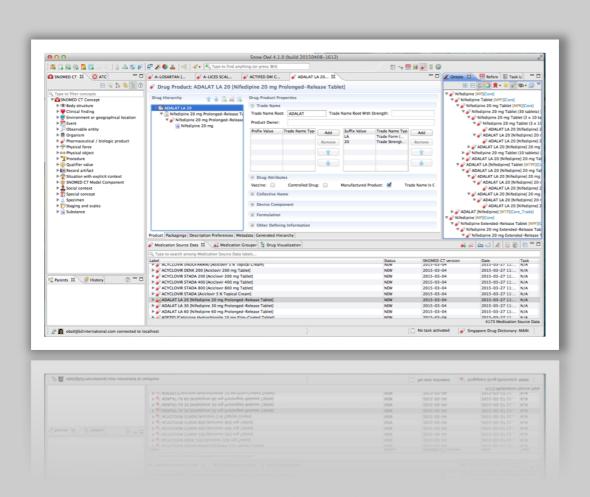


Snow Owl®

Drug Dictionary Module



PRODUCT OVERVIEW

Introduction

Snow Owl is integrated with a Drug Dictionary module that enables pharmacists to record medication data using simple forms and transform it into SNOMED CT's ontological representation. This allows executing semantic queries on the data and also creating sets of drug product concepts that match a particular use case (e.g. prescribing, dispensing, or administration).

Source medication entry and editing

Snow Owl has a dedicated perspective for medication authoring. This perspective provides searching and browsing capabilities for existing drug product data, and also allows entering or importing new drug data into the system.

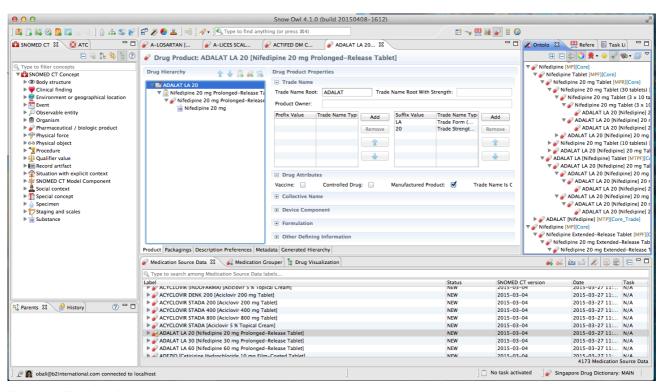


Figure 1 - The Drug Dictionary authoring workbench

A form-based editor assists the pharmacists to record the necessary information from the drug product. The editor uses reference sets that were previously created to support the definition of the product by populating pick lists for attributes like ingredients, dose forms, etc.

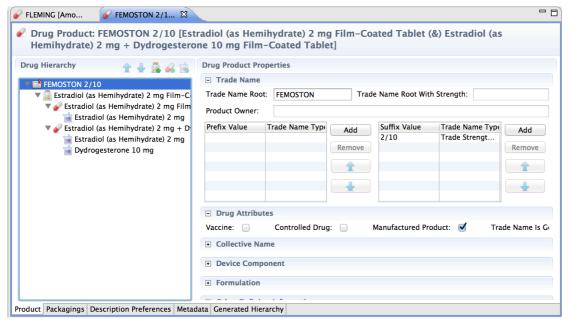


Figure 2 - Form-based editor for complex medications

The editor also allows the configuration of different descriptions that are automatically generated for the drug concepts. Each product can have multiple pack sizes; this can also be set on the editor. In case there are mappings to other classifications (e.g. ATC, the Anatomical, Therapeutic and Chemical Classification from WHO), or national coding schemes, these identifiers can also be entered on the editor.

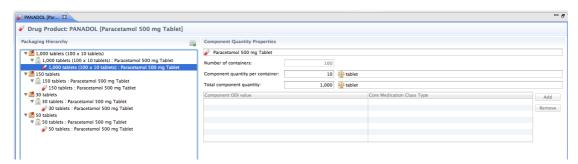


Figure 3 - Multiple packagings on a drug product

In a collaborative environment, each user is connected to a server with a desktop client. During authoring, users are working on isolated tasks where the source medications are reviewed before they are used to generate the SNOMED CT representation of the drug. After the SNOMED CT ontology has been created, another review verifies that the content is ready to be promoted to the main repository. With this process Snow Owl guarantees that the published content has been validated before publication.

Ontology review and operations

The SNOMED CT representation of a medication has a hierarchical structure, where abstract and more detailed drug concepts are connected to each other. These concepts also have connections to other parts of the SNOMED CT terminology, for example connections to substance concepts representing the active ingredient of the drug product. The exact hierarchical representation depends on the actual drug model, and can vary for different extensions/national release centers.

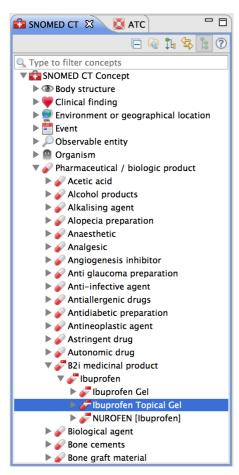


Figure 4 - Generated drug concepts are integrated into SNOMED CT

Individual drug concepts can be viewed in a concept editor, where previously defined modeling rules help to validate the concept attributes and definition.

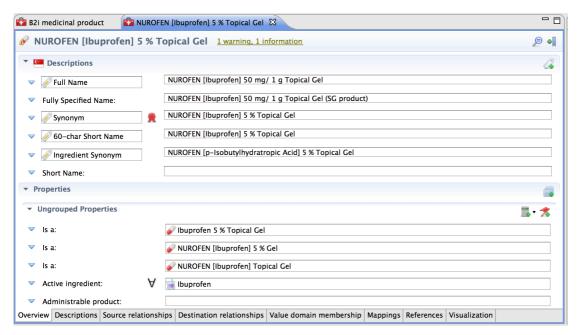


Figure 5 - A SNOMED CT concept editor displaying an auto-generated concept and its descriptions

The versioning of the drug dictionary is aligned with the SNOMED CT versioning standards. Once published, components can no longer be deleted but can be set to inactive, which allows thorough change tracking. This also helps tracking product withdrawals properly.

The generated medication hierarchies are completely integrated into SNOMED CT and can be published together with SNOMED CT to create a national extension, or can be used to create code sets for different purposes.

The Extended SNOMED CT Compositional Grammar (ESCG) is a query language, specifically suited for querying SNOMED CT content by attributes. This language allows querying the drug ontology, and retrieving drugs by attributes. For example, it is possible to create sets for branded products, injections, or analgesics.

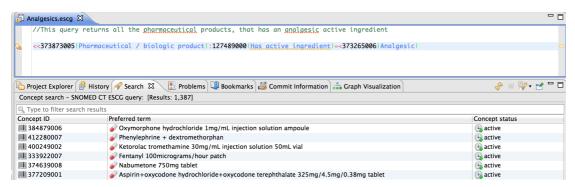


Figure 6 - Semantic queries can be run on SNOMED CT content

The advantage of these query-based sets is that they can be automatically updated when the ontology is updated with a new drug, and there is no need to manually select the new additions – leaving less room for human error. These sets can be published in a configurable spreadsheet format.

Online access

Besides creating document-based publications, the Drug Dictionary data is also published online. A simple, easy-to-use web browser allows external users to browse through the drug dictionary, and – if they are provided with the necessary permissions – download content for local use.

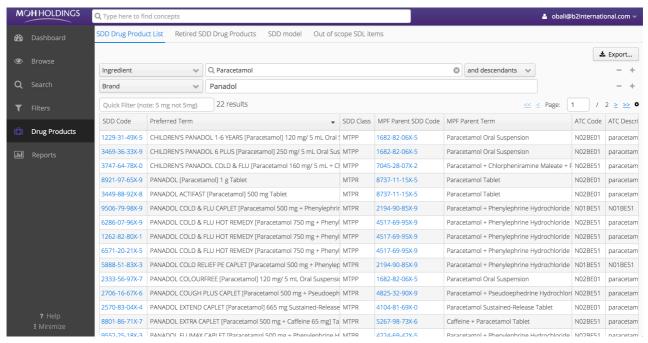


Figure 7 - Browsing published drug products by ingredient and brand name

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The following pages provide a more detailed explanation of the core features in Snow Owl's Drug Dictionary module.

Drug Dictionary Perspective

Snow Owl provides various perspectives that organize the necessary editors and views to support different tasks. The drug dictionary perspective displays the SNOMED CT hierarchical navigator and the reference set navigator, while the main focus remains the medication source data navigator and editor. There are a number of supporting views to allow handling workflow, looking up parents or history of a SNOMED CT concept, and a progress view to provide information about long-running processes. To avoid overcrowding the UI, views that do not relate to source drug authoring are hidden. It is possible to open and close any view and customize the perspective for any specific activity.

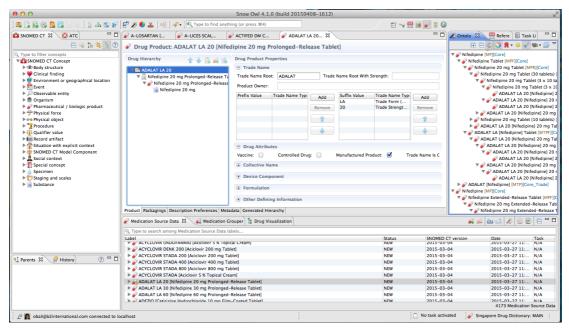


Figure 8 - Drug Dictionary authoring workbench

When working with the Drug Dictionary workflow, the workbench switches automatically to the Drug Dictionary perspective, so the user has all the necessary views on hand.



Figure 9 - Selecting the Drug Dictionary perspective

SNOMED CT navigator and reference set navigator

The SNOMED CT navigator displays all the active SNOMED CT concepts organized into a hierarchy. Nodes can be expanded to reveal leaf concepts, and it is also possible to limit the concepts that are displayed to a sub hierarchy. Typing into the text box above the tree filters it; results can be viewed in a hierarchical or in a flat list view.

To support navigation a parents view allows inverse hierarchy browsing, from the low-level concepts to the top-level categories and the root concept.

Double-clicking a concept in the navigator opens a concept editor, displaying the properties (identifier, status, attributes, descriptions, etc.) of a SNOMED CT concept. Right-clicking a concept in the navigator allows additional actions, such as adding the concept to a reference set, validating the concept, bookmarking it for later use, or creating a new concept under the selected one.

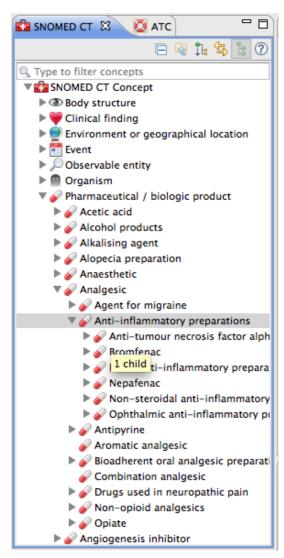


Figure 10 - A hierarchical navigator of the SNOMED CT terminology

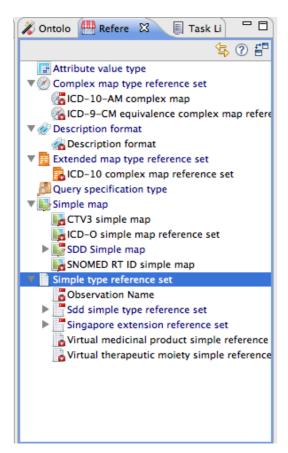


Figure 11 - The reference set navigator

SNOMED CT reference sets can be browsed in the reference set navigator. Reference sets are organized by type, but it is also possible to add sub-categories. Double-clicking a reference set opens it in an editor. For each reference set type, there is a dedicated wizard that assists in the reference set creation. Members can be dragged and dropped into the reference set from the hierarchy navigator, from search results, or intensional (query-based) reference sets can be specified using the ESCG query language.

Supporting reference sets

For editing the drug dictionary, it is useful to build a few reference sets that contain the valid concepts a concept attribute can point to. For example, all drug concepts have an active ingredient relationship. The value of this relationship is selected from a reference set that contains concepts from under the substance hierarchy. Only these previously validated substances can be used to describe the drug products. Similarly, there is such a reference set for dosage forms, units, and more can be created for other attributes, depending on the drug model being used.

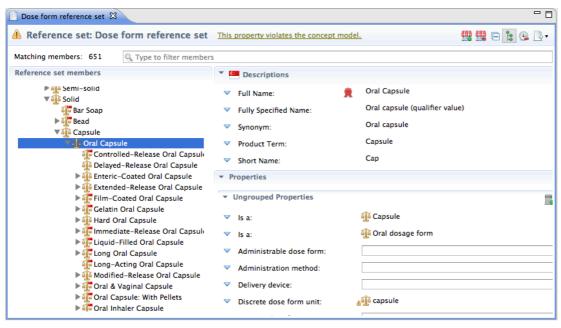


Figure 12 - Dose form reference set for valid drug dosage definitions

Medication Source Data Navigator

The Medication Source Data navigator allows reviewing the drug products that have been entered into the system. Besides the description, the associated packagings are also displayed. Some relevant metadata, like status, version, and workflow-related information is presented.

A number of actions are available from the toolbar of this navigator, including medication source data creation and deletion, medication source data import and export, ontology generation, and drug and description retirement.

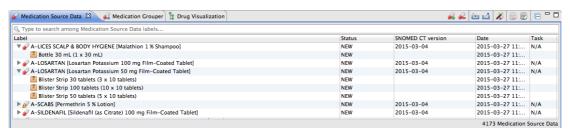


Figure 13 - Drugs with multiple packagings

Quick, description-based filtering mechanism allows looking up source data from the navigator.

lbupro libupro				
abel	Status	SNOMED CT version	Date	Task
▶ 🔗 APO-IBUPROFEN-FC [Ibuprofen 200 mg Film-Coated Tablet]	NEW	2015-03-04	2015-03-27 11:	N/A
► APO-IBUPROFEN-FC [Ibuprofen 400 mg Film-Coated Tablet]	NEW	2015-03-04	2015-03-27 11:	N/A
▶ BIFEN [Ibuprofen 100 mg/ 5 mL Oral Suspension]	NEW	2015-03-04	2015-03-27 11:	N/A
▶ W BIFEN [Ibuprofen 100 mg/ 5 mL Oral Suspension]	NEW	2015-03-04	2015-03-27 11:	N/A
▶ 🔗 BRUFEN 600 [Ibuprofen 600 mg Film-Coated Tablet]	NEW	2015-03-04	2015-03-27 11:	N/A
▶ W BRUFEN [Ibuprofen 100 mg/ 5 mL Oral Suspension]	NEW	2015-03-04	2015-03-27 11:	N/A
▶ BRUFEN (Ibuprofen 200 mg Sugar-Coated Tablet)	NEW	2015-03-04	2015-03-27 11:	N/A
▶ 🔗 BRUFEN [Ibuprofen 400 mg Sugar-Coated Tablet]	NEW	2015-03-04	2015-03-27 11:	N/A
► W BRUFEN RETARD [Ibuprofen 800 mg Sustained-Release Tablet]	NEW	2015-03-04	2015-03-27 11:	N/A

Figure 14 - Filtering the navigator to find drugs with 'ibupro' in their description

Source Drug Editor

In order to create a new source drug definition, or to modify an existing definition, the source drug has to be opened in an editor. Double-clicking a drug in the Medication Source Data navigator opens it in an editor. It is also possible to import a drug that was created by someone else, or create a new drug definition from scratch. The structure of the source drug depends on the actual drug model, but generally all drugs would have an ingredient section where the user can select the required ingredient from a pick-list which is populated from the Ingredient reference set. Similarly, dose form and strength values (including units) can be specified this way.

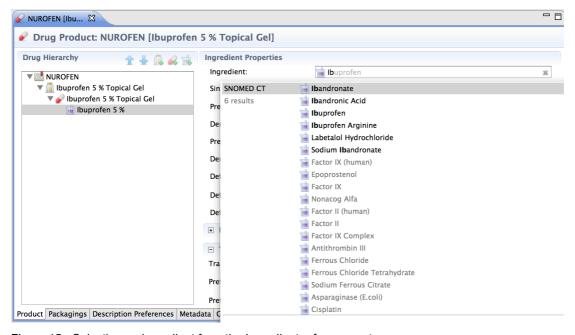


Figure 15 - Selecting an ingredient from the Ingredient reference set

Depending on the underlying drug model, it is possible to add complex, multi-ingredient, multi-subpack drug definitions. The medication source data editor allows adding branding-related information. Branding information is optional; if specified, both trade and generic drug concepts are generated. If no brand information is provided, only the generic drug concept hierarchies are created.

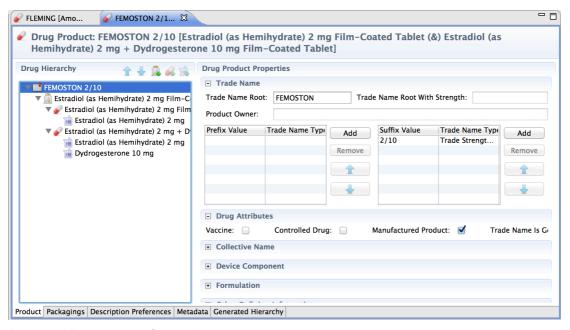


Figure 16 - The structure of a complex drug

A drug product can come in many different pack sizes. The medication source data editor supports adding multiple packagings to a drug product, these will each generate their own sub-hierarchy in the resulting SNOMED CT representation.

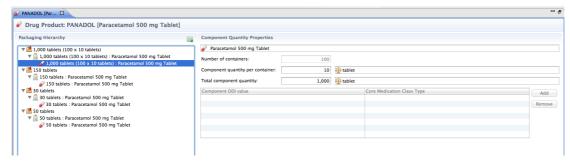


Figure 17 - Multiple pack sizes on a product

The editor also allows configuring the descriptions of the resulting drug concepts. New descriptions of various types and length can be added.

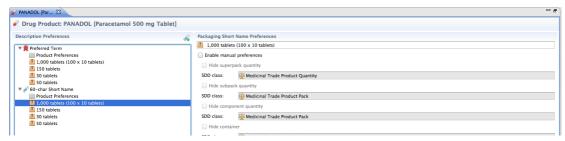


Figure 18 – Setting the description preferences for each pack size

Ontology Preview

During the source drug editing process the user can get immediate feedback about the ontological output of the source drug definition. The ontology preview allows reviewing the expected drug hierarchies, as well as the descriptions that will be associated with the concepts. The author can align the source drug definition in order to get the expected hierarchical representation.

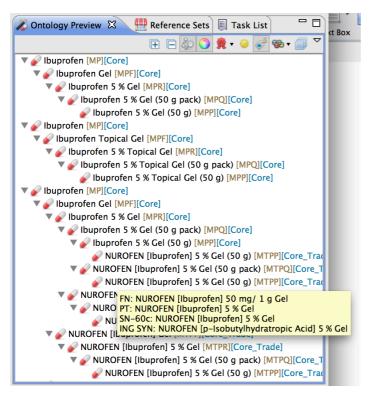


Figure 19 - Ontology preview displaying the hierarchies inferred from the source drug definition

Advanced search on source drugs

Besides filtering the Medication Source Data navigator by the description of the drug, it is also possible to look up source drugs by their relevant attributes, such as trade name, ingredient, or associated external identifier.

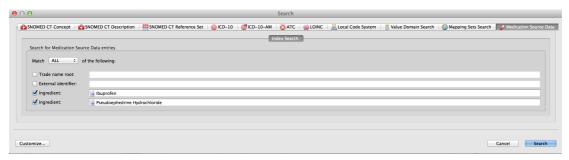


Figure 20 - Advanced search on source drugs

Ontology generation

Once the source drug definition has been completed, the drug is ready for ontology generation. During the generation process, Snow Owl creates the generic, and—if applicable—the trade hierarchies, and fully defines the concepts using the attributes specified in the medication source data editor. The last part of the generation involves running a description logic classifier that checks for equivalencies and validates ontological consistency.

An association is maintained between the source drug definition and the generated ontology, which allows updates to the ontology. In case some attributes change on the medication, or a new description type is required, it is possible to re-generate the ontology, and the associated concepts are going to be updated seamlessly. Similarly, if a description is deprecated, or if the drug is recalled and needs to be inactivated, the necessary concepts are automatically selected and updated in SNOMED CT.

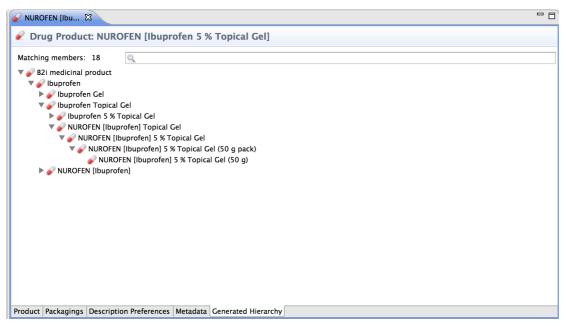


Figure 21 - A medication source data editor displaying the generated hierarchies

The drug hierarchies in the ontology

The generated concepts are integrated into the SNOMED CT hierarchy. They are placed under a selected node in the Pharmaceutical/Biologic product hierarchy. Not only are they tied to the core SNOMED CT content with their is-a relationships, but also to other defining attributes like active ingredient and dose form relationships.

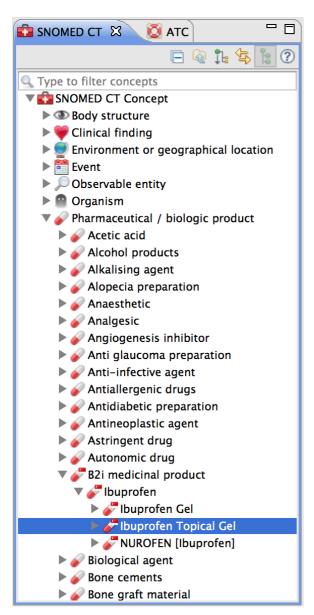


Figure 22 - The generated concepts are integrated into SNOMED CT

In addition to the concept hierarchies, mappings are also produced by the generation process. The external identifiers that were recorded on the source drug editor are added to a mapping reference set.

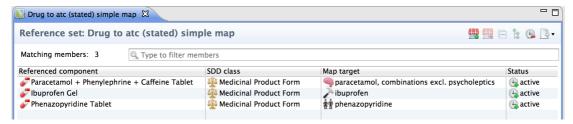


Figure 23 - Mapping reference set populated during the ontology generation

Machine Readable Concept Model

Snow Owl implements and extends the Machine Readable Concept Model (MRCM) from IHTSDO. This model defines the valid attributes and attribute ranges for particular groups of concepts, and additionally, it is also possible to define the necessary concrete domain attributes and descriptions that are required. With these extensions, the MRCM is suitable for supporting and validating pharmaceutical extensions.

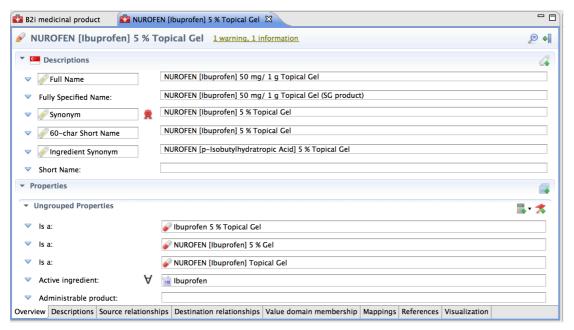


Figure 24 - SNOMED CT concept editor, driven by the Machine Readable Concept Model

The SNOMED CT concept editor is automatically created based on the MRCM. Attributes that conform to the model are displayed and a pick-list assists selecting values from the allowed range. Unsanctioned attributes can also be added; a warning indicates that the concept definition deviates from the formal model.

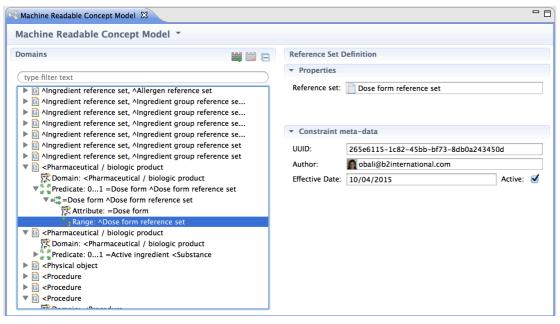


Figure 25 - The MRCM editor

The concept model can be edited in within Snow Owl. This feature is recommended for advanced users only. The above screenshot displays an example for MRCM rules that are applied in the drug dictionary. It adds an optional attribute (has dose form) to the subtypes of the Pharmaceutical/biologic product hierarchy and allows the dose forms to be selected from the Dose form reference set.

Workflow support

Drug Dictionary authoring is integrated into Snow Owl's workflow support. When working in collaborative mode, the Snow Owl clients are connected to an authoring server and to an issue tracking repository (e.g. Bugzilla). Authoring exercises can be organized into tasks, and tasks are assigned to authors and reviewers. When starting to work on a task, the author has to activate it; the activation creates a branch on the main repository. All the changes that happen in the scope of that particular task remain on the branch. Once the authoring work is completed, the reviewer validates the content changes and merges it back to the main repository. This way Snow Owl can guarantee that the content of the main repository has been thoroughly validated before publication.

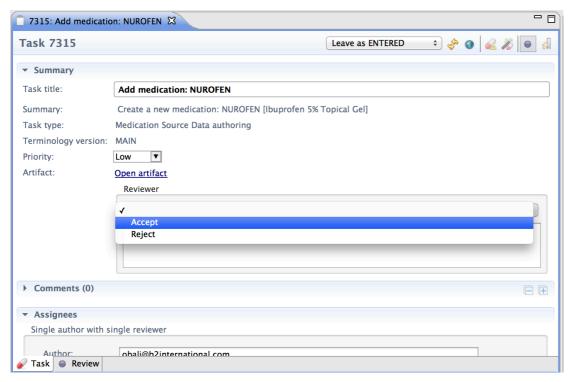


Figure 26 - Reviewer accepts changes on a task editor

In the drug dictionary workflow both the medication source data and the generated ontology is reviewed before the contents are merged to the main repository.

The task editor's Review tab provides a change log to display all the updates that happened on the SNOMED CT repository.

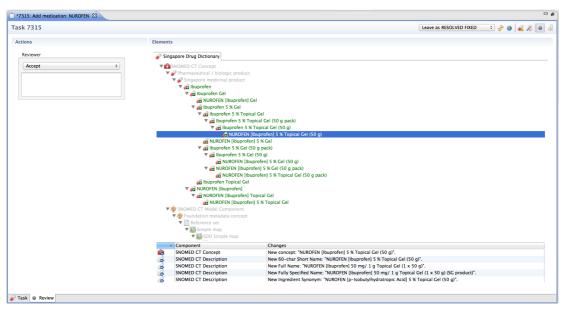


Figure 27 - Review tab displays changes to SNOMED CT

Reference set creation

SNOMED CT supports the creation of reference sets: concept sets that are collected for a specific purpose or that are organized around a particular domain. These reference sets can be created by manually selecting the concepts that one would like to include (extensional selection method), or by specifying a semantic query that returns concepts based on their definition (intensional selection method). Snow Owl is using the Extended SNOMED CT Compositional Grammar as the query language. The screenshot below demonstrates a simple query, where all the subtypes of the Pharmaceutical/biologic product hierarchy are returned, whose active ingredient is a subtype of the Analgesic grouper concept in the Substance hierarchy.

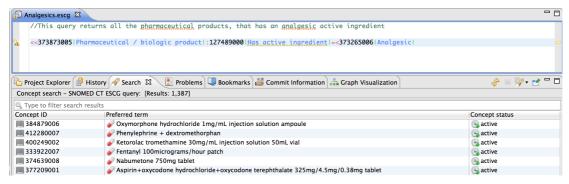


Figure 28 - An ESCG query returning drug concepts

The Query specification type reference set is a collection of these semantic queries (instead of the actual concepts that match the query). The benefit of this reference set type is that queries can be executed again after the ontology has been updated with new content. If new matching results are found, the result set gets automatically updated.

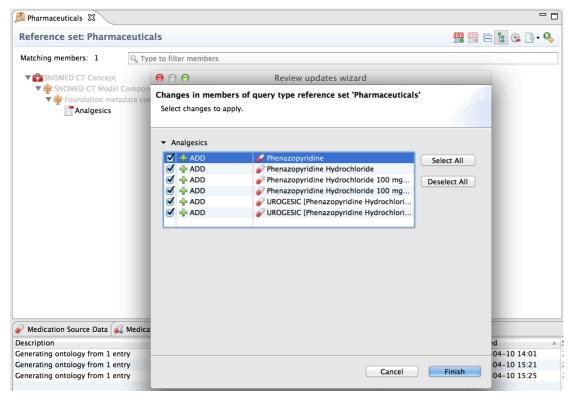


Figure 29 - Automatically updating a query specification type reference set

Reference sets can be published in SNOMED CT's official release formats (RF1, RF2), or in delimiter separated values format.

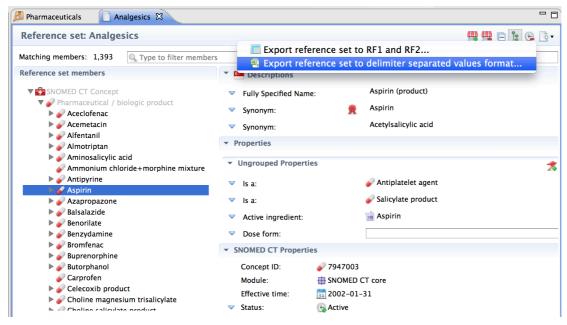


Figure 30 - Selecting export format for a simple type reference set

Exporting and publishing medications

The delimiter separated value publication format enables the configuration of the export output. Users can select the properties of the concepts, which they would like to see in the resulting files. A simple wizard allows choosing and organizing the columns of the output file



Figure 31 - Reference set export configuration wizard

Q- femoston ♠ Home Layout Tables Charts SmartArt Formulas | ‡ | ⊗ ⊘ (• fx osphate 300mg/20mg m/r SNOMED CT core SNOMED CT core SNOMED CT core 329713000 tablet Codeine Phosphate Hydrocodone Tartrate 7 329713000 tablet
8 386188002 Paracetamol + hydrocodone bitartrate
9 329712005 ibuprofen 300mg m/r capsule
10 329715007 indometacin 50mg capsule
11 43038800. Parenteral form butorphanol
12 329714006 indometacin 25mg capsule
13 329754008 indometacin 25mg capsule
14 20320002 Hydrocodone
Sumatriptan 6mg injection solution prefilled
15 422180003 catridge Ibuprofen Sumatriptan 6mg injection solution prefilled
422180003 catridge
329756005 Indometacin 75mg m/r capsule
32972005 Indometacin 25mg m/r tapsule
329785004 Ketoprofen 150mg m/r capsule
Paracetamol 325mg/hydrocodone 10mg 15mL SNOMED CT core 329785004 | Ketoprofen 150mg m/r capsule Paracetamol 325mg/hydrocodone 10mg 15mL 430425002 oral solution 329760008 | Ketoprofen 100mg suppository 329750006 | Ketoprofen 20mg capsule 329757001 | Indometacin 25mg m/r capsule 329780001 | Mefenamic acid 250mg capsule 329790001 | Mefenamic acid 250mg capsule 430417004 | Masal form butorphanol | Ketoprofen 50mg/mL injection solution 2mL 329786003 | monute SNOMED CT core Ketoprofen Somg/ml. injection solution 2ml. 329786003 ampoule 329787007 Ketoprofen 100mg m/r capsule 414430003 Hydromorphone hydrochloride 2mg m/r capsule 329807003 Naproxen 500mg tablet Hydrocodne polistires 10mg/chloropheniremine 414447005 polistires 8mg per 5ml. oral m/r suspension 430311002 Complanyaged form dilydroergotamine mesylate 43268004 Oral form povidone SNOMED CT cor SNOMED CT core

The exported file can be imported into MS Excel or can be reused by other systems.

Figure 32 - Exported simple reference set in Excel

Drug Dictionary Lite - publishing onto the web

Besides document-based publication, the drug dictionary is also published on the web. External users with the right permissions can view, browse and download data from a web user interface.

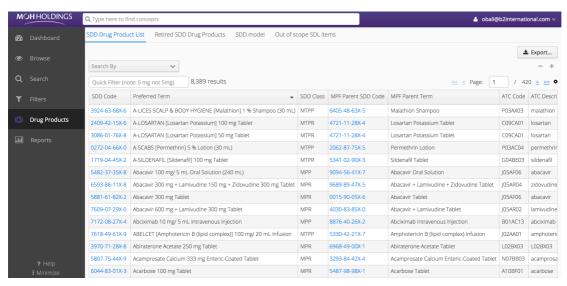


Figure 33 - Drug list view in the Drug Dictionary Lite

The web display is optimized for users that are not necessary familiar with ontologies or SNOMED CT, but would still like to execute meaningful queries on the list of drug concepts. A preset list of search criteria is available to search drugs by various attributes, like brand name, ingredient, dose form or strength.

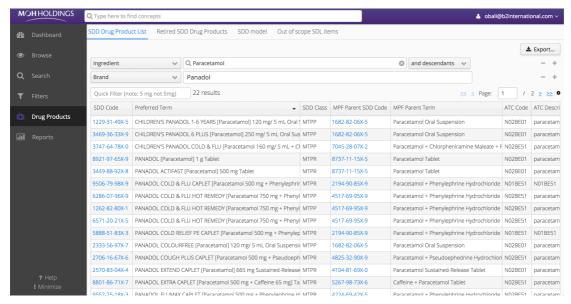


Figure 34 - Filtering the drug list by ingredient and brand name

The web UI also displays additional details of the drugs, and it is possible to review the drug concept's position in the hierarchy.

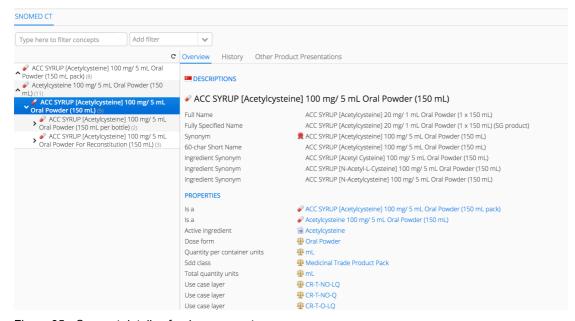


Figure 35 - Concept details of a drug concept

Users with the necessary permissions can download content from the online drug dictionary. It is possible to download the either the full list, or a subset matching semantic query criteria. The format of the downloaded value separated file is configurable. The file can be loaded into Excel for further processing.

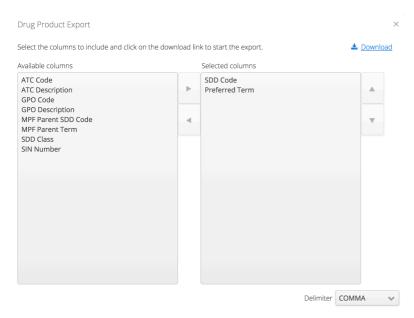


Figure 36 - Configure format of the downloaded value separated file

About B2i Healthcare

B2i Healthcare is a boutique software engineering firm specialized in SNOMED CT and healthcare information standards and exchange. B2i provides products to simplify SNOMED CT adoption and offer software development services to support healthcare IT needs. B2i's Snow Owl technology family is deployed in over 2,500 locations in 83+ countries worldwide.

For more information on Snow Owl visit http://b2i.sg.