

Informational Briefing Note for the Member Forum 9 December 2025

Deprecation Plan for Concept Non Current Indicators

Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to set out the confirmed timelines for the full deprecation of Concept Non Current Indicators, to provide visibility for all users.

Background

Concept Non Current (CNC) indicators are a type of inactivation indicator that are applied to active descriptions, when the concept they are attached to is made inactive. They are intended to allow implementers to show some visual cue to alert users that a description they have searched for relates to an inactive concept.

SNOMED International plans to deprecate CNC indicators in the 2026-01-01 SNOMED CT International Edition.

The proposal to deprecate these indicators explained the rationale for deprecation, which was published to the Member Forum on 17th December 2024, and subsequently revised on 5th February 2025 to accommodate preferred implementation dates based on feedback from Member countries. See:

<https://conf.spaces.snomed.org/wiki/spaces/SIBN/pages/131344114/Concept+Non+Current+Indicators+-+Notice+of+Deprecation>

This Deprecation Plan therefore sets out the confirmed schedule for deprecation, to allow users to prepare for the upcoming changes. Notice was also provided to the community via the 2025 Early Visibility Release Notifications page:

<https://conf.spaces.snomed.org/wiki/spaces/RMT/pages/131958586/2025+Early+Visibility+Release+Notifications>

This deprecation is not expected to have any impact on existing SNOMED CT implementations but will instead simplify the product and reduce associated maintenance costs.

Deprecation Timeline & Notification Plan

The plan is to stop adding these indicators to active descriptions when the concept they are attached to is made inactive. Additionally, all currently active CNC indicators will be made inactive. They will be left in place as inactive components, until they're excised from the release package completely.

SNOMED International proposes that the deprecation of CNC indicators should progress via the following release milestones:

Release	Deprecation Step	Notification Plan
International Edition 20260101	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop adding new Concept Non Current Indicators. • Inactivate all existing active Concept Non Current Indicators, but do not remove them entirely. • Any documentation and training materials to be updated accordingly. 	This plan will be sent to the Member Forum, and also out to the Release category on SNOMED Forums , for visibility
International Edition 20270101	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All existing (inactive) Concept Non Current Indicators to be removed from both Full and Snapshot files in the International release package. • A new package to be created and added to the "Deprecated" folder in MLDS, containing the final state of all Concept Non Current Indicator records. 	These changes will be communicated out to the community via the Release Forum, including a link to the new package in the "Deprecated" folder in MLDS.

Recommendations

Review: This Briefing Note is for information purposes only, to provide visibility of the upcoming changes related to the deprecation.

Andrew Atkinson 2025-12-09