

Change of Parent for Chronic fatigue syndrome in SNOMED CT

In SNOMED CT, the lead term is Concept: *SCTID: 52702003 Chronic fatigue syndrome (disorder)*. *Benign myalgic encephalomyelitis* and *ME - Myalgic encephalomyelitis* are listed under *Synonyms*.

Brief history of CFS, ME, and PVFS in SNOMED CT for context for this change:

In SNOMED CT terminology system, disease and disorder terms aren't organized into chapters according to body system or aetiology, as they are in ICD-10 and ICD-11. Instead, terms are defined by a hierarchical relationship of parent and children concepts (or supertypes and subtypes).

Prior to July 2015, *Chronic fatigue syndrome* and its *Synonym* terms had been assigned two parents: *Multisystem disorder*; and *Mental disorder*.

Following discussions in 2014 between the Countess of Mar, NHS Digital (then HSCIC) and SNOMED International it was agreed that the *Mental disorder* parent would be removed from *Chronic fatigue syndrome*. This change was implemented for the July 2015 release.

Postviral fatigue syndrome had been listed under *Children* to CFS. But for the July 2015 release, PVFS was assigned its own SCTID code and relocated under new parent: *Post-viral disorder*, under parent: *Post-infectious disorder* (a change that had not been requested by the Countess of Mar).

The Multisystem disorder Parent was retired for the January 2018 release:

In 2017, SNOMED CT terminology managers decided that the concept: *Multisystem disorder* was not sufficiently specific for the purposes of their system and that the term should be inactivated (retired).

There were 90 *Children* disease and disorder terms under *SCTID: 281867008 Multisystem disorder* and its removal had implications for all 90 terms — not just for CFS and its *Synonym* terms.

Many of these 90 *Children* were assigned a more specific parent but a few, including CFS, were not.

(A small number of these 90 Children terms were retired from the system altogether because they were historical terms, duplicated terms, or considered ambiguous and unsuitable for inclusion.)

The removal of its *Multisystem disorder* parent left CFS without a body system or aetiology parent. Now, its only parents were:

Clinical finding (finding) > Disease (disorder)

This was not ideal, but it presented an opportunity to request assigning a more specific parent to CFS.

In February 2018, a request and rationale for the addition of supertype: ***Disorder of nervous system*** to CFS was drafted by Suzy Chapman and submitted by Sonya Chowdhury on behalf of Forward-ME.

The UK National Release Centre entered this submission into the SNOMED CT International Edition's request for modifications portal and monitored its progress.

Following a peer review process, the request and rationale were accepted and the addition of a new supertype for CFS approved for implementation in the July 2018 release of the International Edition.

This change will be incorporated into the next release of the U.S. Edition (September 2018), the UK Edition (October 2018) and all other National Editions, as they release their next updates.

SCTID: 52702003 *Chronic fatigue syndrome (disorder)* is now classified under supertype SCTID: 118940003 *Disorder of nervous system (disorder)*:

Chronic fatigue syndrome for the July 2018 release (v20180731) of the International Edition:

<http://browser.ihtsdotools.org/?perspective=full&conceptId=52702003&edition=en-edition&release=v20180731&server=http://browser.ihtsdotools.org/api/v1/snomed&langRefset=900000000000509007>

Chronic fatigue syndrome (disorder) SCTID: 52702003

The screenshot shows the SNOMED CT browser interface for the concept 'Chronic fatigue syndrome (disorder)'. At the top, there are buttons for 'Release: International Edition 20180731', 'Perspective: Full', and 'Feedback'. Below these are tabs for 'Concept Details' and 'Expression Constraint Queries'. The 'Concept Details' section is active, with sub-tabs for 'Summary', 'Details', 'Diagram', 'Expression', 'Refsets', 'Members', and 'References'. The 'Parents' section lists three parent concepts: 'Disorder by body site (disorder)', 'Disorder of body system (disorder)', and 'Disorder of nervous system (disorder)'. The main content area displays the concept name 'Chronic fatigue syndrome (disorder)' with its SCTID '52702003' and a list of synonyms in English (en): 'Iceland disease', 'Benign myalgic encephalomyelitis', 'Chronic fatigue syndrome', 'Myalgic encephalomyelitis syndrome', 'ME - Myalgic encephalomyelitis', 'Myalgic encephalomyelitis', 'CFS - Chronic fatigue syndrome', and 'Chronic fatigue syndrome (disorder)'. A 'Finding site' box indicates 'Structure of nervous system'. The 'Children' section shows '(0)' children, with the text 'No children' below it.

SNOMED CT

SNOMED CT is a standardized electronic terminology system for recording and sharing symptoms, diagnoses, clinical findings, procedures etc. in primary and secondary care and across other health care settings.

It is considered to be the most comprehensive, multilingual clinical healthcare terminology in the world and is used in over 30 countries. SNOMED CT is the recommended terminology system in the UK, U.S., Canada, New Zealand and Australia.

A number of countries maintain National Editions which automatically incorporate the updated content from the core SNOMED CT International Edition releases but they may also include country specific diagnostic terms. The International Edition and the National Editions release updates twice a year.*

Since April 2018, SNOMED CT UK Edition has been the mandatory terminology system for use in NHS primary care, replacing the Read Code (CTV3) terminology which is now retired. SNOMED CT UK Edition is scheduled for adoption across all NHS clinical settings by 2020.

SNOMED CT codes have been mapped to ICD-10 codes and to ICPC-2e for interoperability.

SNOMED CT does not regulate which concepts should or should not be used in clinical records, but makes concepts available within its system in response to requests from healthcare professionals.

Browsers for the current SNOMED CT International Edition and the National Editions for Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Netherlands, Sweden, UK, U.S. and Uruguay can be accessed here:

SNOMED International SNOMED CT Browser

<http://browser.ihtsdotools.org/>

**The National Editions release twice yearly updates on a staggered schedule and their current content may not reflect the changes and additions in the most recent release of the International Edition.*

The SNOMED CT UK Edition is managed by NHS Digital, as the designated UK National Release Centre. A public browser can be accessed here:

<https://termbrowser.nhs.uk/>

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