata concept is made Inactive the membership of the refset will not be published in any of the data release formats (Delta, Snapshot and Full) leaving no history of the refset membership.

List of Refsets included in the SNOMED CT UK Drug Extension Release

Refset ID	Refset Name
Clinical Messaging	
999000031000001105	Manufactured Material
DMD	
999000541000001108	NHS dm+d AMP
999000551000001106	NHS dm+d AMPP
999000651000001105	NHS dm+d CFC Free
999000661000001108	NHS dm+d European Medicines Agency additional monitoring (Black Triangle) medicines
999000781000001107	NHS dm+d Dose Form
999000611000001106	NHS dm+d Gluten Free
999000791000001109	NHS dm+d Ingredient
999000621000001102	NHS dm+d Preservative Free
999000591000001100	NHS dm+d Parallel Import
99000601000001109	NHS dm+d Sugar Free
999000991000001107	NHS dm+d Unit of Measure
999000561000001109	NHS dm+d VMP
999000571000001104	NHS dm+d VMPP
999000581000001102	NHS dm+d VTM
10991000001109	NHS dm+d association
Drug	
999000631000001100	NHS dm+d TF
999000641000001107	NHS dm+d TFG
999000771000001105	NHS dm+d Combination VTM concepts
999000801000001108	Allergy Archetypes Drug Groups
999000901000001102	Learning Disabilities Observatory laxatives
999000401000000107	Device type simple
30931000001101	Allergy or adverse effect causative agent
31491000001101	Radiotherapy units of measure
51971000001109	Radiotherapy routes and methods of administration
115231000001104	Vaccine route of administration
EPrescribing	
999000061000001102	ePrescribing breath actuated inhaler marker
999000521000001103	ePrescribing cements 17
999000071000001107	ePrescribing co-name drugs rule 4
999000081000001109	ePrescribing creams ointment and gels 6a
999000091000001106	ePrescribing creams ointment and gels 6b
999001081000001103	ePrescribing dose forms
999000101000001100	ePrescribing dressings 14a
999000111000001103	ePrescribing dressings 14b
999000121000001107	ePrescribing dry powder inhaler marker
999000131000001109	ePrescribing endotracheopulmonary 11b

999000141000001102	ePrescribing enemas and rectal solutions 7a
999000151000001104	ePrescribing enemas and rectal solutions 7b
999000161000001101	ePrescribing enteral feeds 8
999000171000001106	ePrescribing eye ear nose liquids and powders 4
999000181000001108	ePrescribing foams 28
999000191000001105	ePrescribing gases 25a
999000201000001107	ePrescribing gases 25b
999000211000001109	ePrescribing granules and powders 9a
999000221000001100	ePrescribing granules and powders 9b
999000231000001103	ePrescribing implants and sticks 15
999000241000001105	ePrescribing infusions 22a
999000251000001108	ePrescribing infusions 22b
999000261000001106	ePrescribing inhalers and sprays 3
999000271000001101	ePrescribing injections 20
999000281000001104	ePrescribing instillations 29a
999000291000001102	ePrescribing instillations 29b
999000301000001103	ePrescribing insulin 21
999000311000001101	ePrescribing IUDs 16
999000321000001105	ePrescribing metered dose inhaler marker
999000501000001105	ePrescribing modified release 12 hour
999000511000001107	ePrescribing modified release 24 hour
999000331000001107	ePrescribing multi-ingredient rule 1
999000341000001100	ePrescribing nebuliser liquids 13a
999000351000001102	ePrescribing nebuliser liquids 13b
999000361000001104	ePrescribing never valid as a VMP rule 3
999000371000001109	ePrescribing not recommended to prescribe as VMP bio-availability rule 5a
999000381000001106	ePrescribing not recommended to prescribe as VMP patient training rule 5b
12472501000001109	ePrescribing not recommended to prescribe as VMP no published specification rule 5c
841000001104	ePrescribing caution – actual medicinal product level prescribing advised rule 5d
999000391000001108	ePrescribing no VTM rule 2
999000401000001106	ePrescribing oral liquids 2a1
999000531000001101	ePrescribing oral liquids 2a2
999000411000001108	ePrescribing oral liquids 2b
999000421000001104	ePrescribing oral solids 1
999000041000001103	NHS e-Prescribing method subset
999000051000001100	NHS e-Prescribing route of administration subset
999000431000001102	ePrescribing schedule 1 to 3 rule 6
999000441000001109	ePrescribing suppositories and pessaries 10
999000451000001107	ePrescribing topical liquids 5a
999000461000001105	ePrescribing topical liquids 5b
999000471000001100	ePrescribing topical patches 12a
999000481000001103	ePrescribing topical patches 12b
999000491000001101	ePrescribing TPN 23
NHSRealmDescription	
999000691000001104	NHS realm description subset (pharmacy part)
QOFPrescribable	

12464201000001109	QOF - angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors prescribable within general practice
12464301000001100	QOF - angiotensin II receptor antagonists prescribable within general practice
12465301000001101	QOF - antiepileptic medication prescribable within general practice
12465401000001109	QOF - beta-adrenoceptor blockers excluding those used in heart failure prescribable within general practice
12464101000001102	QOF - beta-adrenoceptor blockers for use in coronary heart disease prescribable within general practice
12465501000001108	QOF - beta-adrenoceptor blockers for use in heart failure prescribable within general practice
12465701000001102	QOF - bone sparing agents prescribable within general practice
12463601000001108	QOF - chronic asthma medication prescribable within general practice
12463801000001107	QOF - clopidogrel medication prescribable within general practice
12464401000001108	QOF - combined hormonal oral contraceptives prescribable within general practice
999000961000001103	QOF - Drug Tariff appliance intra-uterine contraceptive devices prescribable within general practice
12464501000001107	QOF - diaphragm contraceptive devices prescribable within general practice
12463901000001101	QOF - dipyridamole medication prescribable within general practice
999001001000001106	QOF - duloxetine medication prescribable within general practice
12464701000001101	QOF - emergency hormonal contraceptives prescribable within general practice
999001051000001107	QOF - enemas for treatment or prevention of constipation prescribable within general practice
12465201000001105	QOF - influenza vaccines prescribable within general practice
12465601000001107	QOF - lithium medication prescribable within general practice
999001021000001104	QOF - nefopam medication prescribable within general practice
12465801000001106	QOF - smoking pharmacotherapy
12463501000001109	QOF - oral anticoagulant medication prescribable within general practice
999001061000001105	QOF - prescription only medicines for treatment or prevention of constipation prescribable within general practice
12464801000001105	QOF - progestogen only implant contraceptives prescribable within general practice
12464901000001104	QOF - progestogen only intrauterine contraceptive systems prescribable within general practice
12465001000001104	QOF - progestogen only oral contraceptives prescribable within general practice
12464601000001106	QOF - progestogen only parenteral contraceptives prescribable within general practice
12463701000001103	QOF - salicylate antiplatelet medication prescribable within general practice
12464001000001103	QOF - statins prescribable within general practice
999001031000001102	QOF - strong opioids for use in pain management prescribable within general practice
12465101000001103	QOF - transdermal contraceptives prescribable within general practice
999001011000001108	QOF - tricyclic antidepressants for use in pain management prescribable within general practice
999001041000001109	QOF - weaker opioids for use in pain management prescribable within general practice
999000971000001108	Indicators no longer in Quality and Outcomes Framework general practice extraction - direct renin inhibitors
999000981000001105	Indicators no longer in Quality and Outcomes Framework general practice extraction - hypothyroidism medication
Enhanced Services	
999000951000001101	Enhanced Services Antipsychotic drugs
999001101000001107	Enhanced Services Haemophilus type b (Hib) Meningitis C vaccines
999000811000001105	Enhanced Services Meningococcal ACWY vaccines
999000831000001104	Enhanced Services Meningococcal B vaccines
999000841000001106	Enhanced Services Pneumococcal vaccines

999001091000001101	Enhanced Services Pneumococcal conjugate vaccines
999000851000001109	Enhanced Services Diabetic drugs
999000861000001107	Enhanced Services Immunosuppressant drugs
999000921000001109	Enhanced Services Seasonal Flu asthma inhaled corticosteroids
999000891000001103	Enhanced Services Seasonal Flu injectable vaccines
999000881000001100	Enhanced Services Seasonal Flu nasal spray vaccines
999000931000001106	National Diabetes Audit - Metformin
999000941000001104	National Diabetes Audit and NHS Health Checks - antihypertensive medication
115131000001105	Cardiovascular Disease Prevent general practice extraction - ezetimibe medication
115171000001107	Cardiovascular Disease Prevent general practice extraction - proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin type 9 inhibitor medication
225571000001105	COVID-19 general practice extraction - COPD medication
225581000001107	COVID-19 general practice extraction - corticosteroid medication
225681000001108	COVID-19 general practice extraction - post-transplant immunosuppressant medication
225631000001109	COVID-19 general practice extraction - prednisolone medication
225591000001109	COVID-19 general practice extraction - severe asthma medication
226281000001101	Learning Disabilities Observatory - antidepressant medication
226291000001104	Learning Disabilities Observatory - benzodiazepine and benzodiazepine related medication
226331000001109	Learning Disabilities Observatory - melatonin medication
226231000001100	National Diabetes Audit general practice extraction - flash glucose monitoring sensors
226271000001103	National Diabetes Audit general practice extraction - folic acid medication
226191000001107	National Diabetes Audit general practice extraction - glucose monitoring strips
133231000001105	Enhanced services general practice extraction - MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) vaccines
226631000001102	COVID-19 general practice extraction - NSAIDs
231481000001106	Enhanced services general practice extraction – HPV vaccines
61441000001104	NHS England lipid management - High-intensity simvastatin medication simple reference set
71681000001104	NHS England lipid management - High-intensity atorvastatin medication simple reference set
71691000001102	NHS England lipid management - High-intensity rosuvastatin medication simple reference set
175571000001107	Lipid Management general practice - adenosine triphosphate citrate lyase (ACL) inhibitors simple reference set
175591000001106	Lipid Management general practice - Inclisiran medication simple reference set
93061000001109	Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service – edoxaban simple reference set
93141000001109	Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service – oral vitamin K antagonists simple reference set
94871000001106	Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service - non-selective beta-adrenergic blocker medication simple reference set
94831000001109	Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service - dry powder inhaler indicated for asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease simple reference set