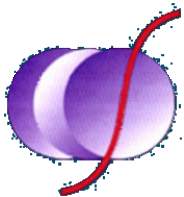


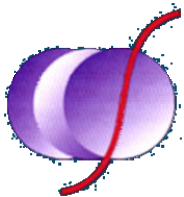
What is SNOMED Clinical Terms®

A brief overview
from www.snomed.org



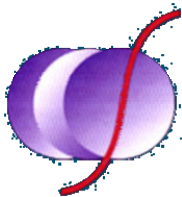
Slide Objectives

- After viewing this presentation, you will have an overview of the following:
 - What is SNOMED Clinical Terms (SNOMED CT)
 - What is the need
 - Recent History & Milestones
 - Your education plan for SNOMED CT



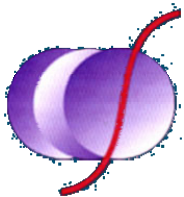
What is SNOMED CT?

Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine
Clinical Terms[®] (SNOMED CT)



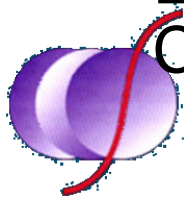
What is SNOMED CT?

- A comprehensive clinical terminology covering diseases, clinical findings, and procedures
- Allows for a consistent way of indexing, storing, retrieving and aggregating clinical data across specialties and sites of care
- Helps to structure and computerize the medical record, reducing the variability in the way data is captured, encoded and used for clinical care of patients and research

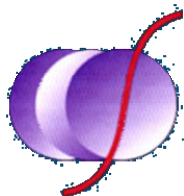


Examples of Computer Applications Using SNOMED CT

- Electronic Medical Records
- Computerized Patient Order Entry such as e-prescribing or laboratory order entry
- Problem lists
- Disease templates
- Remote Intensive Care Unit Monitoring
- Laboratory Reporting
- Emergency Room Charting
- Cancer Reporting
- Therapeutic Decision Support
- Genetic Databases
- Radiology Image Bank
- Autopsy Databases
- Literature Encoding
- Clinical Research
- Global Benchmarking
- Surgical Procedure Masters

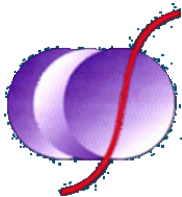


SNOMED CT Content and Structure



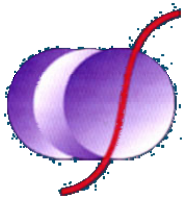
Basic Elements of SNOMED CT

- Concepts
- Hierarchies
- Relationships
- Descriptions



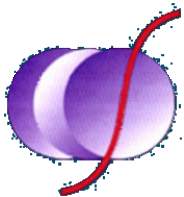
Concept

- The basic unit of SNOMED CT
- A SNOMED concept is a “Unit of meaning”, described by
 - a unique numeric code
 - a unique name (Fully Specified Name)
 - a set of terms (descriptions)
 - one “Preferred Term”
 - one or more Synonyms



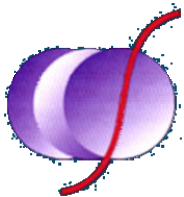
Hierarchies

- 19 Upper level hierarchies
- Each hierarchy has sub-hierarchies



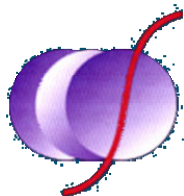
Relationships

- Is_a relationships: Relationships that link concepts within a hierarchy
- Attribute relationships (roles): Allow links between concepts across hierarchies

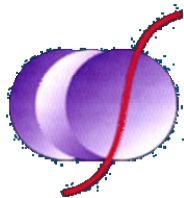


Descriptions

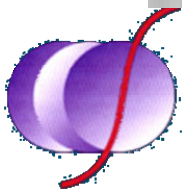
- Terms or names assigned to a concept
- Each concept has:
 - Fully Specified Name (FSN)
 - Preferred Term (display term)
- Concept may have:
 - One or more synonyms



What is the need for SNOMED CT?

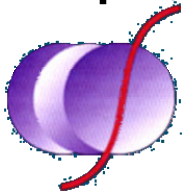


The Current Situation: Paper Records Persist



Current State of Healthcare

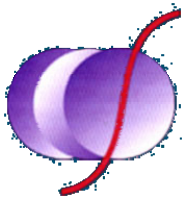
- Patients are treated in many settings across the continuum of healthcare
- Many healthcare facilities have limitations on which aspects of information they can electronically exchange within their facility or with other facilities
- Inability to access electronic patient record information is a barrier to delivering the best patient care



The Problem in Health Care is Unique

- Information Technology has funding constraints
- Health care is complex and evolving
- Paper-based records are prevalent
- Different ways of expressing the same thing...

A myocardial infarction is also heart attack....



Variations in Expression

Myocardial infarction

MI-Myocardial infarction

Infarction of heart

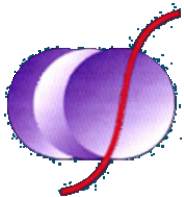
Myocardial infarct

Heart attack

Cardiac infarction

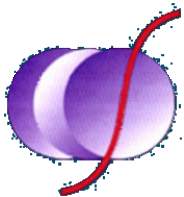
...To a computer these are all different

How can they be tracked, analyzed and reported?

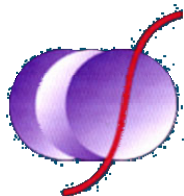


Why we need standardized terminology?

- Summarizes medical information
- Allows symbolic manipulation of data
 - Selective retrieval for aggregation and analysis (e.g. “How many new cases of breast cancer have we seen this month?” “Is this person’s blood sugar improving?”)
 - Automated reasoning (i.e. clinical decision support)

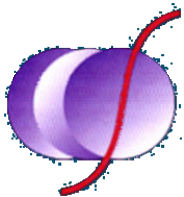


Recent History & Milestones



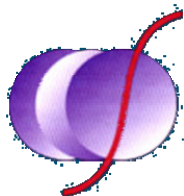
SNOMED® International

- Advances excellence in patient care through the delivery of SNOMED CT
- Division of the College of American Pathologists (CAP)
- Leading provider of healthcare terminology and implementation products and services



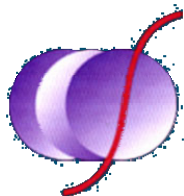
Major SNOMED Milestones

- 2000: SNOMED Reference Terminology
- 2002: SNOMED CT (SNOMED RT + CTV3)
- 2002: SNOMED CT Spanish Edition
- 2003: SNOMED CT German Edition
- 2004-present: Annual SNOMED CT releases in January, April, July and October



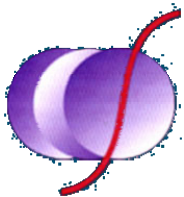
Business Milestones

- 1999: SNOMED International signs agreement with United Kingdom's National Health Service
- 2003: Agreement with United States National Library of Medicine (NLM)
 - Free access to English and Spanish language editions of SNOMED CT and all version updates through the NLM's UMLS Metathesaurus (a knowledge source containing biomedical concepts and terms from many controlled vocabularies and classifications)



The Core Terminology from NLM

- Concepts with unique meanings and formal logic-based definitions organized into hierarchies
- Descriptions or synonyms for flexibility in expressing clinical concepts
- Semantic relationships to enable robust reliability and consistency of data retrieval
- Attributes that provide the defining characteristics of a concept
- History table
- ICD-9 CM mapping
(<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/research/umls>)



Explore Next Steps in Your SNOMED CT Education Plan

- Contact your SNOMED Account Manager
- Send an email to education@snomed.org
- Visit <http://snomed.org/education/index.html>
- Call 800-323-4040 ext. 7700 (U.S. and Canada) or 847-832-7700

