

# International Health Data Standards Development Organisation (IHTSDO)

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### Ownership of SNOMED CT® transfers to IHTSDO®



#### Welcome to the IHTSDO® Website

Welcome to IHTSDO®, the International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation.

#### SNOMED CT®

The comprehensive health care Terminology. Knowledge share in health care.



#### Our new Domain

The IHTSDO® has moved in at the IT-University of Copenhagen. The office is at the 5th floor of the panoptic building, designed by the Danish Architect Henning Larsen.

# International Health Data Standards Organisation (IHTSDO)

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- Non-profit Association in Denmark
  - “Articles” – key enabling document
    - [www.ihtsdo.org](http://www.ihtsdo.org)
  - Charter members from 9 countries:
    - Australia, Canada, Denmark, Lithuania, Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden, UK, USA
    - NLM – the initial US Member
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# Chronology - 2007

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- ❑ March 9 - IHTSDO formed in Denmark
- ❑ April 24 - IHTSDO purchases IP from CAP\* for \$7.8 million; enters into 3-yr support contract
- ❑ April 26 - Public announcement
- ❑ April 30 – NLM contract with CAP ended
- ❑ May 22-26 - IHTSDO – SNOMED Editorial Board/WG transition meetings (Evanston, IL)
- ❑ June 30 – NLM's new contract with IHTSDO in place

\*College of American Pathologists

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# IHTSDO principles

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- ❑ Openness, fairness, transparency, and accountability to Members
  - ❑ Responsible, ethical conduct to ensure long-term viability, value, utility, clinical & technical fitness of terminology products
  - ❑ Collaboration with others to facilitate interoperability
  - ❑ Encouragement of intellectual contributions under terms that permit others to use and distribute their own work
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# IHTSDO - Country Participation

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- Member countries
    - Annual fees based on World Bank GNI values, pegged to current US fee (\$5.5 million in '07)
    - Charter members (other than US) also contributed to IP payment
    - After start-up, new members pay joining fee, as well as annual fee
  - "Sponsored countries"
    - For countries below a GNI threshold, a one-time payment (8 X annual fee) provides permanent rights; can be paid by anyone, e.g., foundation
  - Non-Member countries
    - Annual fee for each user (e.g., hospital) of a product containing SNOMED CT; set to make country membership desirable; cheaper in poorer countries
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# IHTSDO Member\* Rights

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- Use and reformat the International release
- Create national extensions in accordance with IHTSDO standards
- Create derivatives, e.g., subsets, mappings, etc.
- Distribute the international release to "Affiliates" (=licensees) under standard license terms
  - Must distribute in native format, in addition to any other formats
- Continue to use and distribute the last version received if membership ceases

\*In US, NLM

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# IHTSDO Structure

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- General Assembly - 1 vote per member country
    - Initial US member: Betsy Humphreys (Alt. Vivian Auld)
  - Management Board (up to 12 members)
    - Now: 9 members: 1 per member country
      - Initial US member: Andrew Wiesenthal, MD, Kaiser (Alt. Simon Cohn, MD, Kaiser & NCVHS)
      - Chair: Martin Severs (UK) - Deputy chair: Karen Gibson (Australia)
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# IHTSDO Structure

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## □ Executive Officers

- CEO, Chief Terminologist, Chief Technologist, Chief QA Officer

## □ Initial *interim* appointments

- Ulrich Andersen (Den), CEO
- Kent Spackman (USA), Chief Terminologist
- Ed Cheetam (UK), Chief QA Officer

## □ International recruitment for permanent officers

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# IHTSDO Structure

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- 4 Standing Committees
    - Content, Technical, Quality Assurance, Research & Innovation
      - Chairs will be Board members, e.g.,
        - Content: Andy Wiesenthal (USA)
        - Technical: Karen Gibson (Australia)
      - Members will be elected by General Assembly on June 30, 2007
        - NLM solicited US nominations broadly
          - 43 received; 12 will be presented as candidates (3 per committee)
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# IHTSDO Structure

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## Working Groups

- To be established by Committee(s) with Management Board approval
- Participation open to interested parties with relevant background
  - Articles to be amended to allow this, based on input from May transition meetings

## Affiliates Forum

- Open to all licensees
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# IHTSDO Structure

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## □ Harmonization Boards

- Jointly established with other standards bodies
  - Initial priorities: WHO, LOINC
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# "Affiliate" License Terms

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- One license for everyone – e.g., vendors, hospitals, researchers
  - Right to use, create extensions and derivatives, incorporate international release in products
    - No use fees in Member or Sponsored countries
  - Required to check if additional requirements apply (e.g., use of national releases) for use in member countries
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# IHTSDO High Priorities

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- Set up shop
    - Recruit permanent officers
    - Establish Committees, WGs, Affiliates Forum
  - Documentation – current editing policies and procedures, release system, etc.
  - Definition of what belongs in Core
  - SNOMED-ICD relationship
    - Mapping to ICD-10
    - SNOMED-LOINC relationship
  - Medication terminology strategy
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## More Information and pointers to:

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- IHTSDO Articles of association
- Affiliate licence terms (in full or short summary)
- Procedures for updating existing UMLS License or obtaining a new one

Available from:

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/snomed>

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