

India Patient Instructions Language Extension for SNOMED CT

Release Date: August 31, 2026

Introduction

India is a country of many languages and most of the population in India speak and understand the local language of their region. Although medicine is practiced in English, there is a need to convey some of the information from the health records such as directions on a prescription, consultation notes, and discharge summary to the patients in the language understood by them. Such directions if provided in patient-understandable languages would ensure that the patients benefit as much as possible from the treatment prescribed to them.

The multilingual support feature of SNOMED CT can be leveraged to attach terms in multiple languages to the same clinical concept with a single unique identifier. The clinical terminology, hence, can be extended to support multiple synonyms in multiple languages for use in Electronic Health Record (EHR).

To facilitate support of patient-understandable terms during printing and sharing of Electronic Health Records, National Resource Centre for EHR Standards (NRCeS), a program of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India is providing such patient instructions terms as an extension to the SNOMED CT Clinical terminology.

Scope

The current release provides the patient instruction terms in **Hindi, Marathi, Tamil, Urdu, Gujarati, Bengali, and Kannada** language and covers frequency of dose, route of administration, dose units, dose forms, and dosage instructions that are generally given in the Prescriptions.

The language extension package will help healthcare providers input the dosage instructions in English, while the display or print system can show them in the patient's language of choice - currently Hindi, Marathi, Tamil, Urdu, Gujarati, Bengali, and Kannada - without requiring any language processing tool. More language packages are planned to be released subsequently.

Release Summary

The package includes Patient Instructions Terms Refset and Hindi, Marathi, Tamil, Urdu, Gujarati, Bengali, and Kannada Language Extensions to SNOMED CT. Hindi Marathi, Tamil, Urdu, Gujarati, Bengali, and Kannada synonyms are provided for **1001** concepts covering concepts and their relevant descendants.

- <<272123002 | Frequencies (qualifier value) |
- <<284009009 | Route of administration value (qualifier value) |
- <<419492006 | Additional dosage instructions (qualifier value) |
- <<272106006 | Temporal periods of day (qualifier value) |
- <<307157008 | Temporal periods relating to activities (qualifier value) |
- <<420247005 | Dosing instruction imperative (qualifier value) |
- <<408102007 | Unit dose (qualifier value) |

- <<736542009 | Pharmaceutical dose form (dose form) |
- << 732935002 | Unit of presentation (unit of presentation) |

This Extension must be used together with the referenced *August 2026 SNOMED CT International Edition* release.

For any further required terms and concepts coverage, please email at nrc-help@cdac.in

In evidence of any material error, change or correction you are requested to immediately report it at nrc-help@cdac.in

Get Release Files

The package is available to Affiliate Licensees through Member Licensing and Distribution Service (MLDS) and accessed online here:

https://www.nrces.in/services/national-releases#ext_pftextension

For any query, support, or assistance, please email at nrc-help@cdac.in

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