

French Translation Project Group
Geneva meeting – July 2, 2019, 10:00 – 15:00

Document history

Version	Date	Author	Actions
V0	21/06/2019	FM	Meeting agenda
V1	05/07/2019	FM	Minutes

The meeting was organized and hosted by Patrick Ruch's team at the Haute Ecole de Gestion de Genève (HEG)

Attachments:

- 1) Directives francophones : Directives_francophones_v5.xlsx
- 2) Slides used for discussion : TranslationProcess.pptx

1 Participants

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Ian Green	SNOMED	jgr@snomed.org	International	
Patrick Ruch	HEG	Patrick.ruch@hesge.ch	Suisse	host

2 Meeting agenda

1. Approval of the first version of the editorial and linguistic rules
2. Translation Process
 - Input
 - Deliverable
 - Initialization
 - Maintenance
 - Tooling requirements
3. Governance of the translation
 - ...
4. Review of ongoing translation projects in each of the five countries
 - Cancer synoptic reports in Canada?
 - ...
5. Review of the timeline of the translation project
6. Other candidate assets for a future French translation by the group:
 - Foundation Course
 - ...
7. Events promoting SNOMED CT and the common French translation
 - Paris 1st SNOMED CT Francophone Day, November 28, 2019
<http://www.journee.snomed.fr/>
 - Geneva, MIE2020, April 28 – May 1st, 2020
 - i. SNOMED International and WHO participate
 - ii. Meeting e-health Switzerland
 - iii. Researchers / SDOs / Policy makers

3 Minutes

3.1 Approval of Editorial and Linguistic Rules

See attachment [Directives_francophones_v5.xlsx](#)

These rules apply to the construction of French language synonyms for SNOMED CT concepts.

As decided from the start, rather than a translation from English terms to French terms, this production starts from a French term meaningful in healthcare and matches it to the equivalent concept in SNOMED CT.

Filter on column H:

- 47 rules approved
- 2 rules rejected
- 8 rules still waiting for validation.

Next steps:

- Immediate: The project group members are requested to check those 8 pending rules and provide their feedback and suggestions by email as soon as possible.
- Later: Another set of rules will have to be put in place for the representation of concrete values when SNOMED CT is ready to support them.

3.2 Elaboration of the Process

See attachment [TranslationProcess.pptx](#)

3.2.1 Agreed Scope and Principles

- The scope of the common French translation is limited to the concepts of the international release of SNOMED CT.
- Concepts belonging to national extensions are not part of the common French translation and are translated by the NRC they belong to. However, the common French editorial and linguistic rules still apply to such concepts.
- Production of multiple synonyms to accommodate the dialectal variations across French speaking communities, consolidating a single French Description file.
- No French FSN.
- Management of default preferences for global French language refset + exceptions per country where needed.

3.2.2 Inputs to a new release of the French translation

- Requests for correction on existing descriptions, posted by any of the francophone NRCs.
- New international release of SNOMED CT inactivating some of the translated concepts.
- Preexisting local translation to be imported and merged.
- Request to translate a new subset of concepts, for an identified use case.

3.2.3 Deliverables of a release of the French translation

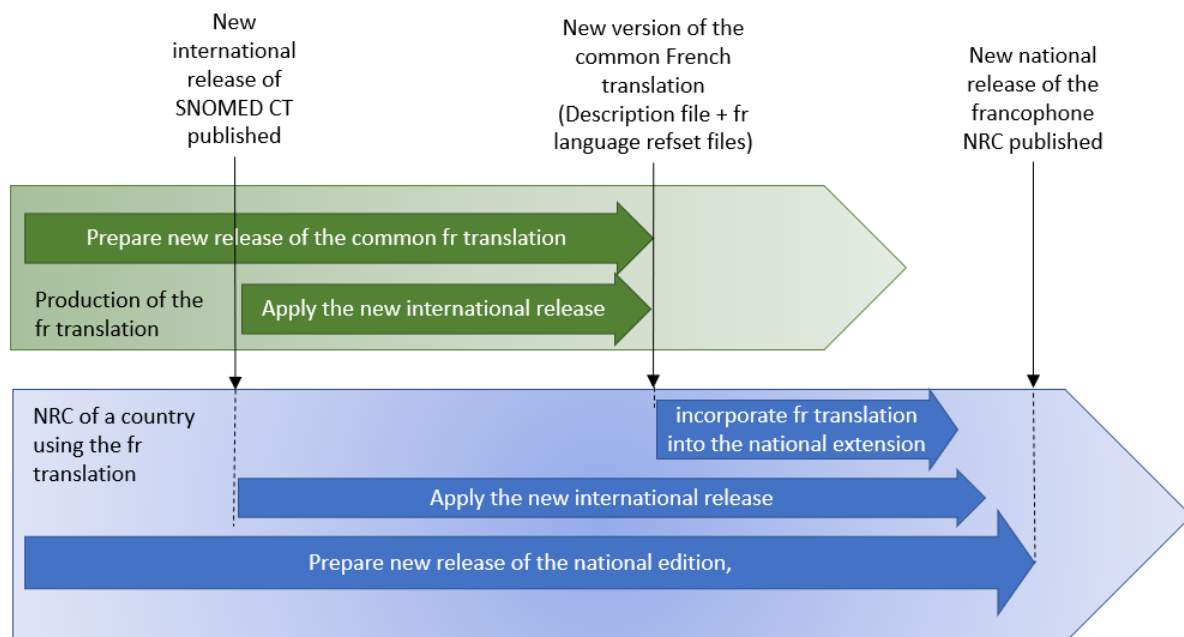
- One common **Description file** containing all French descriptions useful in any of the francophone member countries:
 - active descriptions of active concepts
 - inactive descriptions of active concepts (incorrect synonyms inactivated)
 - inactive descriptions of inactive concepts (automatically inactivated)
- **6 Language Refset files:**
 - fr-global includes all terms, and specifies the default preferences (acceptabilityId)
 - fr-BE selects the terms and preferences for Belgium
 - fr-CA selects the terms and preferences for Canada

- fr-CH selects the terms and preferences for Switzerland
- fr-FR selects the terms and preferences for France
- fr-LU selects the terms and preferences for Luxembourg
- The common fr translation is not distributed per se. It is exported, and then imported by each target NRC to be incorporated into its national edition.

3.2.4 Dependencies and Time Constraints

A new release of the common French translation is based on the latest international release.

Each country with a francophone community needs to be able to incorporate this new release (the fr Description file + the country-specific fr language refset) into its own national extension, in order to incorporate it into the next release of its national edition.



For this reason: **(to be reviewed and corrected if necessary)**

- The fr Description file should have a moduleId at the international level: Each national edition incorporating French language depends upon it. Same thing for the global fr language refset.
- Each country-specific fr language refset should be assigned the moduleId of the national edition of this country: It is part of this edition.
- The new release of the common French translation should be published soon enough after the new release of the international edition, so that each national edition incorporating it is not delayed in the publication of its new release.

From the discussion around the table, a delay of one month for applying the new international release to the French translation (processing the replacement of inactivated concepts) would be the maximum acceptable.

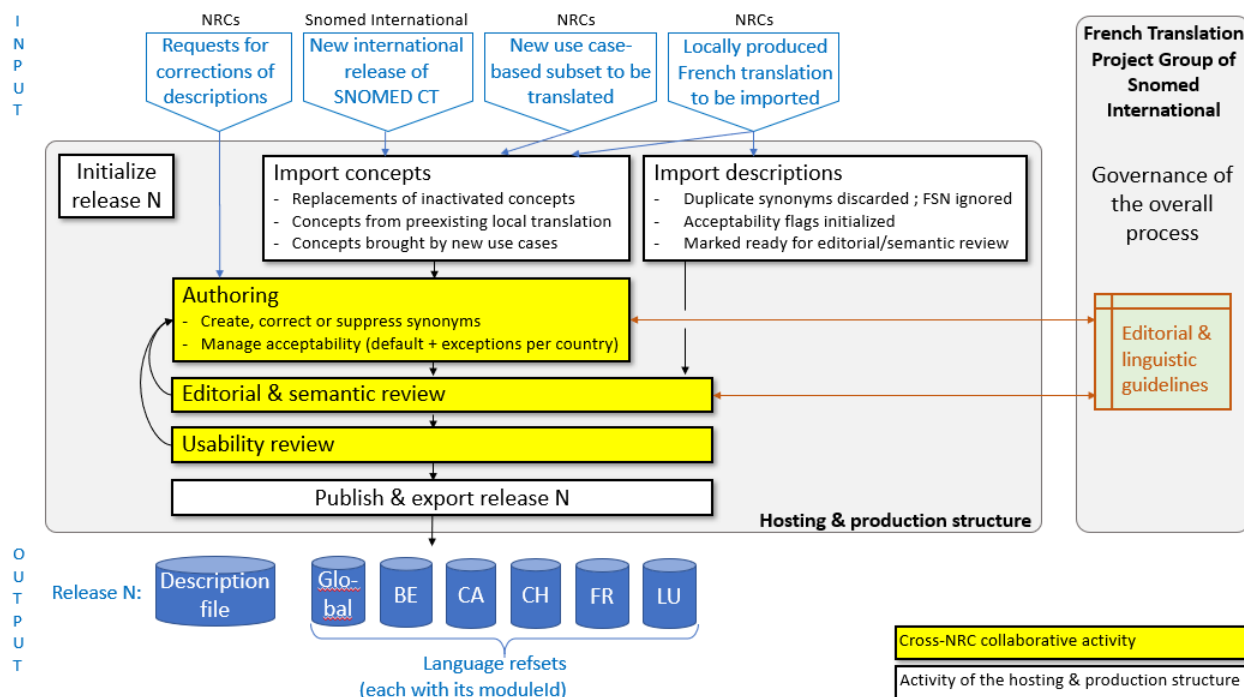
SNOMED CT is evolving towards continuous release. When this happens, the inactivation of concepts in the international release will have to be applied continuously in the fr translation as well as in the national editions, which might make the overall process simpler once automatism are in place.

One open issue raised by Rory, to be further investigated:

The Description file associated with a language refset is not supposed to contain more descriptions than the refset does. Will there be a need to filter the Description file handed over to each national NRC so that it contains only the descriptions which are members of the refset?

3.2.5 Process & Governance

(to be reviewed and improved as needed)



There is a need for a stable hosting & production structure, which:

- hosts the French translation process and content,
- provides the technical environment with the appropriate tools on its own budget,
- manages the change requests workflow,
- delivers on schedule the releases of the French translation.

The francophone NRCs contribute to authoring and review activities.

The governance of the overall French translation process is ensured by the French Translation Project Group which:

- maintains the editorial guidelines,
- agrees on which preexisting translations are to be merged in next release of the common French translation,
- agrees on the addition of new use-case-based subsets into the common translation.

This group should become a stable committee of Snomed International.

Checking for volunteers to play the role of hosting & production structure:

During a survey around the table, Linda announces that the Canadian NRC might volunteer to take the role of the hosting & production structure. She will check with her hierarchy and will come back to the project group to confirm or not this proposal.

3.2.6 Additional requirements for the collaborative tools

This is the first time that a multi-country translation occurs for SNOMED CT. None of the existing tools is fully ready to support such a process. Below is a list of additional features that are expected.

3.2.6.1 Import of locally produced translations into the common translation

- Do not import translations of concepts that are inactive in the current international edition of SNOMED CT (this feature may be already supported).
- In case a concept is present both in the external translation and in the common one:

- import descriptions of the external translation as acceptable synonyms in the global language refset,
- do not import duplicate terms (same character string case-insensitive),
- if a preferred term (PT) from the external translation is made “acceptable” in global language refset, then set an exception making this term “PT” in the language refset of the country originator of the external translation.
- In case a concept from the external translation did not exist in the common one, import the preferences set in the external translation into the global language refset.
- In all cases import the description SCTIDs as they are.

3.2.6.2 User Interface shared by translation and review

- Descriptions sorted by language, English first, then the target language, with sorting order FSN (only for English), PT, SY within each language.
- Preferences:
 - Show preferences by default + exceptions per country when they exist.
 - Enable to choose the exceptions for a country:
 - **no**: term is not acceptable for this country.
 - **PT**: this is the preferred synonym for this country
 - **SY**: synonym acceptable for this country
 - Data entry rules:
 - There must be exactly one **PT** per country for a concept.
 - If the default **PT** is marked **no** for a country, there must be another term marked as **PT** for this country.

A fake example illustrating the possibilities:

Descriptions	Exceptions on acceptability				
	BE	CA	CH	FR	LU
• Bernard Soulier syndrome (disorder)					
• Bernard Soulier syndrome					
• syndrome de Bernard-Soulier					
• maladie de Bernard-Soulier					
• maladie de Bernard et Soulier					
• dystrophie thrombocytaire hémorragipare					
	en	en	fr	fr	fr
	FSN	PT	PT	SY	SY
			no	no	no
				no	no
				PT	PT
					no
Global fr language refset includes the PT and three synonyms					
fr language refset for Belgium discards one synonym					
fr language refset for Canada chooses a different PT, and keeps the original one as a synonym, all other synonyms discarded					
fr language refsets for France and Switzerland make no exception on this particular concept					
fr language refset for Luxembourg keeps the PT and only two synonyms out of three					

3.2.6.3 Publication of release N of language X translation

- Description file consolidating all language X synonyms
- Global language X refset incorporating all existing descriptions and setting the default preferences (PT, SY)
- Y country-specific language X refsets incorporating the descriptions which are not excluded by the country and applying the exceptions of preferences defined by the country.

3.3 Inventory of Current Usage of Tools

Change request management: CRS

Current fr Translation:

- Belgium and Switzerland: Authoring tool of Managed Services + local tools used by delegated translators. Translation which are outsourced are imported afterwards into Managed Services.
- Canada: TermSpace
- Phast: Reference Set and Translation Service

Each NRC is liable for its delegated translators allowed to work in the common environment.

3.4 Tentative timeline with milestones

1. Check the last 8 pending editorial rules ----- July 31, 2019
2. Version 1 of editorial guidelines ----- September 12, 2019
3. Zoom web conf ----- October 3, 14:00 – 16:00 (Paris time)
 - Approve guidelines v1
 - Select the existing translation(s) to create v1 of the common fr translation
4. Create v1 of translation, applying guidelines – October 2019 – January 2020
5. Face to face meeting in Paris ----- November 27, 2019
 - Review of the ongoing translation
 - Refine editorial rules as needed
 - Refine the process as needed
6. 1st SNOMED CT Francophone Day, Paris ----- November 28, 2019
<http://www.journee.snomed.fr/>
7. Apply 20200131 international release ----- January – February 2020
8. Publish v1 of the fr translation ----- February 28, 2020
9. Start of maintenance process ----- March 2020
10. Face to face at SNOMED business Meeting ---- April 2020
11. Participation to MIE2020 in Geneva ----- April 28 – May 1st, 2020
12. Apply 20200731 international release ----- July – August 2020
13. Publish v2 of the fr translation ----- August 30, 2020

3.5 Review of ongoing translation projects per country

Topic not addressed per lack of time.

3.6 Other candidate assets for a future French translation

e.g. Foundation Course

Topic not addressed per lack of time.