

Changes to the descriptions of concepts related to the 2019 Coronavirus Outbreak

Based on recent announcements by the World Health Organization (WHO) ([Novel Coronavirus disease naming](#)) and the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses (ICTV) ([Coronavirus study group](#)), concepts recently added to SNOMED CT related to the recent outbreak of coronavirus respiratory disease have been revised. The WHO has named the syndrome caused by this coronavirus, COVID-19. The ICTV has named the virus "Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2" or SARS-CoV-2.

The Fully specified names and preferred terms (US-English and GB-English only) have been updated to reflect these new names. As the original names associated with these concepts were known to be temporary and there is no change in the meaning of the concepts, these description changes are considered to be technical corrections and do not require the inactivation and replacement of concepts from the January 2020 release of SNOMED CT.

Note that the following changes do not affect clinical meaning, nor the SNOMED CT concept ID available to users. All changes will be included in the July 31, 2020 SNOMED CT International Edition release.

SCTID	Description type	Original description	New description
840533007	Fully specified name	2019 novel coronavirus (organism)	Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (organism)
840533007	Preferred term	2019-nCoV	SARS-CoV-2
840536004	Fully specified name	Antigen of 2019 novel coronavirus (substance)	Antigen of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (substance)
840536004	Preferred term	Antigen of 2019-nCoV	Antigen of SARS-CoV-2
840534001	Fully specified name	2019 novel coronavirus vaccination (procedure)	Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 vaccination (procedure)
840534001	Preferred term	2019-nCoV vaccination	SARS-CoV-2 vaccination
840535000	Fully specified name	Antibody to 2019 novel coronavirus (substance)	Antibody to severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (substance)
840535000	Preferred term	Antibody to 2019-nCoV	Antibody to SARS-CoV-2
840546002	Fully specified name	Exposure to 2019 novel coronavirus (event)	Exposure to severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (event)
840546002	Preferred term	Exposure to 2019 novel coronavirus	Exposure to SARS-CoV-2
840539006	Fully specified name	Disease caused by 2019 novel coronavirus (disorder)	Disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (disorder)
840539006	Preferred term	Disease caused by 2019-nCoV	COVID-19
840544004	Fully specified name	Suspected disease caused by 2019 novel coronavirus (situation)	Suspected disease caused by severe acute respiratory coronavirus 2 (situation)
840544004	Preferred term	Suspected disease caused by 2019-nCoV	Suspected disease caused by SARS-CoV-2

All previous descriptions related to these concepts have been retained to facilitate searching and mapping to descriptions that may have been used prior to these term changes.

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