BLUSNO Tool for SNOMED CT Visualization and QA Support

Christopher Ochs

Yehoshua Perl and James Geller

New Jersey Institute of Technology Structural Analysis of Biomedical Ontologies Center

Introduction

 SNOMED CT is a very large and complex medical terminology

 Difficult to visualize an entire SNOMED CT hierarchy using "node and edge" diagrams

• Summarize SNOMED CT's content and structure to help see the "big picture"

Motivation

From Mark Shafarman, "Getting to know SNOMED CT" IHTSDO Implementation Showcase 2012

"... it wasn't easy arriving at the 'big picture.' I knew about lots of details [about SNOMED CT], but they weren't fitting together"

"... I could not get a 'feel' for SNOMED CT by paging through a code book or viewing simple linear files"

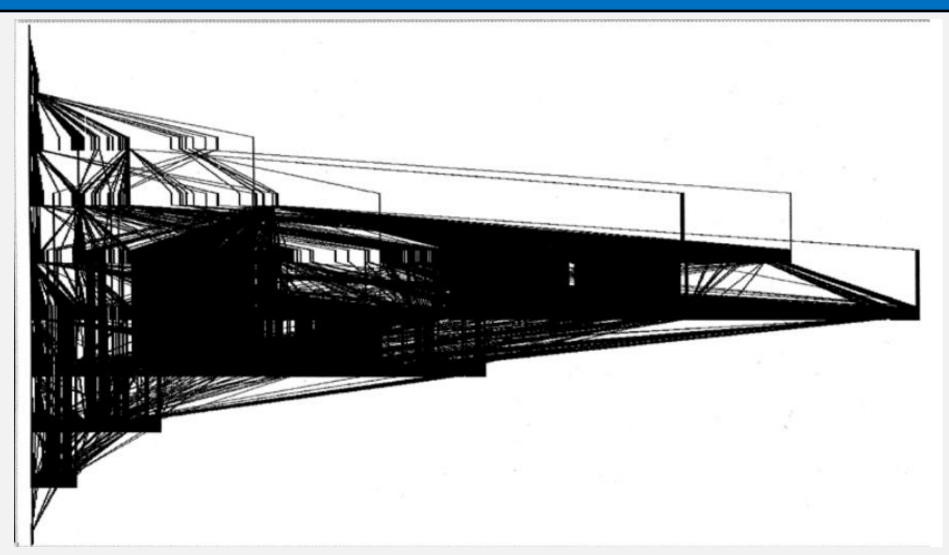
"... experimenting with one of the publicly available SNOMED CT browsers was a good place to start putting together all the bits and pieces"

The "Big Picture" of SNOMED CT

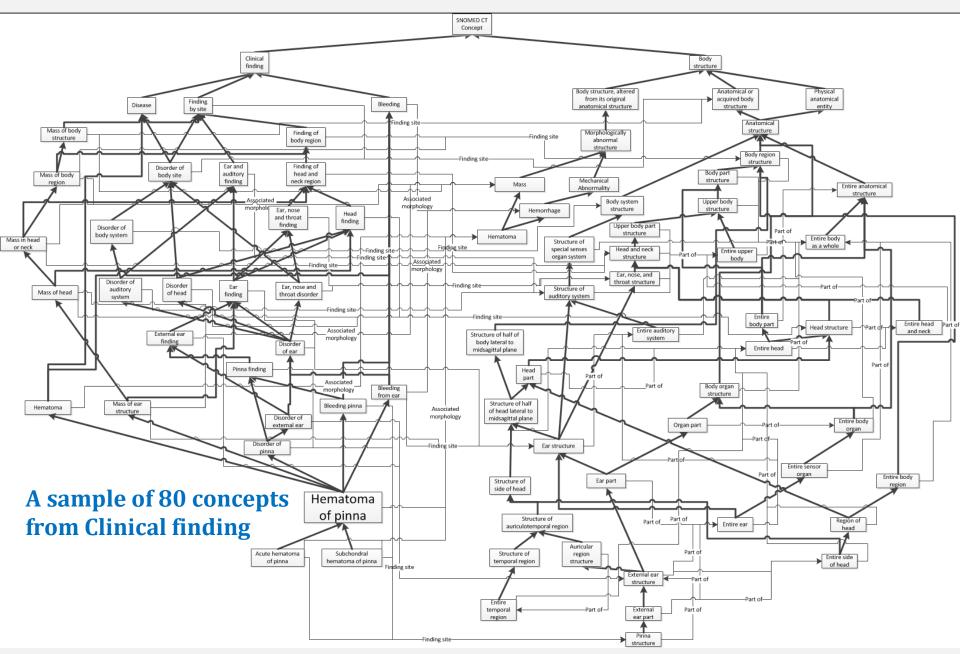
What is in SNOMED CT and how is it structured?

- Browsing and searching
- Integration into applications
- Extending, reusing, and cross mapping
- Quality assurance

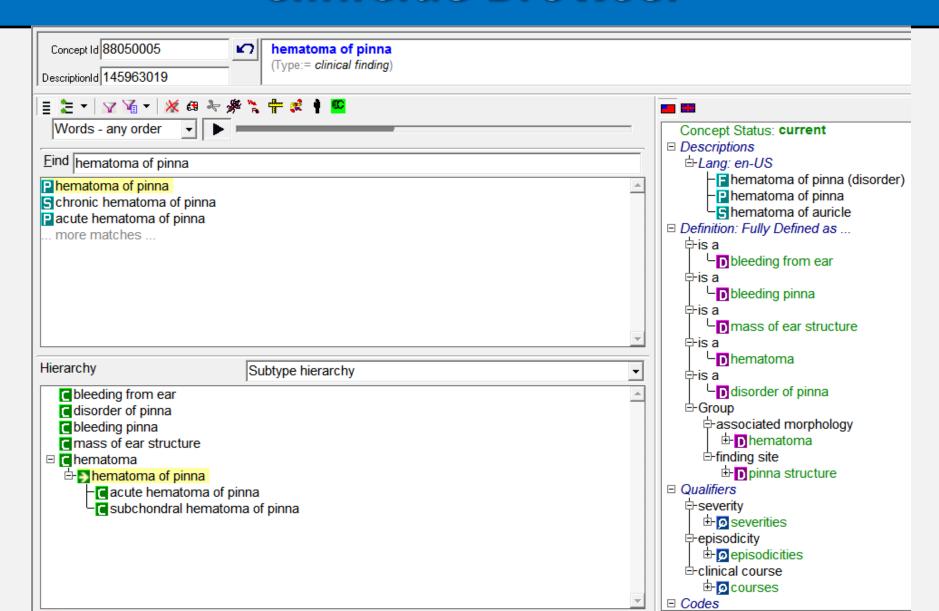
A Hierarchy of 2500 Concepts



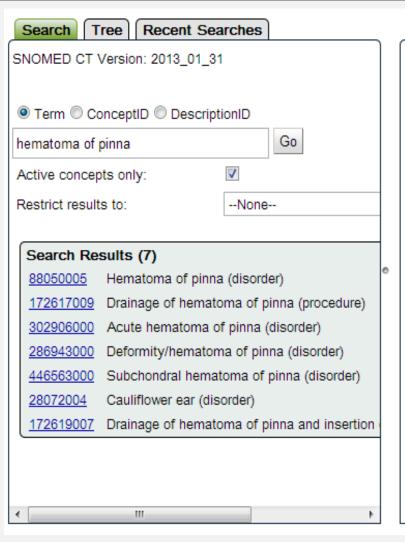




CliniClue Browser

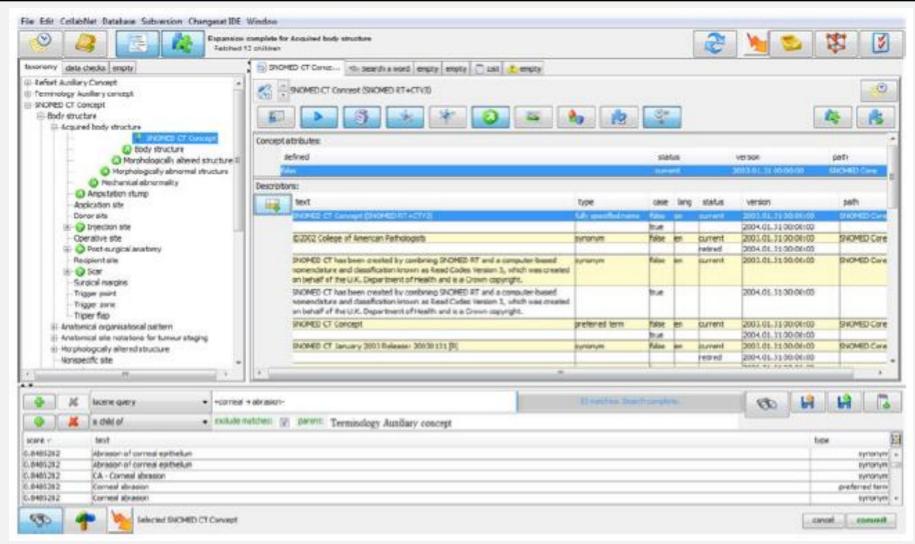


UTS Browser



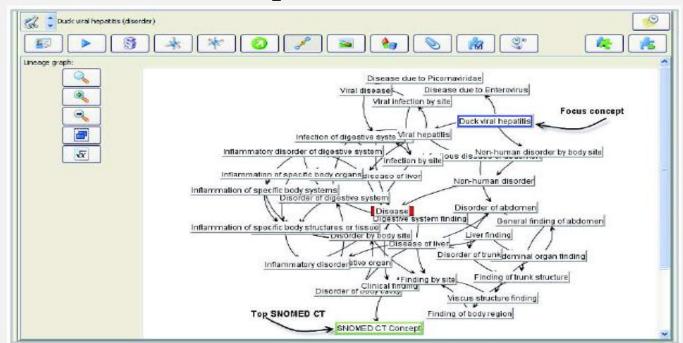
Rep	ort View										
	10070000101	пастыюта огрппа	producti)	ouncile (o)							
		Hematoma of auricle	Synonym (2)	Current (0)							
⊕ Pa	rents (5)										
□ Ch	Children (2)										
	Acute hematoma of pinna [302906000]										
	Subchondral hematoma of pinna [446563000]										
□ Re	lationships	from this concept (10)									
	Hematoma of pinna Associated morphology Hematoma (Defining)										
	Hematoma of pinna Finding site Pinna structure (Defining)										
	Hematoma of pinna Is a Bleeding from ear (Defining)										
	Hematoma of pinna Is a Bleeding pinna (Defining)										
	Hematoma of pinna Is a Disorder of pinna (Defining)										
	Hematoma of pinna Is a Hematoma (Defining)										
	Hematoma of pinna Is a Mass of ear structure (Defining)										
	Hematoma of pinna Clinical course Courses (Qualifier)										
	Hematoma of pinna Episodicity Episodicities (Qualifier)										
	Hematoma of pinna Severity Severities (Qualifier)										
⊕ Re	lationships	to this concept (3)									

IHTSDO Workbench



Visualizing SNOMED CT is Difficult

- Node/edge figures show the "big picture" for many concepts at a time.
- Benefits of such figures are lost as the number of concepts increases.

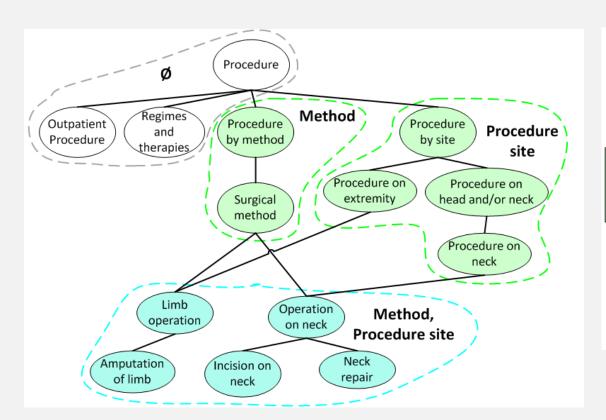


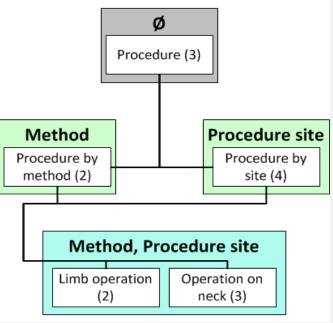
Summarizing SNOMED CT

Partial-area Taxonomy Summarization

Area: Group of concepts with the same relationships

Partial-area: Hierarchically related concepts in an area

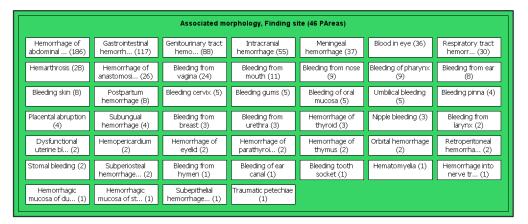


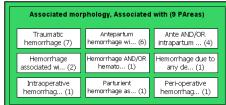


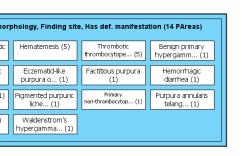


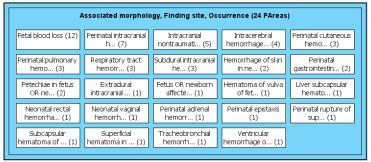
Summarization shows the "Big Picture" for hundreds of concepts

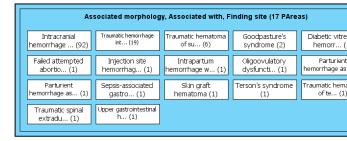


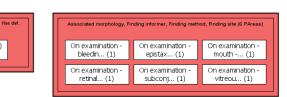


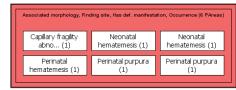


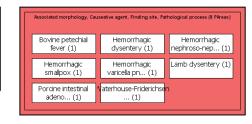


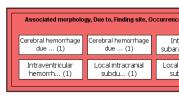












ciated morphology, Finding informer, Finding method, Finding site, Interprets (1 PArea)

n examination -

bloodst... (3)

After, Associated morphology, Due to, Finding site,
Occurrence (1 PArea)

Slipped umbilical
ligatu... (1)

Associated morphology, Clinical course, Finding site, Has def. manifestation.
Pathological process (3 PAreas)

Acute idiopathic thrombo... (1)

Chronic idiopathic throm... (1)

Associated morphology, Causeative agent, Clinical course, Finding site,
Pathological process (3 PAreas)

Acute hemorrhagic
conjun... (3)

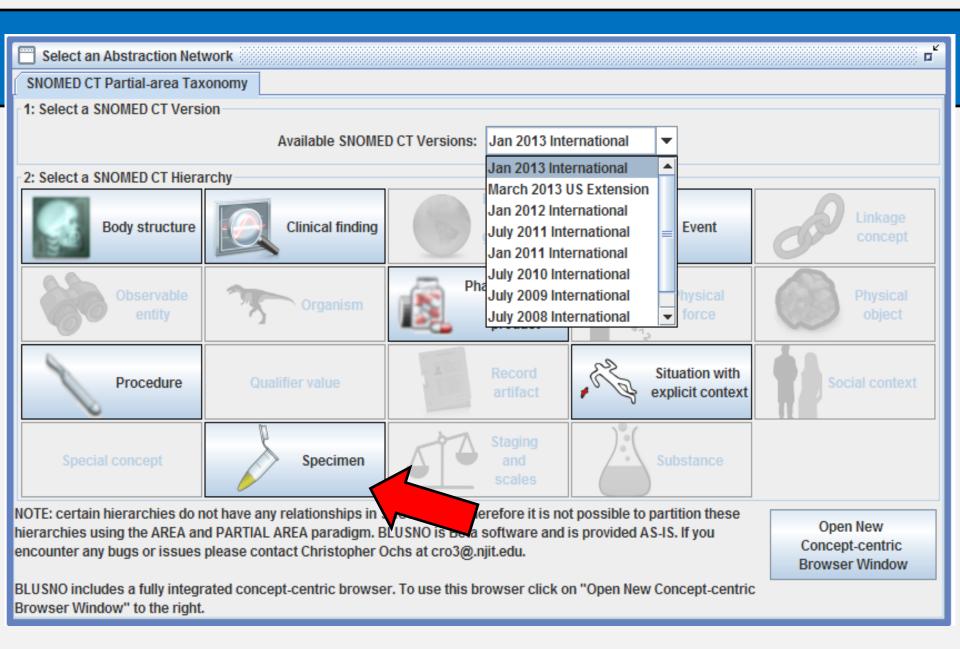
Acute hemorrhagic
coliti... (1)

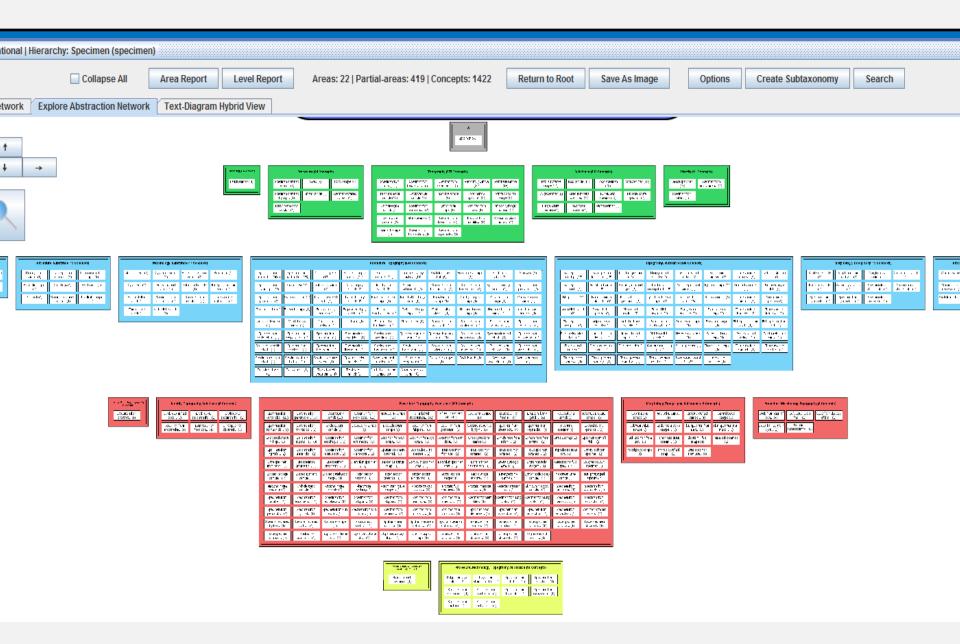
Associated morphology, Due to, Finding site, Has def. manifestation.
Pathological process († Pirea)

Henoch-Schönlein
purpura... (1)

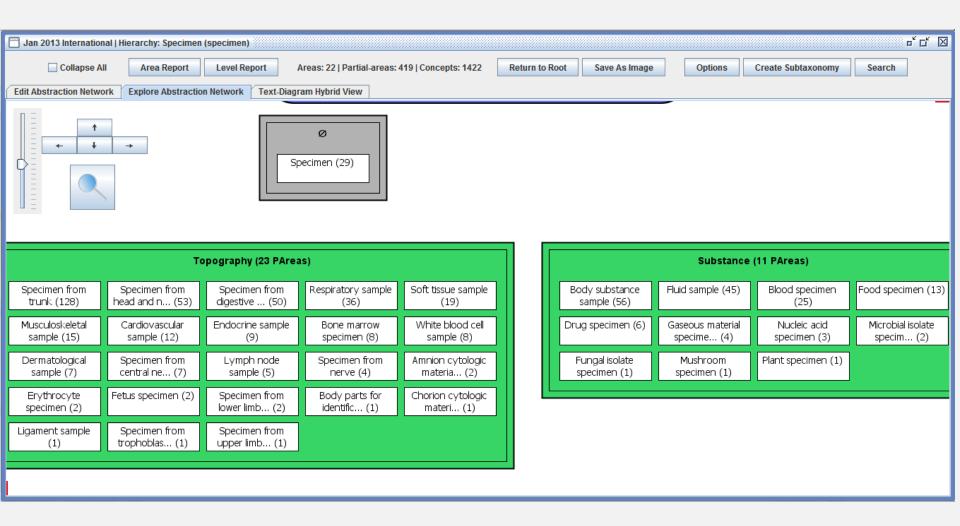
BLUSNO

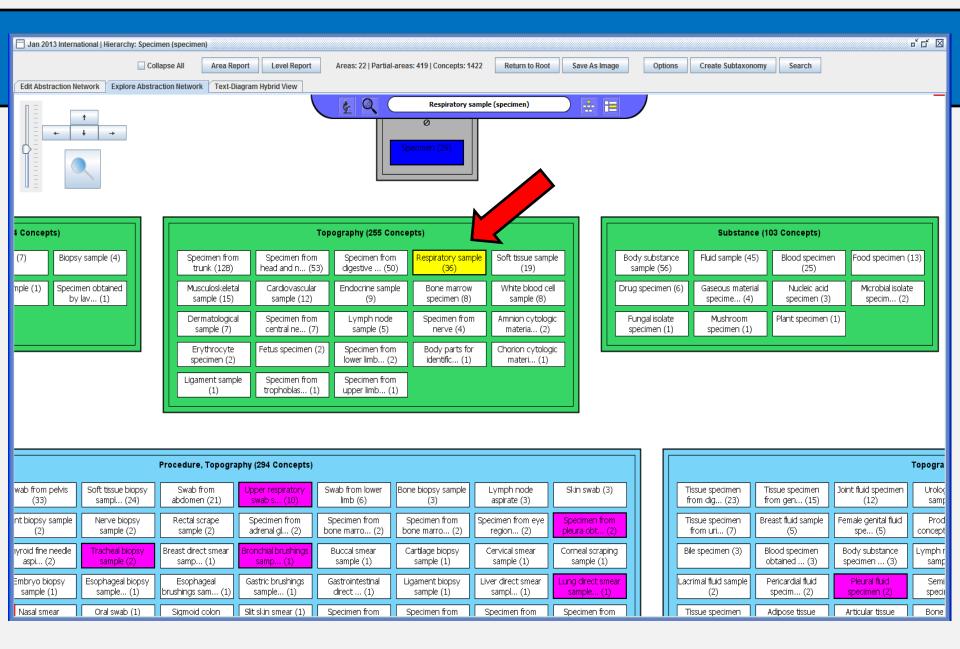
- The Biomedical Layout Utility for SNOMED CT
- A software tool for creating, visualizing, and exploring SNOMED CT partial-area taxonomy summarizations
- An interactive environment for viewing SNOMED CT through the lens of taxonomies
- Every summarizing element provides information about the underlying terminology
- Integrated hybrid text-diagram concept browser

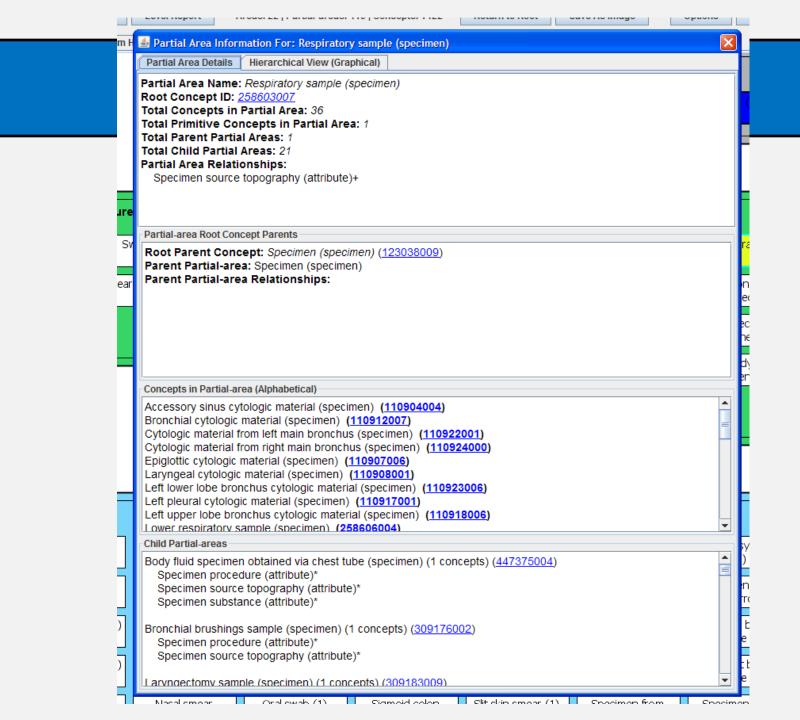


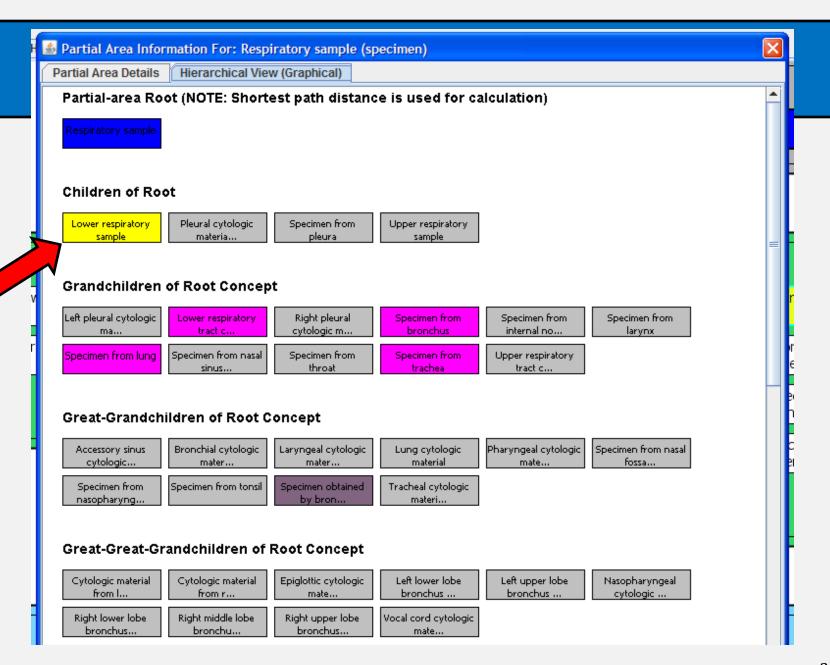


Taxonomy Exploration Window









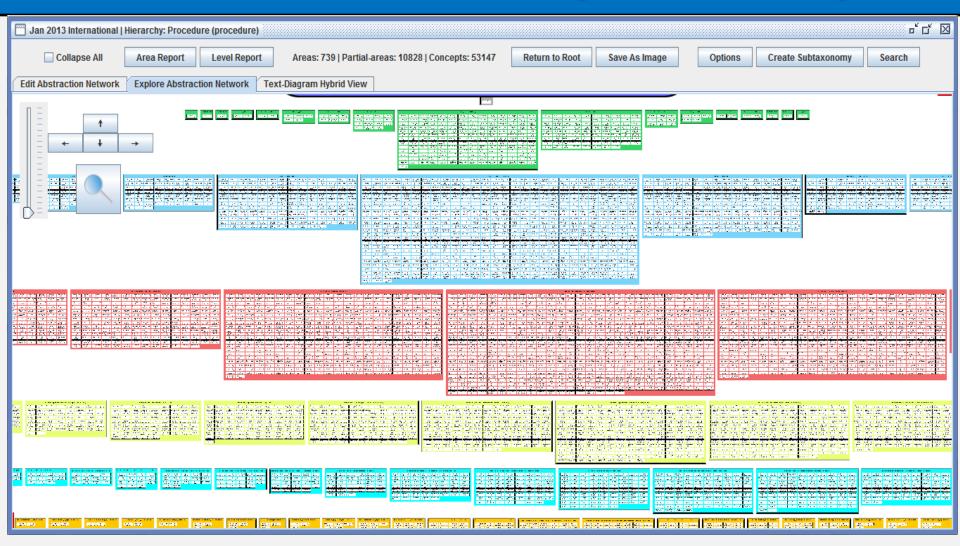
Subtaxonomies for Large Hierarchies

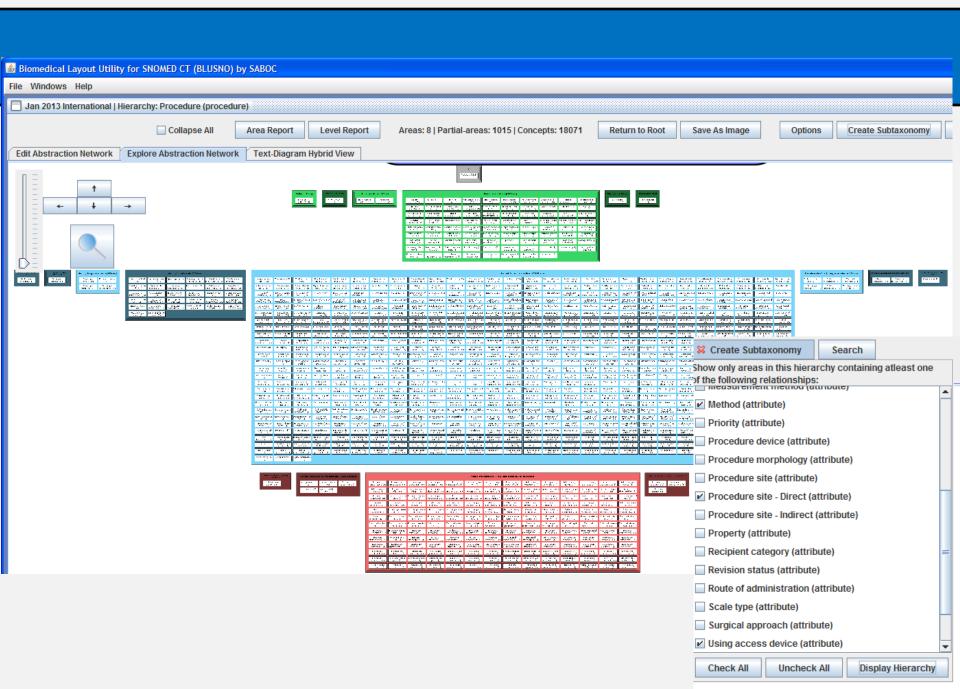
 Procedure and Clinical finding are the largest (and most important) hierarchies.

 Taxonomy summarizations can be created for these hierarchies

 Useful to look at subsets of large hierarchies instead of the whole hierarchy

Procedure Hierarchy Taxonomy



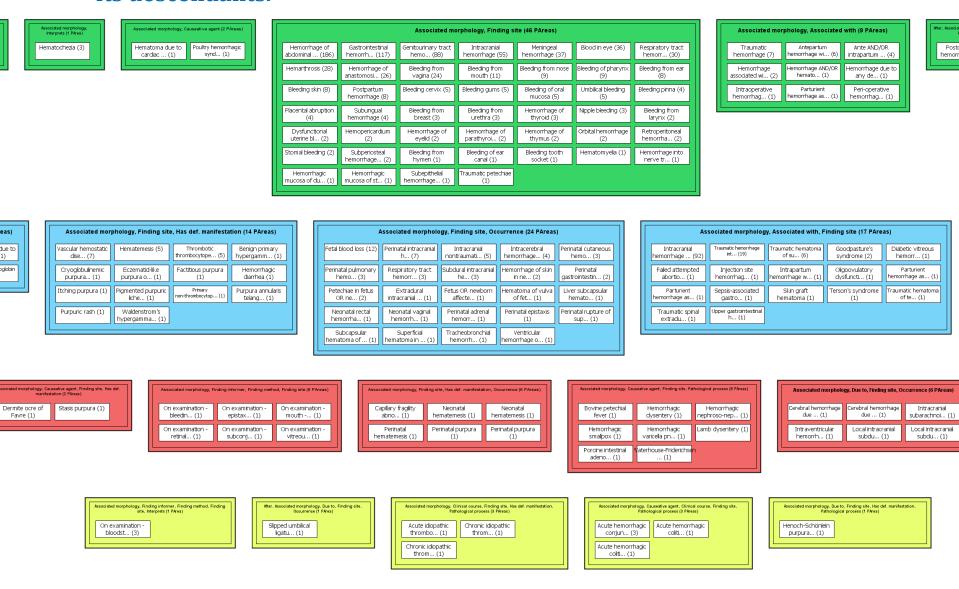


Select a group and view all of its descendants.

After, Associated morphology, Clinical course, Finding site, Has def. manifestatio

Acute hemorrhagic





After, Associated morphology, Due to, Finding site, Has def, manifestatio

Postinfective

Henoch-Sch... (1)

Associated morphology, Clinical course, Due to, Finding site, Has def. manifestation

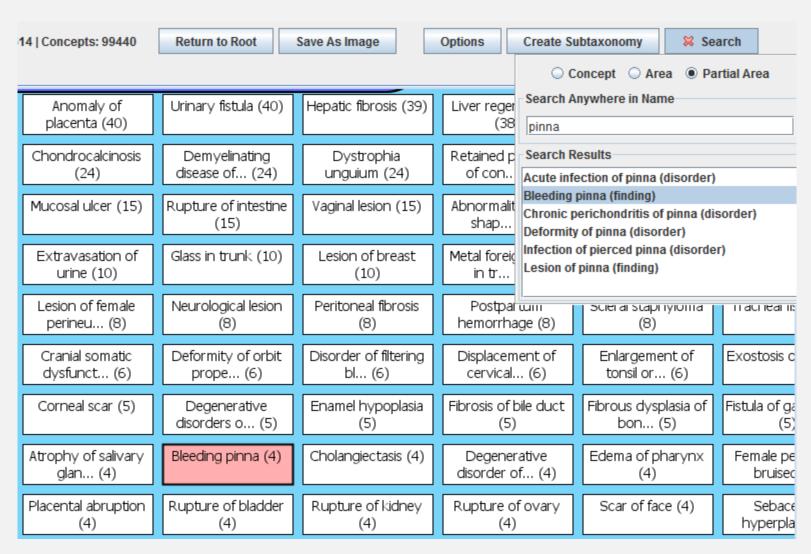
Acute hemorrhagic

BLUSNO Usage Example

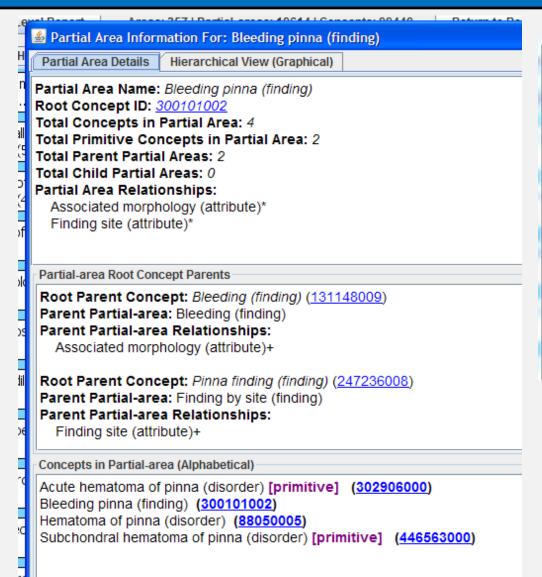
 A medical doctor is treating a boxer who has a recurring hematoma of the pinna due to many hits to the ear

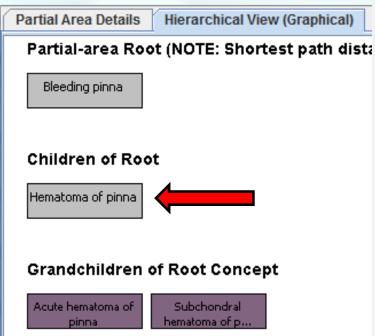
 He or she uses an EHR backed by SNOMED CT to report the patient's chronic hematoma of the pinna but cannot find the diagnosis under Hematoma of pinna

Finding Pinna Diagnoses

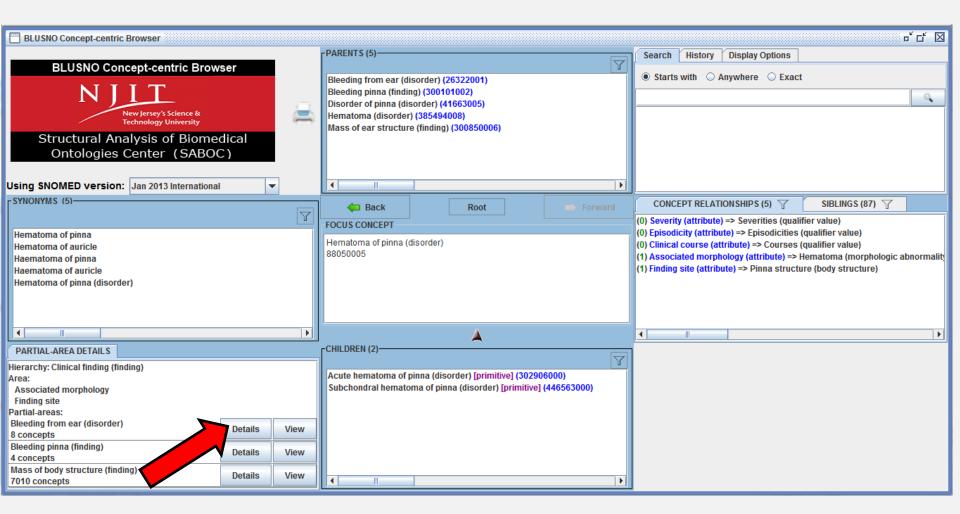


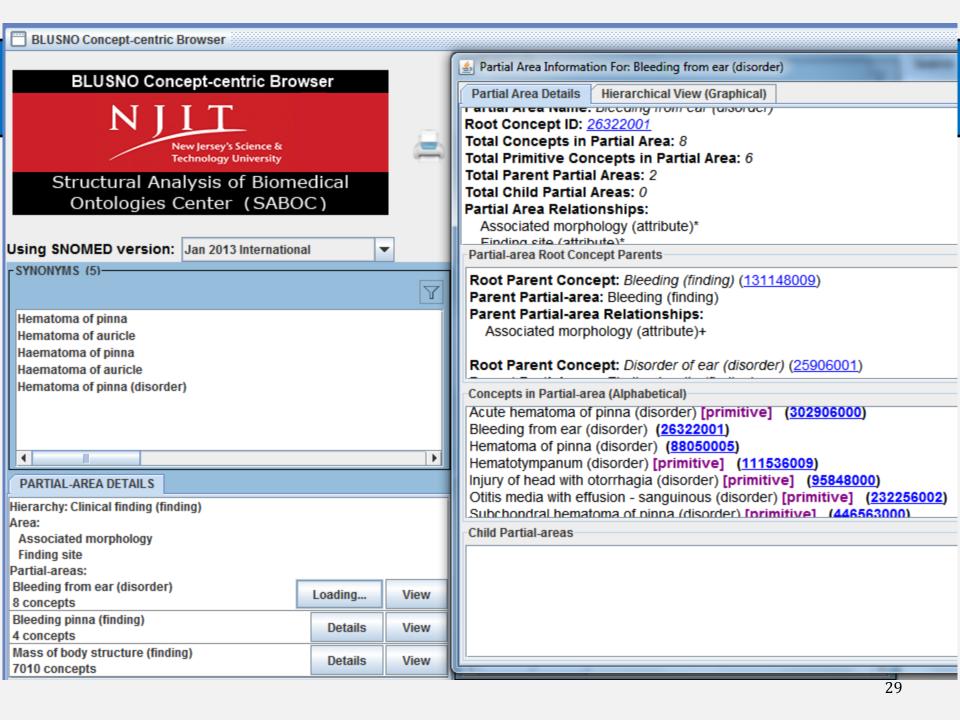
Investigating Bleeding pinna



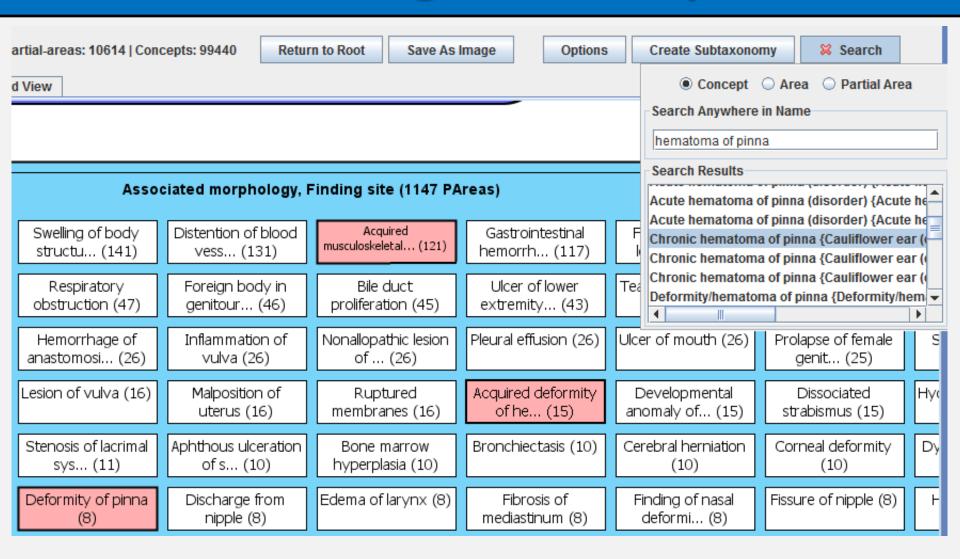


Concept Browser





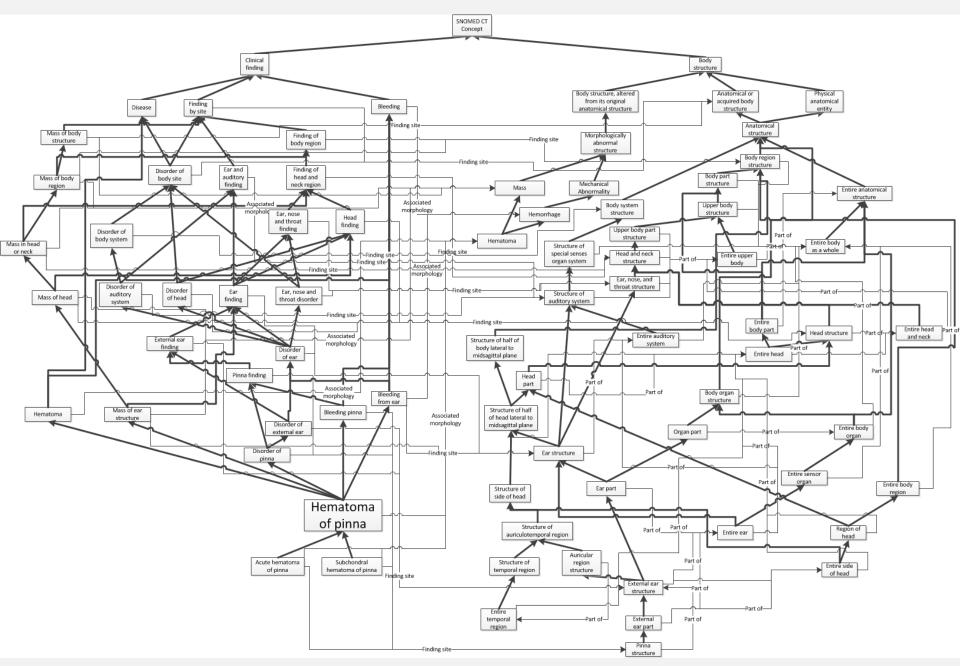
Searching for Concepts



Taxonomies for Quality Assurance

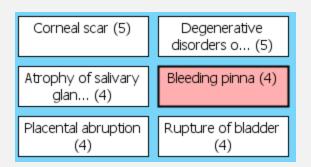
 Nearly eight years of research has shown taxonomies support QA of SNOMED CT.

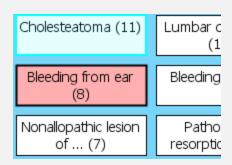
- BLUSNO supports QA by enabling identification of groups of concepts more likely to have errors.
 - Small partial-areas
 - Concepts that overlap between two or more partial-areas



Chronic hematoma of pinna?

- Exists in SNOMED CT but as a synonym for Cauliflower ear
- Uncovered using the taxonomy when reviewing SNOMED CT's bleeding concepts
- Hematoma of pinna is an overlapping concept in small groups





Identifying overlapping concepts

Hemorrhage of abdomi(39)	Intracranial hemorrh(32)	Genitourinary tract(30)	Gastrointestinal hem(22)	Respiratory tract he(14)	Meningeal hemorrhage(14)	Bleeding from mouth (6)	Bleeding skin (5)	Bleeding from ear (5)
Postpartum hemorrhag(4)	Umbilical bleeding (4)	Bleeding gums (3)	Bleeding cervix (3)	Bleeding of pharynx (2)	Subungual hemorrhage(2)	Bleeding from nose (2)	Bleeding of oral muc(1)	Bleeding pinna (1)
Hematoma of kidney (5)	Bladder hemorrhage (4)	Placenta previa with(3)	Third stage hemorrha(3)	Hematoma of uterus (3)	Vaginal hematoma (2)	Hematometra (2)	Hemorrhage of prosta(2)	Hematoma of seminal(2)
Hemorrhage of kidney(2)	Hematoma of fallopia(1)	Non-menstrual vagina(1)	Hemorrhage from uret(1)	Concealed accidental(1)	Hematoma of prostate(1)	Hematoma of bladder(1)	Partial placenta pre(1)	Couvelaire uterus (1)
Hematoma of vas defe(1)	Hematoma of vagina d(1)	Marginal placenta pr(1)	Hemorrhage of semina(1)	Hemorrhage of vas de(1)	Intervillous hemorrh(1)	Hemorrhage into ovar(1)	Hematoma of ureter	Hematoma of broad li(1)
Hemorrhage of fallop(1)	Marginal placental h(1)	Mixed accidental hem(1)	Transplacental hemor(1)	Gastric hemorrhage (18)	Lower gastrointestin(16)	Duodenal hemorrhage (13)	Hematoma of anus (2)	Hematoma of ileum (1)
Hemorrhagic duodenit(1)	Rectal hematoma (1)	Stomach hematoma (1)	Gastric ulcer with h(1)	Hemorrhagic gastroen(1)	Duodenal hematoma (1)	Acute gastric ulcer (1)	Small intestinal hem(1)	Chronic lower gastro(1)
Canine hemorrhagic g(1)	Hematoma of jejunum (1)	Gastric ulcer with h <mark>(1)</mark>	Gastric ulcer with h(1)	Colonic hematoma (1)	Cecal hematoma (1)	Appendix hematoma (1)	Acute gastric ulcer (1)	Duodenal ulcer with(1)
Acute gastric ulcer (1)	Mallory-Weiss syndro(1)	Peripancreatic hemat(1)	Subarachnoid intracr(6)	Hemorrhage of intrac(4)	Subdural intracrania(2)	Subdural intracrania(2)	Epidural intracrania(2)	Epidural intracrania(2)
Cerebromeningeal hem(1)	Non-traumatic intrac(1)	Subpial intracranial(1)	Hemorrhage in optic(1)	Non-traumatic extrad(1)	Delayed AND/OR secon(3)	Atonic postpartum he(1)	Hematoma of prepuce (1)	Gastrointestinal ana(1)
Esophageal anastomot(1)	Epistaxis (6)	Pharyngeal hemorrhag(6)	Bronchial anastomoti(1)	Nasal septal hematom(1)	Vocal cord hematoma (1)	Hemorrhage from aden(1)	Hematoma of gingivae(1)	Hematoma of intraora(1)
Hemorrhagic stomatit(1)	Hematoma of buccal	Subungual hematoma,(1)	Subungual hematoma,(1)	Hematoma of pinna (3)				

Domain Experts Weight In

- Chronic hematoma of pinna should not be a synonym of Cauliflower ear
 - Cauliflower ear is a physical deformity, potentially caused by a hematoma of the pinna
 - Not a hematoma of the pinna, which is why it is (correctly) not hierarchically related to hematoma of pinna
- Proposed solution: Create a *Chronic hematoma* of pinna concept and relate Cauliflower ear to it

Future Work

- Implement new types of summarizations for SNOMED CT
 - Hierarchies without relationships
 - Large partial-areas
- Enhanced functionality
 - Provide more information about the taxonomy
 - Highlight concepts more likely to contain errors
- Public release
 - Access is currently by request or invite

Conclusions

 Partial-area taxonomies summarize the content and structure of SNOMED CT.

 BLUSNO is a tool for creating, visualizing, and exploring partial-area taxonomies

BLUSNO can support QA of SNOMED CT

Acknowledgements

- Partially supported by the NIH ARRA grant R01 LM008912-S2.
- David Daudelin, William Collins, and the rest of our student developers.

For Access Contact cro3@njit.edu