

NEMESIS V3 Suggested List – eHistory.12 Current Medications

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RxNorm Code Usage Recommendations

RxNorm provides various codes for medications based on the Term Type (TTY). These include but are not limited to: Ingredient (IN), Precise Ingredient (PIN), Brand Name (BN), Semantic Clinical Drug Form (SCDF), Semantic Clinical Drug Component (SCDC), codes indicating the medication strength or concentration or mixtures (Synonym of Another TTY = SY), and many term type dosing options.

To review the RxNorm overview, including an introduction, purpose and examples of RxNorm, and its usage please visit <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/research/umls/rxnorm/overview.html>. To see the explanation of the term types see page three (3) of this document.

eHistory.12 Current Medications

NEMESIS TAC recommends that the RxNorm Term Type identifying the medication by Ingredient, Primary Ingredient, or Brand Name be utilized for the patient's current medications. This includes the patient's home medications or medications being administered to the patient in a healthcare setting (e.g. hospital, nursing home, etc). To document the route, dose, and dosage units utilize the following three elements:

1. eHistory.13 - Current Medication Dose
2. eHistory.14 - Current Medication Dosage Unit
3. eHistory.15 - Current Medication Administration Route

No specific RxNorm code list will be created for eHistory.12 (Current Medications) because of the vast array of medications contained in the RxNorm database.

Licensed “Suggested Lists”

The U.S. National Library of Medicine provides access to the RxNorm code values through the Unified Medical Language System (UMLS). An applicant must accept the terms of the UMLS Metathesaurus License and create a UMLS Terminology Services (UTS) account for access to UMLS datasets and terminology browsers.

More information can be found at: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/databases/umls.html>. RxNorm codes may also be accessed through <http://rxnav.nlm.nih.gov/>

The NEMSIS TAC may only distribute suggested lists with specific value codes from the UMLS system to entities licensed through the UMLS system. Thus, each software developer must seek licensing and provide proof of licensing before gaining access to all of the pre-defined suggested lists available through the NEMSIS TAC.

Access to “Suggested List” Archive Files

Access to suggested code lists will be provided on a special section of the NEMSIS TAC’s SharePoint site. A licensed user will be able to login to the SharePoint site and download the appropriate archive file (RxNorm, ICD-10, etc).

The UMLS license verification service helps determine if the remote user has a license to use and/or distribute certain code sets. If the user does not have a current license, access to the “suggested lists” archive will be denied.

The “suggested list” files will be zipped archives that are automatically created each time one of the licensed code databases is updated in the NEMSIS master data repository.

Viewing and Using the “Suggested List” Archive Files

The downloaded suggested list appears in a pipe-delimited text format. The proper code to utilize for medications is the “RxNormCode”. Please note that the RXCUI, RXAUI and TTY fields are included for reference purposes. These codes allow one to locate the exact code and description in the UMLS Metathesaurus that was selected for inclusion in the suggested list.

The list provides additional fields indicating when a record became active in the NEMSIS TAC’s master data repository as well as the version of the source used for a particular code and description in a suggested list.

Conclusions

By maintaining a single source of these data and making it available internally as well as to our customers, we improve our data quality and consistency. This will reduce reporting errors in data submissions provided it is used as part of our own and our customer’s data management best practices.

RxNorm Medication Term Types (TTY)

From the National Library of Medicine website: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/research/umls/rxnorm/overview.html>.

| TTY | Name | Definition | Example(s) |
|-------|---|--|--|
| IN | Ingredient | A compound or moiety that gives the drug its distinctive clinical properties. The preferred name is usually the USAN name. | Fluoxetine, Insulin, Isophane, Human Gentamicin Sulfate (USP) |
| PIN | Precise Ingredient | A specified form of the ingredient that may or may not be clinically active. Most precise ingredients are salt or isomer forms. | Fluoxetine Hydrochloride |
| MIN | Multiple Ingredients | Two or more ingredients created from SCDF. In rare cases when IN/PIN or PIN/PIN combinations of the same base ingredient exist, created from SCD. | Fluoxetine / Olanzapine |
| DF | Dose Form | A complete list of Dose Forms can be found in Appendix 2 of the RxNorm Documentation. | Topical Solution, Oral Tablet |
| SCDC | Semantic Clinical Drug Component | Ingredient plus strength—see section on Rules and Conventions, below, for units of measurement and for rules pertaining to the calculation of strengths. | Fluoxetine 4 MG/ML |
| SCDF | Semantic Clinical Drug Form | Ingredient plus dose form. | Fluoxetine Oral Solution |
| SCD | Semantic Clinical Drug | Ingredient plus strength and dose form. | Fluoxetine 4 MG/ML Oral Solution |
| BN | Brand Name | A proprietary name for a family of products containing a specific active ingredient. | Prozac |
| SBDC | Semantic Branded Drug Component | Branded ingredient plus strength. | Fluoxetine 4 MG/ML [Prozac] |
| SBDF | Semantic Branded Drug Form | Branded ingredient plus dose form. | Fluoxetine Oral Solution [Prozac] |
| SBD | Semantic Branded Drug | Ingredient, strength, and dose form plus brand name. | Fluoxetine 4 MG/ML Oral Solution [Prozac] |
| SY | Synonym of another TTY | Given for clarity. | Prozac 4 MG/ML Oral Solution |
| TMSY | Tall Man Lettering synonym of another TTY | Given to distinguish between commonly confused drugs. | FLUoxetine 10 MG Oral Capsule [PROzac] |
| BPCCK | Brand Name Pack | Branded Drug Delivery Device. | {12 (Ethinyl Estradiol 0.035 MG / Norethindrone 0.5 MG Oral Tablet) / 9 (Ethinyl Estradiol 0.035 MG / Norethindrone 1 MG Oral Tablet) / 7 (Inert Ingredients 1 MG Oral Tablet) } Pack [Leena 28 Day] |
| GPCK | Generic Pack | Generic Drug Delivery Device. | {11 (varenicline 0.5 MG Oral Tablet) / 42 (varenicline 1 MG Oral Tablet) } Pack |