



AMT Releases

AMT is released monthly to include new items on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods from the TGA, as well as items listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

How to get the AMT

The AMT can be downloaded in a variety of formats from the National Clinical Terminology Service (NCTS): www.healthterminologies.gov.au.

To access the AMT downloads you will first need to register on the NCTS website and accept the following free licence agreements:

- SNOMED CT Affiliate Licence Agreement; and
- Australian National Terminology Licence Agreement.

An online browser application to enable users to view the terminology and its relationships is available from the CSIRO: <http://ontoserver.csiro.au/shrimp>

¹ SHRIMP was developed by the Australian e-Health Research Centre (AEHRC).
² SNOMED CT was originally created by The College of American Pathologists.
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The National Clinical Terminology Service

The National Clinical Terminology Service (NCTS) is responsible for managing, developing and distributing AMT in Australia. This responsibility also extends to other clinical terminologies such as SNOMED CT-AU² and related terminology tools and applications.

For further information, visit www.healthterminologies.gov.au or contact help@digitalhealth.gov.au.

If you have any suggestions or feedback, or require implementation advice please contact:

help@digitalhealth.gov.au

www.digitalhealth.gov.au



Australian Medicines Terminology

A national, standards-based approach to the identification and naming of medicines in clinical systems for Australia.

www.digitalhealth.gov.au



Australian Medicines Terminology

One of the challenges faced by clinicians is the difficulty in establishing a person's medication history reliably and efficiently across the continuum of care. The limited capacity to directly and reliably exchange information between different healthcare settings and various clinical information systems is in part due to the use of different terminologies and local identifiers (codes).

These different systems may describe medicines differently, which can cause confusion when clinical information is exchanged. This confusion in turn may lead to errors associated with recording, prescribing, dispensing and administration; and may adversely impact clinical safety.

As part of the evolution of Digital Health it is essential that Australian clinical systems utilise an accessible standard terminology to uniquely identify and describe the medicines available in Australia for digital applications and health professionals.

The Australian Medicines Terminology (AMT) uniquely and unambiguously codes and describes all commonly used medicines, and can be implemented in clinical information systems to support electronic medication management activities including:

- Prescribe
- Record
- Review
- Issue, including dispense
- Administer
- Transfer of information

Potential Benefits of using the AMT

Reduction of errors that result from the communication of inaccurate, misinterpreted medicines information.

Enabling the safe and reliable exchange of events relating to medicine prescribing and administration, such as medicines information in discharge summaries.

Support for interoperability between clinical systems, ensuring continuity of care for patients across primary, secondary, private and public health settings, as well as across different healthcare providers.



Facilitate decision support within and across system boundaries where it is supported by structured messaging.

Improved traceability of medicines throughout the prescribe-dispense-administration cycle.

Better aggregation and reuse of information available for population health/epidemiology, policy, strategy, research and education purposes.

Who should use the AMT?

The AMT has been primarily developed to be used in clinical software applications to facilitate interoperability between systems. It can be used by knowledge resource developers, clinicians, researchers, statistical users, government agencies, healthcare organisations and consumers.

Information contained in the AMT

The AMT uniquely identifies and accurately describes medicines in a standardised format using a set of defining properties. Some of these properties include active ingredient(s), product trade name, dosage form, strength, pack size and container type.

Active ingredient(s):	paracetamol + codeine
Dosage form:	tablet
Strength:	paracetamol 500 mg + codeine phosphate 8 mg
Pack size:	100
Container type:	blister pack
Trade name:	Panadeine

The AMT is designed and developed using guidelines that are subject to iterative internal and external review to reflect current clinical practice and safety advice. It is based on products that have been approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) for human use within Australia.

The AMT embodies a relational model that associates various medicinal and trade components at different levels of granularity.

Figure 1 shows the various medicinal and trade components that exist within the AMT model for Panadeine when available in a blister pack containing 100 tablets.

Figure 2 shows an example of how more than one trade product can share the same medicinal component as the ingredients, strength, dosage form, and pack size are identical.

Figure 1: AMT relational model

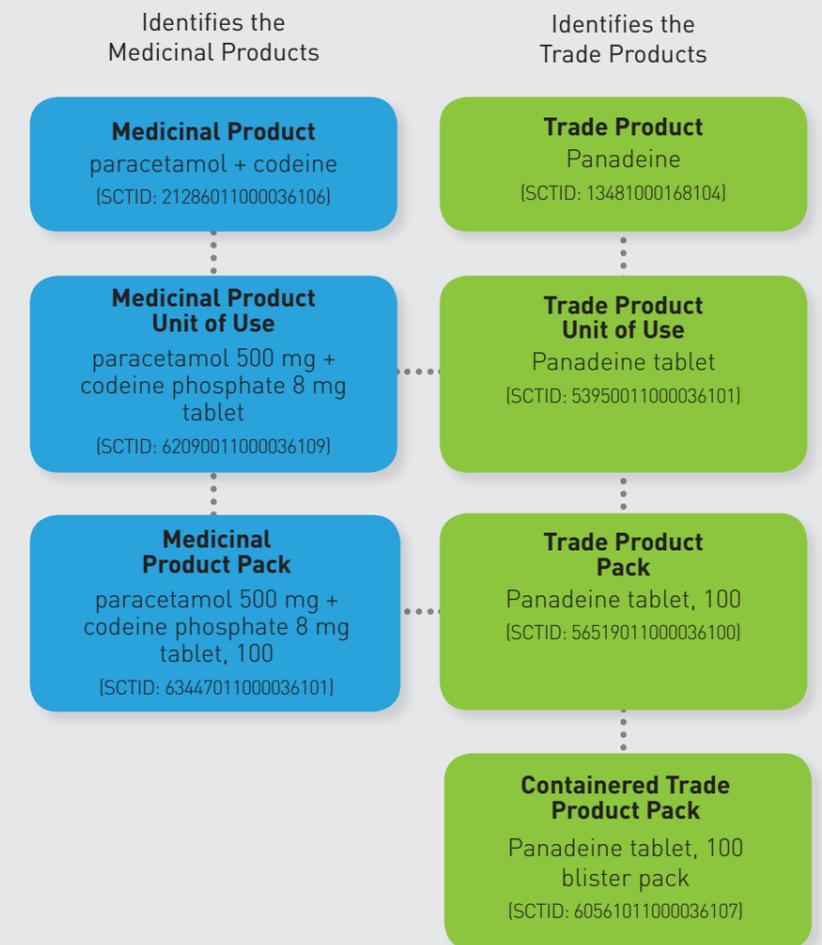


Figure 2: Multiple Trade product packs associated with a common Medicinal product pack

