NZHTS release note for March 2023

30 March 2023

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

Launched in December 2022, NZHTS is the sector's one-stop source of standard terminologies and code sets for high quality digital health records and interoperability. It's 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](#).

The content at launch included the SNOMED CT NZ Edition and code sets supporting the National Health Index (NHI), Health Provider Index (HPI) and HL7® FHIR® NZ Base Implementation Guide.

In February 2023, we published:

- NZ Pathology Observation Code Sets (NZPOCS)
- NZ International Patient Summary (NZIPS) code sets for problems and conditions and for allergies and adverse reactions
- MedDRA pharmacovigilance codes

In this March 2023 release, we add:

- ANZSCO occupation codes
- ISO country and language codes
- DSM-IV mental health codes
- Maternity care code sets
- NZIPS medication code sets

Here's an overview of each new FHIR code system and value set in the release.

ANZSCO occupation codes

Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) is used to record someone's professional occupation, where this information is collected for either a consumer or a health worker. (For health workers, we use SNOMED CT to record occupation at a more specific level.)

This release is based on ANZSCO 2022.

The new value set is **https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/anzsco** (this is the value set's canonical URI).

ISO country and language codes

Country codes

Our chosen country code standards are:

- AS/NZS 2632.1:2020 Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions – Part 1: Country codes
- AS/NZS 2632.3:2020 Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions – Part 3: Code for formerly used names of countries

These identical adoptions of corresponding ISO 3166-1 standards are used to record country of birth and country of residence, as well as to code overseas addresses.

We source the code set from ISO Country Codes Collection.

The value set is **http://hl7.org/fhir/ValueSet/iso3166-1-2**.

Language codes

Our chosen language code standard is:

- ISO 639-3:2007 Codes for the representation of names of languages – Part 3: Alpha-3 code for comprehensive coverage of languages

These codes are used to record a person's preferred languages.

We source the code set from https://iso639-3.sil.org/code_tables.

The value set is **https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/ValueSet/iso639-3**.

DSM-IV mental health codes

DSM-IV mental health codes are listed on the Ministry of Health website https://www.health.govt.nz/nz-health-statistics/data-references/code-tables/dsm-iv-code-table

The value set is **https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir/ValueSet/dsm-iv**.

Maternity care

The many SNOMED coded data elements in HISO 10050:2022 Maternity Care Summary Standard can be addressed using implicit value sets. For the handful of others that are non-SNOMED coded, we've created the following:

- Uterotonic drugs administered status code – **https://standards.digital.health.nz/ns/uterotonic-drugs-administered-status-code**

- Skin to skin contact end reason code – **https://standards.digital.health.nz/ns/skin-to-skin-contact-end-reason-code**
- Number of cord vessels code – **https://standards.digital.health.nz/ns/number-of-cord-vessels-code**
- Infant feeding method code – **https://standards.digital.health.nz/ns/Infant-feeding-method-code**

NZIPS

NZIPS is our adaptation of the International Patient Summary (IPS) standard for Aotearoa. NZIPS defines a core personal health data set that is structured and coded for interoperability, is accessible by patients and whānau, and can be shared between points of care. See the NZIPS consultation document for background. The FHIR representation of NZIPS is based on FHIR IPS STU 1.1.0.

In this release, we add two important code sets used in Medication Statement (IPS).

Reasons for starting or stopping a medicine

The value set **http://hl7.org/fhir/ValueSet/reason-medication-status-codes** comprises SNOMED concepts for the possible reasons for starting or stopping a medicine – eg, including indications, side effects and interactions.

The SNOMED CT concepts belong to these classes:

- Drugs not taken/completed
- Drug therapy status

No known medications

The two codes of value set **http://hl7.org/fhir/uv/ips/ValueSet/absent-or-unknown-medications-uv-ips** allows an explicit statement of 'no known medications' that differentiates this situation from 'no medication information'.

Upcoming releases

New content we'll release in coming months includes:

- In April 2023, a collection of over 70 SNOMED reference sets produced by Te Aho o Te Kahu for structured pathology reporting of cancer, plus MedDRA 26.0, UCUM (units of measure) and further NZIPS code sets
- In May 2023, CVX vaccination codes and other Aotearoa Immunisation Register (AIR) code sets plus oral health code sets, more NZIPS code sets and NZ Medicines Terminology (NZMT) content

- In June 2023, the remaining NZIPS code sets plus clinical document metadata code sets.

Links

The FHIR API endpoint for NZHTS is https://nzhts.digital.health.nz/fhir.

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.

Contact us

Please email any enquiries to standards@health.govt.nz or join us at https://forum.hinz.org.nz/c/standards.