

### MeSH: what's new for 2016

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Another year has elapsed and new MeSH for 2016 are now available for our activities.

A general trend to simplify search features while enhancing accuracy and specificity of results has led to NLM 2016 MeSH major changes and ongoing projects, as reported in the NLM Tech Bull. 2015 Nov-Dec;(407):e9.

Vocabulary changes for 2016 MeSH consist in the addition of 434 new descriptors and 4 publication types, replacement of 17 descriptors with more up-to-date terminology, deletion of 9 descriptors and 1 qualifier (subheading).

Here follows an outline of major changes:

- deletion of the subheading “Diagnostic Use”;
- creation of the MeSH descriptor “Diet, Food, and Nutrition” in the G07 tree, that conveys the semantic areas of the descriptors “Diet” and “Nutritional Physiological Phenomena” and their narrower terms, now deleted. A second tree location for “Food and Beverages” and its child terms was also created to help performing searches where vegetables or animals are considered for their nutritional values;
- a large number of chemicals has been introduced, chemicals of more common use in prescriptions have been moved from Supplementary Concept Records to Descriptors list;
- tree changes to reduce duplicate descriptors listed in different places in the same tree;
- simplified wording of annotation that reflects changes for 2016;
- addition of 481 scope notes to already existing MeSH, within an ongoing NLM project to write scope notes for all headings.

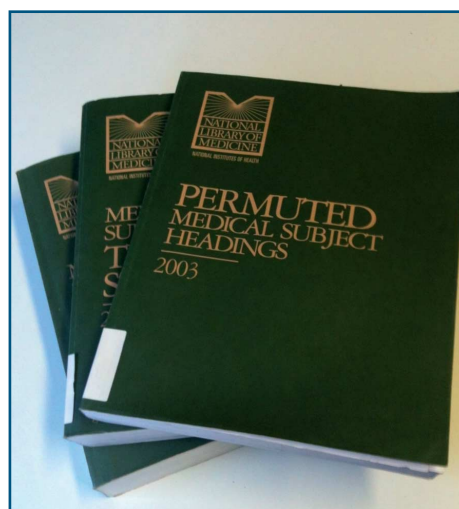
This may be checked by those who translate scope notes into their languages.

For more complete information please visit

[https://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/nd15/nd15\\_mesh.html](https://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/nd15/nd15_mesh.html)  
and related links therein.

Due to worldwide emergency, the NLM has also added to PubMed on January 28, 2016 two New MeSH descriptors: Zika Virus Infection and Zika Virus, as announced on a special page devoted to the issue

<https://disasterinfo.nlm.nih.gov/dimrc/zikavirus.html>



*The last editions of the printed Permuted MeSH, Annotated Alphabetic List and MeSH Tree Structures (2003)*