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## Briefing Note for the Member Forum December 2019

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### Content Improvements in the Substance and Product Hierarchies

#### Retiring allergy/pseudoallergy grouper concepts in the Substance hierarchy

#### Purpose

This is one of a series of briefing notes related to Content Improvements in the Substance and Product Hierarchies.

The purpose of this briefing note is to communicate to SNOMED CT Members of the plans for retiring allergy/pseudoallergy grouper concepts in the Substance hierarchy.

#### Background

- The Allergy CRG made a recommendation in December 2017 for retiring allergy/pseudoallergy grouper concepts in the Substance hierarchy. The decision for retiring these concepts was based on
  - The CRGs consensus that these groupers were very general and were not clinically useful, especially in terms of predicting cross reactivity within the group
  - Allergen classes (as opposed to just substances) have been used only infrequently for the modeling of allergies
  - Difficulty identifying which substances are allergens (or pseudoallergens) and maintaining this on an ongoing basis
  - Difficulty identifying children of certain allergen classes based on cultural differences e.g Food allergen can have different children in different countries
- A [Briefing note to the Member forum](#) (submitted on 2018-Oct-03) on changes to the modeling of hypersensitivity, allergy and pseudoallergy content published in October 2018 by Allergies project, indicating:

- "The following top level groupers/Allergen classes in substance hierarchy were retired in the January 2019 release:
  - 414052000 | Drug allergen by structure|
  - 414057006 | Drug pseudoallergen|
  - 414053005 | Drug allergen or pseudoallergen|
  - 414058001 | Drug pseudoallergen by function|
- Other top-level groupers (as specified in [Allergies-19](#)) will be considered for inactivation in the future"

## Proposed Alternative Approach

Creation of Reference sets for allergen groupers at National level

## 2020 July Release Plan

- The remaining top-level allergy/pseudoallergy groupers are considered for inactivation in this release:
  - 406455002 | Allergen class
  - 413477004 | Allergen or pseudoallergen
  - 406463001 | Drug allergen
  - 414284002 | Food allergen or pseudoallergen
  - 406465008 | Food allergen
  - 414287009 | Food pseudoallergen
  - 406472009 | Animal protein and epidermal allergen
  - 406473004 | Contact allergen
  - 410980008 | Dust allergen
  - 709759000 | Helminth antigen
  - 406470001 | Insect allergen
  - 406468005 | Microorganism allergen
  - 406467000 | Mite allergen
  - 406469002 | Occupational allergen
  - 406464007 | Pollen allergen

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