

Member translation matrix

Responder (name): Andrea MacLean, Director, Interoperability Standards, Canada Health Infoway

Country: Canada

Language: Canadian French

Translation (Full or partial): Partial

<p>Description of translation process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada completed a partial translation of core concepts (~36,000) into Canadian French beginning in 2009 that is published as part of the Canadian Edition • Based on the experience of other countries, Infoway’s strategy was to systematically translate the concepts within the first 2 to 5 levels of each of the top-level SNOMED CT hierarchies, with the exception of concepts within the Substance and Pharmaceutical/Biologic product hierarchy. (January 2009 release of SNOMED CT Core) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Due to significant hierarchical restructuring of that domain, only level 2 and 3 concepts were translated. • This strategy allows users to view the French translations of the selected concept and the associated parent concept, along with some instances the concept’s children. • The benefit to this approach is high homogeneity and consistency between concepts and their supporting relationships and attributes. • The Priorities Committee and Steering Committee approved the translation for : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Emergency Centre data (349 concepts); ○ Other Quebec (provincial) business requirements (4,741 concepts), and; ○ The pan-Canadian Public Health Surveillance (Panorama) application (4,809 concepts)
<p>What tool did we use?</p>	<p>Translation tool:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2007-2009: HealthTerm Translation tool (Vendor: CareCom) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The tool provided access to a SNOMED CT browser, the ability to search and develop subsets ○ The tools also supported project management, publication and maintenance <p>Guides referenced:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guide linguistique et terminologique V14 - 28 avril 2009 • Registre des questions et décisions linguistiques - SCT - 20090430a
What went well?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic approach and direction • Focus on the translation of concepts based on insight from other countries and Canadian stakeholders • Advice and guidance from other countries who had undertaken translation work • Creation of editorial committee that included clinical and translation expertise
What were the challenges?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finding qualified resources to do the translation • Semantics are important and one cannot just translate word for word from one language to another • Managing timely responses and consistency between multiple translators with multiple threads • Clinical review and validation
What were the critical success factors or key lessons learned?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is essential to have policies and guidelines in place from the outset of a translation project. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This ensures a consistent, quality translation according to specified terminology conventions ○ Minimizes the impact and effort of corrective actions ○ Ensures consistency to similar and related concepts in different hierarchies ○ Leveraging relevant guidelines developed by national language authorities ○ Leveraging translations and references from other countries and from other terminologies/classifications (such as ICD-10-CA in Canada) ○ Development of consistent workflow that enables access to approved translated materials ○ Development of consistent QA rules and editorial guidelines ○ Small daily checkpoint meetings each day (~15 minutes)
Operationally, what are we doing now?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infoway no longer provides services to translate content into Canadian French • If new French concepts are requested, the validated translations with supporting documentation must be provided to Infoway as part of Infoway's Request for Change (RFC) process • Infoway will continue to monitor and participate in the progress of French translations with other member countries such as Belgium and Switzerland as required
What challenges were resolved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The translation completed to date appears to be sufficient <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Infoway has not been notified of significant missing content • Recently added French content is related to drugs and immunization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Public Health Agency of Canada and Health Canada who are the federal regulators for drug and immunization products in Canada have provided the French translations of these products as part of their regulatory role

<p>What challenges remain today?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finding qualified resources to do the translation • Knowing what we know today, we would have translated some of the higher parent concepts (eg. Diabetes mellitus type 2 has been translated, but the parent concept was not) to better support data aggregation • Translations are provided by the provinces/territories with no additional governance or oversight at the pan-Canadian level • As editorial guidelines are updated to reflect changes in medicine and semantics, we may have a large number of updates to do to our French content to reflect these changes • Agreeing upon semantics between translators and clinical content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Eg. Digits vs fingers and thumbs
<p>What tool are you using today?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infoway currently authors content using Term Med's TermSpace Solution