

Common Drug Codes for India (Flat Files Package) [Developer Preview]

Release Date: November 22, 2019

Introduction

Drugs (medicinal products) are one of the key data points captured and referred for continuity of care of an individual. In order for the drugs information to be identified, stored, referred, and exchanged between different clinical, reporting, stock, supply chain, dispensation systems, it is important to have common drug codes across those systems.

Lack of common drug codes across different systems and healthcare setups invariably introduce local maps, formats and naming conventions leading to input errors, missing information, incorrect identification and other problems that surface due to lack of unique identities and diverging naming methodologies. This makes exchange of health data a difficult and error-prone activity.

For a country rapidly digitizing its information systems and especially adopting digital systems in healthcare information management, it is important that this key piece of information is codified and made available for use across all system. Different system should be able to use the same codes with slightly different additional information to meet its purposes.

National Resource Centre for EHR Standards (NRCeS), a program of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India is providing these Common Drug Codes for India for use across healthcare records, supply and pharmacy systems.

Release Summary

Common Drug Codes for India (Flat Files Package) have been introduced to support standardized coding and sharing of drug codes without need of integrating the complete Terminology.

This release of Common Drug Codes for India (Flat Files Package) includes generic (clinical drug), supplier, and branded medicine codes and human readable descriptions which covers all medicines, except devices, surgical implants and combi packs, from:

- National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) 2015
- Pradhan Mantri Jan-Aushadhi Yojana
- Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implants for Treatment (AMRIT) programme

The package provides a **Tab Separated Values in text files** and covers codes Substances, Generic Medicines and Branded Medicines. The package contains for following files:

| File Name | Description |
|-------------------|--|
| Substance Master | Contains list of substances used as active ingredients in medicinal products |
| Brand Master | Contains list of authorized marketed name for the medicine as labelled by the manufacturer (supplier) |
| Supplier Master | Contains the list of Suppliers (may be license holder or distributor) |
| Drug Form Master | Contains the list of physical forms of a medicine describing Mechanism of action, route, and package container |
| Generic Medicines | Provides list of generic medicines and reference to substance and drug form |
| Branded Medicines | Provides list of branded medicines and reference to generic medicine |

This release package is distributed for **Development, Review, Integration, Testing and Demonstration** purposes only. ***It may NOT be used in production clinical systems or in clinical settings until a production release is available.***

Common Drug Codes for India (Flat Files Package) is available for use under terms provided in *License.txt* file included in the Package.

For any query, support, or assistance, please email at nrc-help@cdac.in