

Report from the Special Interest Group on Mesh: news from 2019 MeSH

Alessandra Ceccarini

Knowledge Service/Documentation
Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome, Italy
alessandra.ceccarini@iss.it

The 2019 MeSH thesaurus of the National Library of Medicine (NLM) is now available; this year 402 new MeSH Headings, including a large number of heterocyclic/polycyclic compounds and organic/inorganic chemicals, plus 20 new Publication Types, were added to MeSH. The yearly update also includes 73 MeSH headings that were either changed or deleted.

2018 has brought to an end the MeSH Maintenance Translation System (MTMS), the web-based platform that the NLM has developed for MeSH translators to add terms to the database all over the year. Unfortunately, the NLM could not maintain the system any longer, and officially informed all language translators in past May that the MTMS would be ceased on December 18, 2018. By the end of 2018, new 2019 MeSH data were downloaded by translator institutions. We haven't received further instructions yet as to how to go on with new 2020 terms for translation but have been informed that management of new translated terms should be handled by single institutions, then sent to NLM.

Some translator institutions might have already solved the problem and created a software for data handling in their own language. For those who are still struggling to find a solution there would be an interesting workshop at the forthcoming EAHIL Workshop in Basel. Filip Kriz and Lenka Maixnerova (National Medical Library, Czech Republic) will present an open-source system for MeSH translation workflow and data management at the Workshop "Medical Subject Headings translation process in the times without MTMS" - ID: 139 / Workshop A-06: 1

https://www.conftool.com/eahil2019/index.php?page=browseSessions&downloads=show&form_session=49&mode=list&presentations=show

Other questions and ideas could be discussed at the SIG 7: SIG meeting MeSH, chaired by Maurella Della Seta (Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome, Italy) on Thursday, June 20 – 1:30 pm-2:30 pm – at Kollegienhaus, in Basel.