



The CORE Problem List Subset of SNOMED CT

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Audience

All SNOMED CT users who need to identify a subset of SNOMED CT concepts that are frequently used in clinical applications. This includes implementers of SNOMED CT in the electronic health record (EHR), content editors creating inter-terminology maps or translations, and researchers performing quality assurance or other research activities in SNOMED CT.

Objectives

To explain the methodology and principles in the creation of the CORE Subset. To describe the characteristics of the CORE Subset, its file structure and data elements, update process, and how it can be used in various areas.

Abstract

The CORE (Clinical Observations Recording and Encoding) Problem List Subset of SNOMED CT is derived from clinical datasets from large scale healthcare institutions. It identifies SNOMED CT concepts that are commonly used for encoding clinical information at a summary level, such as the problem list, discharge diagnosis or reason for encounter. The most frequently used local terms accounting for 95% of the term usage frequency in each institution were mapped to SNOMED CT concepts through the UMLS, supplemented by manual review. The CORE Subset was first published in July 2009, and has been updated quarterly to synchronize with new releases of SNOMED CT and the UMLS. The primary purpose of the CORE Subset is to facilitate the implementation of SNOMED CT in the problem list of the EHR, as required by the U.S. "Meaningful Use" incentive program. Besides this use case, the CORE Subset has also been used in other areas such as: linking of patient portals and EHRs to consumer health information, inter-terminology mappings to ICD-10 and ICD-10-CM, quality assurance and other terminology research activities.

References

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2. The CORE Problem List Subset of SNOMED CT on NLM's website:
http://www.nlm.nih.gov/research/umls/Snomed/core_subset.html