



**SNOMED CT-AU Terminology
Release Note**

Pathology

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Public

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1 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide a brief description of the SNOMED Clinical Terms^{®1} Australian Release (SNOMED CT-AU) Pathology Terminology deliverables as well as their location, value domain bindings, release forms, and to provide links to supporting documentation relevant to the release.

2 Change Log

Stakeholder feedback on previous terminology releases centred on a number of questions relating to implementation. More specifically, it provided clarification concerning the intended purpose of the reference sets released (e.g. for the user interface and/or to support messaging, potential reuse of reference sets, and a desire for greater understanding concerning inclusion and exclusion of SNOMED CT).

With this stakeholder feedback in mind, this release of clinical terminology is a deliberate attempt to shift our emphasis to the provision of clear information regarding the intended purpose of reference sets, limitations on the use and re-use of reference sets, high-level implementation strategies and roadmaps. Additional information concerning implementation is available in the *SNOMED CT-AU Reference Set Implementation Guide*, dated 16 April 2009.

NEHTA's terminology work features an iterative development lifecycle designed to incorporate feedback following each successive release. The table below presents the changes that have occurred since Pathology Terminology Release - 20081031.

¹ This material includes SNOMED Clinical Terms[®] (SNOMED CT[®]) which is used by permission of the International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation (IHTSDO). All rights reserved. SNOMED CT, was originally created by The College of American Pathologists. "SNOMED" and "SNOMED CT" are registered trademarks of the IHTSDO.

Version	Change Log
V2.0 20090717 Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modify documentation, tools and reference sets to incorporate feedback provided on the draft for comment. • Change of the name for Abnormal result indicator reference set to Unexpected result indicator reference set.
v2.0 20090416 Draft for comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addition of the following reference sets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Specimen characteristic reference set – Specimen quality reference set – Abnormal result indicator reference set – Out of range indicator reference set. • Updating content of previously released reference sets to the SNOMED CT January 2009 International Release. • Maintenance activities on previously released reference sets. • Changes to documentation structure and content, in line with feedback, maintenance activities and the creation of new reference sets.
V1.0 20081031	Pathology Terminology Release - 20081031

3 Supporting Documentation

3.1 NEHTA Specifications

The following specification is available for download from the NEHTA Website.

3.1.1 Pathology Result Report – Structured Document Template

3.1.1.1 About

The *Pathology Result Report – Structured Document Template (PRR-SDT)* is aimed at standardising the identification, naming, definition and interrelationships of information components for use in Pathology Result Reports. The specification describes the data elements for use within pathology communications for reports and identifies the data necessary for capture, storage and display.

The Structured Document Template (SDT) outlines the allowable content of the information to be exchanged for a Pathology Result Report and structures the content in a manner that delivers context and meaning. It provides an information framework within which to achieve semantic interoperability, independent of any messaging format.

3.1.1.2 Intended Audience

The intended audience for this document includes software developers, IT aware clinicians, health informatics specialists and researchers.

3.1.1.3 Version

This document is provided as a public release.

File Details

Current Version date	Filename
1.00/ 30 June 2009	The <i>Pathology Result Report-Structured Document Template</i> is located within NEHTA_0452_2009_Pathology_Result_Reporting_Structured_Document_Template_and_Profile.zip

3.2 SNOMED CT-AU Release Documentation

The following supporting documentation is available for download under the following path within the Australian Health Terminology (AHT) Secure Website:

Downloads > Pathology Data Specifications and Terminology

Note: Documents listed below contain SNOMED CT International Release data and are only available to current licensees of SNOMED CT. To apply for a licence simply register with NEHTA via the AHT Secure Website.²

3.2.1 SNOMED CT-AU Terminology Release Note – Pathology

3.2.1.1 About

This Release Note accompanies the Pathology Terminology deliverables. The purpose of this document is to provide a brief description of the SNOMED CT-AU Pathology Terminology deliverables and their location, terminology bindings and also to provide links to supporting documentation relevant to the release.

3.2.1.2 Intended Audience

The intended audience for this document includes all stakeholders that have an interest in the SNOMED CT-AU Pathology Terminology release.

3.2.1.3 Version

This document is provided as a public release.

File Details

Current Version date	Filename
17 July 2009	NEHTA_0435_2009_SNOMED_CT_AU_Terminology_Release_Note_Pathology_20090717.pdf

² <https://nehta.org.au/aht/index.php>

3.2.2 SNOMED CT-AU Reference Set Library – Pathology

3.2.2.1 About

This document describes the scope for the SNOMED CT-AU terminology in this Pathology Terminology release and how developed reference sets support SNOMED CT adoption. It provides those high-level constraints being used in the creation and development of the terminology reference sets. Permissible concept examples are provided to enable better understanding of the content of each reference set, along with how SNOMED CT-AU terminology is aligned to the relevant Structured Document Template. This document describes the rationale behind the approach taken to develop terminology to support the PRR-SDT.

3.2.2.2 Intended Audience

The intended audience for this document are those in the pathology healthcare domain, in particular pathology laboratory scientific and technical staff, laboratory information systems suppliers and implementers, laboratory information systems support staff, pathologists. Stakeholders with specialised knowledge of the SNOMED CT concept model and its application to clinical information models will be most familiar with the document content.

3.2.2.3 Version

This document is provided as a public release.

File Details

Current Version date	Filename
17 July 2009	NEHTA_0434_2009_SNOMED_CT_AU_Reference_Set_Library_Pathology_20090717.pdf

3.2.3 SNOMED CT-AU Reference Set Implementation Guide

3.2.3.1 About

This document describes the purpose of the terminology reference set release and expands on some of the considerations that should be made when implementing these reference sets.

3.2.3.2 Intended Audience

The intended audience for this document includes systems developers, health informatics specialists, purchasers, and system integrators.

3.2.3.3 Version

This document is provided as a draft for comment.

File Details

Current Version date	Filename
16 April 2009	NEHTA_0401_2009_SCT_AU_Reference_Set_Implementation_Guide_Draft_20090416.pdf

3.3 SNOMED CT Supporting Documentation

The following documentation is available for download as part of the SNOMED CT International Release, which can be downloaded from the AHT Secure Website under the following path:

Downloads > IHTSDO SNOMED CT® Complete International Release

The International Release contains a number of sub-directories: the SNOMED CT supporting documentation is available under the following path within the release:

Essential Resources > Documentation and Other Resources

Note: Access to these documents is restricted to current licensees of SNOMED CT. To apply for the free licences, please register at <https://nehta.org.au/aht>.

3.3.1 SNOMED CT User Guide

3.3.1.1 About

The *User Guide* is intended to provide an overview to SNOMED CT's capabilities and uses from a content perspective. It explains the content and the principles used to model the terminology.

3.3.1.2 Intended Audience

This document is intended for clinical personnel, business directors, software project managers, and project leaders. Information technology experience is helpful, though not necessary.

3.3.1.3 Version

File Details:

Current version date	Filename
January 2009	SNOMED_CT_User_Guide_20090131.pdf

3.3.2 SNOMED CT Technical Reference Guide

3.3.2.1 About

The *Technical Reference Guide* contains reference material related to the current release of SNOMED CT and includes file layouts, field sizes, required values, and their meanings and high-level data diagrams. It can be used to install and use SNOMED CT.

3.3.2.2 Intended Audience

This document is intended for SNOMED CT implementers, such as software developers. The guide assumes an information technology background. Clinical knowledge is not a prerequisite.

3.3.2.3 Version

File Details

Current version date	Filename
January 2009	SNOMED_CT_Technical_Reference_Guide_20090131.pdf

3.3.3 SNOMED CT Technical Implementation Guide

3.3.3.1 About

The *Technical Implementation Guide* contains guidelines and advice about the design of applications using SNOMED CT, and covers topics such as terminology services, entering and storing information, and migration of legacy information.

3.3.3.2 Intended Audience

This document is intended for SNOMED CT implementers, such as software developers. The guide assumes information technology and software development experience. Clinical knowledge is not required, although some background is helpful to understand the application context and needs.

3.3.3.3 Version

File Details

Current version date	Filename
January 2009	SNOMED_CT_Technical_Implementation_Guide_20090131.pdf

4 SNOMED CT-AU Release Files

The following SNOMED CT-AU Release Files are available for download under the following path within the Australian Health Terminology (AHT) Secure Website:

Downloads > Pathology Data Specifications and Terminology

Artefacts listed below contain SNOMED CT International Release data and are only available to current licensees of SNOMED CT. To apply for a licence simply register with NEHTA via the AHT Secure Website.³

4.1 Statement of Use

This Pathology Terminology release has been built to support the terminology requirements of the PRR-SDT v1.0 – Draft for Comment. The identified SNOMED CT content is appropriate for the representation of pathology result reporting as reflected in the PRR-SDT.

While system developers and end users might choose to deploy Pathology Terminology v2.0 or information generated from it for purposes other than those described, no assessment with regards fitness for purpose has been made by NEHTA.

4.2 SNOMED CT-AU Reference Set Viewer

SNOMED CT-AU terminology is released in a SNOMED CT viewer. The viewer enables users to view the content of the reference sets for the applicable data groups and data elements:

Concepts that have been methodically selected from relevant SNOMED CT hierarchies are the basis for the reference sets and satisfy the relevant SDT.

The package of items within the zipped viewer folder consists of:

- SNOMED CT-AU Viewer and Installation Guide (PDF)
- End User Licence Agreement (PDF)
- SNOMED CT-AU Viewer installer:
 - Windows (NEHTA_0436_2009_SNOMED_CT_AU_Terminology_Viewer_Win_20090717.zip)
 - Macintosh (NEHTA_0437_2009_SNOMED_CT_AU_Terminology_Viewer_Mac_20090717.zip)

4.3 Distribution Files

The SNOMED CT-AU Pathology Distribution File (NEHTA_0438_2009_SNOMED_CT_AU_Distribution_File_Pathology_20090717.zip) associated with this release is based on the January 2009 SNOMED CT International Release.

The SNOMED CT-AU Pathology Distribution File contains:

- Three data files:
 - Concepts
 - Descriptions
 - Relationships
- UK Language Subset
- ICD-9-CM Mapping Files
- Reference sets

³ <https://nehta.org.au/aht/index.php>

5 Supporting Tool

The following supporting tool is available for download under the following path within the Australian Health Terminology (AHT) Secure Website:

Downloads > Pathology Data Specifications and Terminology

The supporting tool listed below contains SNOMED CT International Release data and are only available to current licensees of SNOMED CT. To apply for a licence simply register with NEHTA via the AHT Secure Website.⁴

5.1.1 SNOMED CT-AU Pathology Mapping Tool

The purpose of the SNOMED CT-AU Pathology Mapping Tool is to provide an efficient mechanism to allow users to map their local terms to concepts in the terminology reference sets.

The tool includes the functionality to import local test terms into the tool, map them to relevant concepts in the terminology reference sets and export the mapped results to a spreadsheet.

The file contains:

- SNOMED CT-AU Pathology Mapping Tool User Guide 20090717.pdf;
- SNOMED CT-AU Pathology Mapping Tool - 20090717.mde;
- Import directory containing an example source term file (SourceTerm_Example.txt); and
- Export directory that is empty but provides directory for mapped terms to be exported to.

The SNOMED CT-AU Pathology Mapping Tool User Guide details the various functionalities of the tool and explains the mapping process.

File Details:

Current version date	Filename details
17 July 2009	NEHTA_0439_2009_ SNOMED_CT_AU _Pathology_Mapping_Tool_20090717.zip

⁴ <https://nehta.org.au/aht/index.php>

6 Reference Set Binding Information

Terminology reference sets consist of appropriately constrained SNOMED CT concepts for the data elements described in the *Structured Document Template - Pathology Result Report*. The following table provides the information required to associate the Terminology Reference Set to the relevant Data Element. Only those reference sets being published for this release are tabulated below.

Table 1 Reference Set Binding Information

Reference set Name & ID	Data Element Name & ID	Value Domain Name & ID	Data Element Description	Source Terminology	Relevant Structured Document Template
Request test name reference set 1021000036104	Request Test Name DE – 11017	Request Test Name Values VD – 11017	The term representing the requested pathology investigations. The term may represent a single analyte or a panel of grouped tests to be performed.	SNOMED CT	<i>Pathology Result Report - Structured Document Template v1.0</i> (PRR-SDT)
Specimen anatomical site reference set 6021000036108	Specimen Anatomical Site DE – 11010	Specimen Anatomical Site Values VD – 11010	The categorisation of the anatomical site from which a specimen was obtained from an individual for pathology investigation.	SNOMED CT	<i>Pathology Result Report - Structured Document Template v1.0</i> (PRR-SDT)
Specimen qualifier reference set 5021000036101	Specimen Qualifier DE – 11009	Specimen Qualifier Values VD – 11009	Information that defines characteristics of the specimen which need to be taken into consideration when analysing the specimen or interpreting the results.	SNOMED CT	<i>Pathology Result Report - Structured Document Template v1.0</i> (PRR-SDT)

Reference set Name & ID	Data Element Name & ID	Value Domain Name & ID	Data Element Description	Source Terminology	Relevant Structured Document Template
Specimen type reference set 4021000036102	Specimen Type DE – 11008	Specimen Type Values VD – 11008	The categorisation of the sample collected and/or tested in a pathology investigation in relation to the subject of care.	SNOMED CT	<i>Pathology Result Report - Structured Document Template v1.0</i> (PRR-SDT)
Testing method reference set 3021000036100	Testing Method DE – 11025	Test Method Values VD – 11025	A description of the specific analytical principle or method used by the laboratory to perform the analyses and produce the results for the requested pathology test(s). The method used has a critical impact in the comparability of results. A decision on diagnosis can be affected by the method used based on likelihood of false or true positives and negatives related to sensitivities and specificities of tests.	SNOMED CT	<i>Pathology Result Report - Structured Document Template v1.0</i> (PRR-SDT)
Result test name reference set 2021000036107	Result Test Name DE – 32001	Result Test Name Values VD – 32001	The term representing the pathology investigations completed by the pathologist. The term may represent a single analyte or a panel of grouped tests that have been performed.	SNOMED CT	<i>Pathology Result Report - Structured Document Template v1.0</i> (PRR-SDT)

Reference set Name & ID	Data Element Name & ID	Value Domain Name & ID	Data Element Description	Source Terminology	Relevant Structured Document Template
Out of range indicator reference set 32569021000036103	Out of Range Indicator DE – 11028	Out of Range Indicator VD-11028	Indicates whether the result is within or outside of its reference ranges. This indicator may also describe the relative amount the result is lower or higher than the reference range.	SNOMED CT	<i>Pathology Result Report - Structured Document Template v1.0 (PRR-SDT)</i>
Unexpected result indicator reference set 32568021000036109	Unexpected Result Indicator DE – 11027	Unexpected Result Indicator VD-11027	Indicates the degree of diagnostic significance associated with an abnormal pathology test result based on all the available clinical information (including but not limited to the reference range).	SNOMED CT	<i>Pathology Result Report - Structured Document Template v1.0 (PRR-SDT)</i>
Specimen characteristic reference set 32566021000036108	Specimen Characteristic DE – 11015	Specimen Characteristic VD-11015	The clinical finding(s) on initial morphological analysis of a specimen (by a reporting Pathologist or Laboratory Worker) identifying attributes or characteristics that may impact the result.	SNOMED CT	<i>Pathology Result Report - Structured Document Template v1.0 (PRR-SDT)</i>
Specimen quality reference set 32567021000036105	Specimen Quality DE – 11016	Specimen Quality VD-11016	An assessment of the 'suitability for testing' of the specimen collected for analysis.	SNOMED CT	<i>Pathology Result Report - Structured Document Template v1.0 (PRR-SDT)</i>