

NZHTS release note for October 2025

17 October 2025

This release note covers the monthly release of new content to the NZ Health Terminology Service (NZHTS) for October 2025.

NZHTS is the health sector's one-stop source of standard terminologies and code sets for high quality digital health records and interoperability. NZHTS is provided by Health NZ as a free service to all New Zealand health entities and their industry partners. Explore and download the content you need.

Learn more about NZHTS and how to use it on our website and [Digital Services Hub](#).

Previously released content

Release date	New content
March 2024	Unified Code for Units of Measure (UCUM)
April 2024	- SNOMED NZ Edition April 2024 release - MedDRA 27.0 - LOINC 2.77 - NZ Medicines Terminology (NZMT) April 2024 release
May 2024	- CVX vaccination codes - Nutrition Care Process Terminology (NCPT) Nutrition Reference Set - NZPOCS April 2024 release - NZ Medicines Terminology (NZMT) May 2024 release
June 2024	- NZPS Observation Vaping Status - Ethnicity code sets version 2.1.0 - NZ Medicines Terminology (NZMT) June 2024 release
July 2024	- Language code system - NHI language value set 99NZREL – Relationship concept mapping table - NZ Medicines Terminology (NZMT) July 2024 release
August 2024	- Unified Code for Units of Measure (UCUM) - NZ Medicines Terminology (NZMT) August 2024 release - Omaha System
September 2024	MedDRA version 27.1

	- NZ Medicines Terminology (NZMT) September 2024 release - Stats NZ classifications (Building Type, Central Product Classification, Country Code, Currency, Dwelling Type, Gender, Industry, Iwi and Iwi-Related Groups, Language)
October 2024	- SNOMED NZ Edition October 2024 release - LOINC 2.78 and NZPOCS October release - NZ Medicines Terminology (NZMT) October 2024 release - Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical (ATC) classification system and Defined Daily Dose (DDD)
November 2024	- NZ Medicines Terminology (NZMT) November 2024 release - Common code tables for use with the national collections
April 2025	- SNOMED NZ Edition April 2025 release - LOINC 2.80 - MedDRA 28.0 - National Occupation List - NZ Medicines Terminology (NZMT) April 2025 release
May 2025	- LOINC Ontology version 1.0 - Domicile code - Address Type - Contact usage - NZ Medicines Terminology (NZMT) May 2025 release
June 2025	- ATC/DDD Code System update 2025 - NZ Medicines Terminology (NZMT) June 2025 release
July 2025	- National Occupation List (NOL) 2.0 update - Iwi affiliation codes V2.1.0 update - Pharmacode with ATC information - NZ Medicines Terminology (NZMT) July 2025 release
August 2025	- Referrals value sets - NZ Medicines Terminology (NZMT) August 2025 release
September	- LOINC 2.81 - NZ Medicines Terminology (NZMT) September 2025 release

See our website for a list of the content released before March 2024.

New content this release

- SNOMED NZ Edition October 2025 release
- MedDRA 28.1
- NZPOCS October 2025 release
- NZ Medicines Terminology (NZMT) October 2025 release

SNOMED NZ Edition October 2025 release

The October 2025 release of the SNOMED CT NZ Edition is the current release. It comprises the August 2025 release of the SNOMED CT International Edition and the October 2025 release of the SNOMED CT NZ Extension.

For all the details, see [SNOMED CT NZ Edition October 2025 release note](#).

This release includes new content in the following areas.

ACC translation table map

The ACC translation table has been extended to further support automated processing of SNOMED coded injury claims for patients in public hospitals.

Example map query to look up SNOMED concept [84114007 | Heart failure |](#) and return Read code (with term code) G58..00:

[https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ConceptMap/\\$translate?url=https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ConceptMap/snomed-read-acc-map&system=http://snomed.info/sct&code=84114007](https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ConceptMap/$translate?url=https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ConceptMap/snomed-read-acc-map&system=http://snomed.info/sct&code=84114007)

Emergency care reference sets

The chief presenting complaint and diagnosis reference sets have been updated as a result of the latest six-monthly SNOMED in ED clinical reference group review in August 2025.

Example reference set query

- New Zealand emergency care presenting complaint reference set
[https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/\\$expand?url=http://snomed.info/sct/21000210109?fhir_vs=refset/71000210108](https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/$expand?url=http://snomed.info/sct/21000210109?fhir_vs=refset/71000210108)
- New Zealand emergency care diagnosis reference set
[https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/\\$expand?url=http://snomed.info/sct/21000210109?fhir_vs=refset/61000210102](https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/$expand?url=http://snomed.info/sct/21000210109?fhir_vs=refset/61000210102)

Health service type reference set

This reference set has been updated in partnership with Healthpoint to extend the SNOMED CT content available for the health directory services used by consumers, health professionals and helplines.

Example reference set query

[https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/\\$expand?url=http://snomed.info/sct/21000210109?fhir_vs=refset/461000210102](https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/$expand?url=http://snomed.info/sct/21000210109?fhir_vs=refset/461000210102)

NZ Breast Device Registry (NZBDR)

The set of SNOMED concepts developed for the New Zealand Breast Device Registry (NZBDR) | Te Rehita Taputapu Uma o Aotearoa has been extended to add body structure concepts relating to the placement of an implant within a breast structure.

NZ Radiology procedures reference set

The radiology procedures reference set has been updated to include the RANZCR (Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists) reference set and the NICIP (National Interim Clinical Imaging Procedure) code set from the UK National Health Service.

Example reference set query

[https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/\\$expand?url=http://snomed.info/sct/21000210109?fhir_vs=refset/121531000210107](https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/$expand?url=http://snomed.info/sct/21000210109?fhir_vs=refset/121531000210107)

Ophthalmology concepts

A set of SNOMED concepts has been developed and promoted to the SNOMED International Edition to support data collection in ophthalmology services.

Systemic Anti-Cancer Therapy Regimen Library

Further concepts representing systemic anti-cancer therapy (SACT) regimens have been added to support the CanShare programme.

CanShare reference sets

Te Aho o Te Kahu | Cancer Control Agency has developed a collection of CanShare reference sets for New Zealand and this content has been further extended in this release. These reference sets provide standard sets of SNOMED CT concepts to use for recording, sharing and querying cancer data in Aotearoa. Each concept in these reference sets has a preferred term in the [CanShare language reference set](#), selected by New Zealand clinicians to standardise the way that cancer data is displayed. These reference sets support a range of cancer data, including key diagnostic components, treatment plans, national registers and screening programmes.

The October 2025 release includes 16 new CanShare reference sets, 48 updated reference sets, 410 static reference sets and 334 new concepts in the following areas:

- **Topographies** for recording the primary site of a cancer. This includes a maximal set of body sites, a high-level set of commonly used body sites, and body sites specific to breast, thoracic, gastrointestinal, female genital, genitourinary, soft tissue & bone, skin, head & neck, central nervous system, endocrine & neuroendocrine, and eye cancers.
- **Lymph nodes** for recording a lymph node site (for pathology or surgery) for breast, thoracic, gastrointestinal, female genital, genitourinary, head & neck, and eye cancers.
- **Cancer histologies** for haematologic, breast, thoracic, gastrointestinal, female genital, genitourinary, soft tissue & bone, skin, head & neck, central nervous system, endocrine & neuroendocrine, eye, and paediatric cancers, based on the WHO Classification of Tumours 5th edition.
- **Grading systems** for haematology and solid cancers.
- **Staging systems (AJCC and non AJCC)** for haematology and solid cancers, including clinical, pathological, recurrence or retreatment, and post therapy or post neoadjuvant therapy staging.
- **Prognostic factors** relevant to staging of solid cancers.
- **Prognostic scoring systems** for haematology, female genital, and genitourinary cancers.
- **Neoadjuvant therapy response scoring systems** for breast, colorectal, and female genital cancers.
- **Specimen collection procedures and specimens** to support all cancer types.
- **Ancillary study tests and results** for a wide range of cancers, to support testing eligibility for new cancer medicines, as well as breast and colorectal cancers.
- **Systemic anti-cancer therapy treatment plans** to support regimen design.
- **Radiation oncology** treatment plans and waitlist data.
- **Additional data** to support national screening programmes (eg, National Cervical Screening Programme) and registers (eg, Breast Cancer Foundation National Register).

Other changes

18 reference sets have been updated to replace inactive concepts with active concepts.

MedDRA 28.1

We have loaded MedDRA version 28.1 and this is now available to users alongside the previous MedDRA version 28.0.

Code system URI <http://terminology.hl7.org/CodeSystem/mdr-28-1>

Value set URI <https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/meddra-code>

Example query:

[https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/\\$expand?url=https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/meddra-code&filter=Abdominal pain](https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/$expand?url=https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/meddra-code&filter=Abdominal pain)

NZPOCS October 2025 release

NZPOCS is built on the LOINC international standard and covers all commonly performed pathology tests in biochemistry, haematology, immunology, microbiology, virology/serology and toxicology.

NZPOCS extends LOINC to include codes for several local New Zealand test types.

This release is based on LOINC version 2.81, dated October 2025.

The value set has the canonical URI:

<https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/nzpocs>

Example NZPOCS query:

[https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/\\$expand?url=https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/nzpocs](https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/$expand?url=https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/nzpocs)

NZ Medicines Terminology (NZMT) October 2025 release

NZMT is our standard terminology for medicines identification, underpinning the NZ Universal List of Medicines (NZULM) and New Zealand Formulary (NZF).

We source NZMT data once per month from NZULM to enable NZHTS to serve simple NZMT code set lookups.

NZF has a fully featured FHIR API for access to NZULM/NZF content for prescribing and dispensing, medicine reconciliation and other more complex use cases.

Refer to the NZMT page on our website for an overview of the NZMT concept model, value sets and example queries.

Upcoming releases

New content in following releases will include:

- SNOMED NZ Edition April 2026 release
- NZ Medicines Terminology (NZMT) November 2025 release
- Aotearoa Immunisation Register (AIR) code sets
- Orphacodes

Links

The FHIR API endpoint for NZHTS is <https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir>. Browse to this endpoint to register as a service user.

To request an NZHTS API key email standards@tewhatuora.govt.nz

You can find all available NZHTS content listed here:

- <https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/CodeSystem>
- <https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet>
- <https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ConceptMap>

See our Github repository for examples of code set lookups using the API. We also have Postman collections to share.

Integration for R users

This release introduces a reusable R utility for expanding ValueSets from the NZHTS FHIR Terminology Service.

- Automates token retrieval via OAuth2
- Handles large expansions using offset pagination
- Outputs tidy data frames ready for analytics
- Fully documented in our [Github repository](#)

Contact us

Please email any enquiries to standards@tewhatuora.govt.nz or join the standards conversation at <https://ehealthforum.nz>.