



## SNOMED CT Adoption Strategy for Canada

---

*Presenter: Don Sweete, Canada Health Infoway*

### **Audience**

Anyone interested in understanding Canada's SNOMED CT's Adoption Strategy (vendors, implementers, clinicians, etc). Representatives from National Release Centres and IHTSDO.

### **Objectives**

The objective of this presentation is to provide an overview and update on Canada's SNOMED CT Adoption Strategies.

### **Abstract**

The health care system in Canada has struggled for decades to become more patient centric and more proactive in the management of resources to maintain sustainability. The root cause for both of these key issues, among others, is that there has always been the inability to use existing information sources to enable better health care management. Further, there is a need to look to the future where consumers can actually take ownership and management of their personal health. This presentation outlines the recommended strategy for SNOMED CT adoption in Canada; it highlights the current state in Canada and provides recommended directions and business options that will enable SNOMED CT to become more widely viewed as a solution that will enable systems, and can be sustainable as a product for the foreseeable future. The strategy focuses on delivering on a business model that is sustainable, meets the needs of stakeholders and over time will be able to document the measureable benefits of SNOMED CT adoption. A key lesson learned from the Canadian experience is the need for a well-articulated value proposition; a communication plan is being launched to refine and market the value proposition for Canada, the plan can be leveraged by other countries as appropriate. A summary of experiences from other countries will be delivered, focusing on areas of similarity as well as difference. Key tactics that have furthered realization of the strategy will be highlighted including the development of a terminology implementation toolkit to support implementers, expertise and engagement to help projects realize how SNOMED CT will meet their requirements, and delivery of customized education training sessions to increase stakeholder capacity. The presentation will also provide an update on the progress Canada has made over the past year with a focus on the use of SNOMED CT in key provincial and pan-Canadian initiatives such as the use of SNOMED CT in pan-Canadian Cancer Surgery Synoptic Reports and the development of digital imaging terminology for the province of Ontario.