

## COVID-19 and WHODrug Global

For the past couple of months, Uppsala Monitoring Centre (UMC) has been carefully monitoring the spread of COVID-19. Below, we'd like to summarise the status for our current WHODrug related operations and also report on new initiatives:

- Since a couple of months back, UMC staff members have been working from home, following the advice from health authorities. All UMC's WHODrug related operations and services have been running without disruption.
- UMC has compiled a list, actively updated on a weekly basis, outlining all newly added COVID-19-related medicinal products in WHODrug Global since the March 2020 release. The list is available upon request; email the [WHODrug Support](#) to request access.
- Currently, UMC has not identified a need to re-release the March 2020 version of WHODrug Global with this new drug information.
- UMC is currently investigating the need for a new WHODrug Standardised Drug Grouping (SDG) for COVID-19 related medicinal products. More information will be announced as it becomes available.
- UMC is extending the virtual event programme for WHODrug users. See below for more information.

## Forthcoming User Group webcasts and webinars

Join our next WHODrug monthly webinar on Tuesday 9 June 2020. This session will focus on drug coding challenges. As usual, the webinar is available as two sessions: 9:00 and 17:00 CEST (Central European Summer Time). Register [here](#).

Sign up for the replacement webcast for the U.S. User Group webcast, scheduled for Tuesday 23 June 2020. Tune in at 12:00 EDT (Eastern Daylight Time) and let our hosts Damon Fahimi and Sohye Yoon, walk you through the agenda. This three-hour long virtual meeting will feature topics such as UMC's COVID-19 related activities, WHODrug Koda, drug coding challenges and some very exciting presentations from the industry. Discover the full agenda at the [UMC website](#).

## WHODrug Global Chinese – facilitating regulatory compliance

WHODrug Global allows for coding of drug information from clinical trials and post-marketing surveillance studies directly in Chinese, avoiding the need for interim translations and enabling straightforward data submission to Chinese regulatory authorities. WHODrug Global Chinese was officially released for the first time in September 2019 and is available to all WHODrug users. In May 2020, the Chinese Center for Drug Evaluation (CDE) issued a draft Guideline on the Submission of Clinical Trial data\* for public review. WHODrug Global Chinese is compliant with the CDISC SDTM standard and could effectively be used to meet the regulatory expectations as for drug information submissions in Chinese language, per the guidance.

\* Paste this URL to the address bar of your preferred web browser to read the guidance: <http://www.cde.org.cn/news.do?method=viewInfoCommon&id=315060>

## Reminder: Sunset of WHODrug Enhanced approaching

WHODrug Enhanced is currently being phased out in favour of the standardised and more comprehensive WHODrug Global dictionary. The last planned release of WHODrug Enhanced is scheduled for September 2020. For any questions, or to request support in moving from WHODrug Enhanced to WHODrug Global, please contact [WHODrug@who-umc.org](mailto:WHODrug@who-umc.org).

## WHODrug Global – behind the scenes

Have you ever wondered about how WHODrug Global is maintained? Watch this short [video](#) to find out how the WHODrug team at UMC collects, validates and classifies drug information from multiple international sources with the goal of providing standardised and quality-assured information in WHODrug Global.

## WHODrug C3-format news

Based on user requests, UMC is planning to unify the casing of drug names in the C3-format. This modification effectively standardises the appearances of drug names bearing the same drug code (all drug names with the same drug code will have the same casing). This planned modification will not affect any IDs (i.e. the MPID or the drug code) and will not affect users of the B3-format at all. The modification is planned for March 2021, at the earliest. Please contact UMC if you would like to provide feedback.

## Did you know...

...that a new WHODrug application, WHODrug Access Manager, is currently being developed, with a planned release date for later in 2020? The new tool will serve as a self-service application, enabling companies themselves to administer their WHODrug accounts and access.



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This e-mail informs you about WHODrug related products or services provided by UMC

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