

# ArcBITS Newsletter

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## ArcSys Hot Tip

A new utility is available to switch your site from the abbreviated list of languages to the White House approved list (seriously). First of all, you must be a super user and make certain no one is in the patient registration screen. From a menu, type in the command UPDATELANGUAGE. This will update the pull down list and convert all your patients to the approved codes like ENG-ENGLISH or SPA-SPANISH.

## Forecast: Blizzard

One of the requirements of Meaningful Use Stage 2 (MU2) is the utilization of SNOMED-CT (Systemitized Nomenclature of MEDicine Clinical Terms) in defining the patient problem list and family history.

It is a systematically organized computer processable collection of medical terms providing codes, terms, synonyms and definitions used in clinical documentation and reporting. SNOMED CT is considered to be the most comprehensive, multilingual clinical healthcare terminology in the world. To put this in context, there are some 15,000 ICD-9 codes, over 70,000 ICD-10 codes, and nearly 500,000 SNOMED codes. The table contains things like "CHICKEN NOODLE PACKET SOUP" and "WHIRLING DISEASE OF RAINBOW TROUT". Why? Who knows.

But, to say it is just a table of data descriptions is insufficient. There is an accompanying table that defines the relationships between all of these codes. For instance, it provides a mechanism to describe how a finger is related to a hand, and then an arm. It almost seems like SNOMED was created to assist a physician in recording a history of present illness. By so doing it would be possible for some super computer to assist in patient care.

With that stated, one of the requirements under stage 2 is to begin us-

ing these codes when setting up the patient problem list. From a point of certification, you only have to *show* that you can look things up by SNOMED, you don't have to actually use it. But, that will defeat the eventual purpose of being able to share information with other providers.

In the course of creating MU2, the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) used as one of their rationales for implementing SNOMED, the following:

*"We have finalized that EHR technology may meet this certification criterion by either being able to capture a patient's family health history in SNOMED CT® or in the HL7 Pedigree standard. Since the use of SNOMED CT® is required for meeting several other certification criteria, we do not believe that it will be a challenge to meet this certification criterion."*

While ONC may not feel it is a challenge, it will definitely take more time to enter. Family history, for example, must now be entered using SNOMED for each parent, sibling and child— at least a minute per person, maybe more. SNOMED descriptions are more natural than ICD, so it isn't hard to work with. It will just take time to become familiar with typing snippets of words into the Red Planet Search engine.

So, just when you thought your world was complex with CPT, RVU, ICD-9, ICD-10, RxNorm, get ready for the SNOMED avalanche.



### 3 New MU2 Features

1-The Problem List screen has been changed to handle the SNOMED requirements. The following screen shows the user entering in DIABETES II in the problem field. Upon pressing the tab key, another window will appear showing all of the entries where this set of words will appear.

1 key*	1187
2 patient?	23784 TEST
3 first	BETTY
4 status	Active
5 type	Finding
6 problem	DIABETES II
7 snomed	
8 date	
9 doc?	12 KINDLER
10 order	
11 note	

1 BRITTLE TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 2 COMPLICATION OF TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 3 DIABETES MELLITUS AUTOSOMAL DOMINANT TYPE II  
 4 DIABETES MELLITUS TYPE II  
 5 DIABETIC CATARACT ASSOCIATED WITH TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 6 DIABETIC OCULOPATHY ASSOCIATED WITH TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 7 DIABETIC RETINOPATHY ASSOCIATED WITH TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 8 DIETARY EDUCATION FOR TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 9 DISORDER ASSOCIATED WITH TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 10 EXUDATIVE MACULOPATHY ASSOCIATED WITH TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 11 GANGRENE ASSOCIATED WITH TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 12 HISTORY OF DIABETES MELLITUS TYPE II  
 13 HYPOLYCEMIC COMA IN TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 14 HYPOLYCEMIC COMA IN TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 15 INSULIN TREATED TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 16 KETOACIDOSIS IN TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 17 KETOACIDOTIC COMA IN TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 18 LABILE TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 19 MATURITY ONSET DIABETES IN YOUTH TYPE II  
 20 MONONEUROPATHY ASSOCIATED WITH TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 21 MULTIPLE COMPLICATIONS OF TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 22 NEUROLOGIC DISORDER ASSOCIATED WITH TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 23 PERIPHERAL CIRCULATORY DISORDER ASSOCIATED WITH TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 24 PERSISTENT MICROALBUMINURIA ASSOCIATED WITH TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 25 PERSISTENT PROTEINURIA ASSOCIATED WITH TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 26 POLYNEUROPATHY ASSOCIATED WITH TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS  
 27 RENAL DISORDER ASSOCIATED WITH TYPE II DIABETES MELLITUS

The Red Planet method of implementing SNOMED is that you don't have to be a good speller. Entering "DIABET II" would have produced the above list, too. Entering parts of words is sufficient—but the more parts, the better. Otherwise, your list will have too many entries to look through. For the adventurous, type in "BEANS PORK", "POISON IVY" or "OBS PEL ORG"

2-There is a new screen for recording Family History. A separate record for each first degree relative needs to be entered. And, because each person could have (had) multiple findings, it becomes a little more involved.

1 key*	12		
2 patient?	23784 TEST		
3 date	08/23/13		
4 note1	FAMILY HISTORY: MOTHER DEAD	15 snomed1	2667273015
5 note2	FAMILY HISTORY: ANGINA IN 1ST DEGREE FEMALE RELATIVE 45 YEARS	16 snomed2	1787434014
6 note3	FAMILY HISTORY OF BREAST CANCER	17 snomed3	411826010
7 note4		18 snomed4	
8 note5		19 snomed5	
9 note6		20 snomed6	
10 note7		21 snomed7	
11 note8		22 snomed8	
12 note9		23 snomed9	

The first field was selected from a list as a result of typing "moth dead", the second field came from "relat angi", and the last came from "brea canc". Each of these entries then has a corresponding SNOMED code as shown on the far right.

3-Another feature is the ability to search for a word or phrase from the Dashboard or Visit screen. This does require setting up an additional button, Word-search, in each of these screens. When used, you could search through a document(s) and the content becomes visually highlighted. The following screen shot came about looking for the word "history".

TLN - Open  
 File Edit Setup Run Help  
 PATIENT: Lefawn Jones Age: 72 year DOS: 09-06-12  
 CHIEF COMPLAINT:  
 Transition of care: No  
 HPI:  
 PROBLEM LIST Current Problem List  
 HYPERCALCEMIA 09/05/12  
 PAST SURGICAL **HISTORY**  
 SOCIAL **HISTORY** 1. Tobacco:  
 2. ETOH:  
 3. Marital status:  
 4. Occupation:  
 5. Exercise:  
 6. Living Will:  
 FAMILY **HISTORY**

All of these new features are available in the newest software release 2.0.33. Contact us for implementation.