

## NZHTS release note for October 2023

### 2 October 2023

This release note covers the monthly release of new content to the NZ Health Terminology Service (NZHTS) for October 2023.

Launched in December 2022, 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 a free service, available to all New Zealand health entities and their industry partners.

Learn more about NZHTS and how to use it on the [Te Whatu Ora website](#) and the [Hira marketplace](#).

### Previously released content

Release date	New content
December 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SNOMED CT NZ Edition October 2022 release</li> <li>• National Health Index (NHI) code sets</li> <li>• Health Provider Index (HPI) code sets</li> <li>• HL7® FHIR® NZ Base Implementation Guide</li> </ul>
February 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NZ Pathology Observation Code Sets (NZPOCS) October 2023 release</li> <li>• NZ International Patient Summary (NZIPS) code sets for problems and conditions and for allergies and adverse reactions</li> <li>• MedDRA 25.1 pharmacovigilance codes</li> </ul>
March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ANZSCO occupation codes</li> <li>• ISO country and language codes</li> <li>• DSM-IV mental health codes</li> <li>• Maternity care code sets</li> <li>• NZIPS medication code sets</li> </ul>
April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SNOMED CT NZ Edition April 2023 release with reference sets for the following</li> <li>• Structured pathology reporting of cancer</li> <li>• Health consumer information</li> <li>• Family planning</li> <li>• Minor procedures</li> </ul>
May 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NZPOCS April 2023 release</li> <li>• All remaining NZIPS code sets</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aotearoa Immunisation Register (AIR) draft code sets</li> <li>• CVX and NZVX vaccination codes</li> <li>• Iwi affiliation codes</li> <li>• CanShare value sets for all SNOMED reference sets</li> </ul>
June 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NZ Medicines Terminology (NZMT) code sets</li> </ul>
July 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ethnic group level 1 and level 2 codes</li> <li>• MedDRA version 26.0 pharmacovigilance codes</li> <li>• Read to SNOMED map</li> <li>• NZMT July 2023 release</li> </ul>

## New content this release

New content for October 2023 mostly comes from this month's release of the SNOMED CT NZ Edition, which adds:

- CanShare reference sets
- Assistance and preferences reference set
- Common patient friendly terms reference set
- Female pelvic surgical mesh injury reference set
- Oral health reference sets
- Rheumatic fever reference set

Each reference set is presented as an implicit value set via the NZHTS FHIR API.

This release also has:

- Ethnic group level 3 and 4 value sets

## CanShare reference sets

Te Aho o Te Kahu (Cancer Control Agency) has produced a collection of 298 CanShare reference sets. These reference sets provide standard sets of SNOMED CT concepts to use for recording, sharing and querying cancer data. They are designed to support a range of cancer data, including histology, topography, grading, staging, scoring, treatment intents, disease response and cancer streams.

This release includes 226 new CanShare reference sets and 15 updated reference sets in the following areas:

- Cancer histologies for haematolymphoid, breast, thoracic, female genital, digestive and genitourinary tumours, based on the WHO Classification of Tumours 5th edition

- Topographies for recording the body location of a cancer, including a maximal set of body locations, a high-level set of commonly used body locations, and body locations for specific thoracic and breast cancers
- Grading systems and their values for haematolymphoid and breast cancers
- Staging systems and their values for haematolymphoid, breast and thoracic cancers
- Prognostic scoring systems and their values for haematolymphoid cancers
- Cancer groupings to support clinical workflows
- Data that supports systemic anti-cancer therapy treatment plans, including basis of diagnosis, treatment intent, disease response, dose forms, dose units, and ancillary studies for breast tumours

## **Assistance and preferences reference set**

The assistance and preferences reference set identifies the types of assistance requirements or preferences a person may have when accessing health services.

## **Common patient friendly terms reference set**

This reference set covers the most common health conditions and interventions, each with equivalent New Zealand English and te reo Māori consumer and whānau friendly terms.

## **Female pelvic surgical mesh injury reference set**

This reference set provides clinicians with a standard set of diagnosis codes to capture injuries and complications due to the implantation of surgical mesh to treat female stress urinary incontinence and pelvic organ prolapse. The set is developed and maintained by the New Zealand Female Pelvic Mesh Service.

## **Oral health reference sets**

This reference set identifies coded terms to be captured in an oral health information system to support community oral health services, Māori oral health services and hospital dental services.

## **Rheumatic fever reference sets**

This reference set relates to the diagnosis and management of rheumatic fever related conditions, including acute rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease. The reference set underpins standardised care plans and case management records, enabling nationally-consistent management of cases, reducing the risk of severe rheumatic heart disease and improving health outcomes.

## Ethnic group level 3 and level 4 codes

The approved standard for collecting coded ethnicity data in the health system is Ethnicity New Zealand Standard Classification 2005 v2.1.0, which has four levels.

- Level 1 and level 2 value sets were added to NZHTS in July 2023
- The current release adds ethnic group level 3 and level 4 value sets.

### Code system

- <https://standards.digital.health.nz/ns/nz-ethnic-group-codes>

### Value sets

- <https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/nz-ethnic-group-code-level-3>
- <https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/nz-ethnic-group-code-level-4>

### Example queries

- [https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/\\$expand?url=https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/nz-ethnic-group-code-level-3](https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/$expand?url=https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/nz-ethnic-group-code-level-3)
- [https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/\\$expand?url=https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/nz-ethnic-group-code-level-4](https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/$expand?url=https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/nz-ethnic-group-code-level-4)

## Upcoming releases

Our next release will add UCUM (units of measure) code sets.

## News and education

Thank you to everyone attending our recent Advancing SNOMED CT implementation series.

Register at the links for our next two online events:

- [SNOMED NZ Hui Tuwhera, 10 October 2023](#)
- [IPS-athon at Digital Health Week NZ, 27-28 November 2023](#)

## 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@health.govt.nz](mailto:standards@health.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.

See also [SNOMED CT NZ Edition October 2023 release note](#)

## Contact us

Please email any enquiries to [standards@health.govt.nz](mailto:standards@health.govt.nz) or join our chat site at <https://ehealthforum.nz/c/standards>

