

What's new about 2018 MeSH

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The first months of 2018 are finishing off and some of you may already be familiar with the new MeSH update. The National Library of Medicine 2017 year-end processing (YEP) activities have been completed and the new version of MEDLINE has been loaded into PubMed. Consistently, citations have been updated with the 2018 MeSH Headings.

2018 MeSH vocabulary is now available in the [MeSH database](#) and the [MeSH browser](#).

Changes for 2018 MeSH are:

- 474 Descriptors added
- 106 Descriptor terms replaced with more up-to-date terminology
- 7 Descriptors deleted
- 1 Qualifier (Subheading) deleted

Totals by Type of Terminology

- 28,939 MeSH Descriptors
- 79 Qualifiers
- 116,909 Total Descriptor Terms
- 244,154 Supplementary Concept Records

The new MeSH term: **Contraindications**

The subheading */contraindications* is no longer available in 2018; a new MeSH term *Contraindications* has been created and the issue has been split in two more specific concepts, introducing *Contraindications, Drug* and *Contraindications, Procedure* as narrower terms (see MeSH tree for *Contraindications* below):

Therapeutics [E02] :

Contraindications [E02.208]

Contraindications, Drug [E02.208.200]

Contraindications, Procedure [E02.208.600]

MEDLINE citations previously indexed with the subheading */contraindications* have been updated during YEP with the new MeSH heading *Contraindications*:

MeSH Heading

Contraindications

Tree Number(s)

E02.208

Unique ID

D000075202

Annotation

general or unspecified; CONTRAINDICATIONS, DRUG and CONTRAINDICATIONS, PROCEDURE are also available; note entry term CONTRAINDICATIONS, PHYSICAL AGENT: coordinate with specific physical agent /adv eff or /ther use

For instance, the MeSH terms section of a sample record (see below) retrieved by a search on gadolinium contraindications in PubMed contains the new MeSH *Contraindications* while the substance term Gadolinium is combined with the subheading */adverse effects (Gadolinium/adverse effects*)*, as explained in NLM indexing policy and reported in the record Annotation section.

MeSH terms

- Adrenal Cortex Hormones/administration & dosage
- Adrenal Cortex Hormones/therapeutic use
- Adult
- Barium Sulfate/administration & dosage
- Barium Sulfate/adverse effects
- Child
- **Contraindications**
- Contrast Media/adverse effects*
- Contrast Media/pharmacokinetics
- Drug Hypersensitivity/prevention & control
- (...)
- **Gadolinium/adverse effects***
- (...)
- Iodine Compounds/adverse effects*
- (...)

Substances

- Adrenal Cortex Hormones
- Contrast Media
- Immunosuppressive Agents
- Iodine Compounds
- Barium Sulfate
- **Gadolinium**

The introduction of the new MeSH: Smoking Prevention

Smoking-related terminology has been updated with new descriptors and rebuilding of trees. A new pre-coordinated term, *Smoking Prevention*, has been introduced and detailed descriptors on tobacco and non-tobacco products have been rearranged.

Here follows a section of the MeSH Browser record for Smoking, where the new Entry Combination prevention & control:Smoking Prevention is clearly mentioned:

MeSH Heading Smoking

Tree Number(s) F01.145.805

Unique ID D012907

(...)

Entry Combination prevention & control:Smoking Prevention