# WHODrug Newsletter March 2018



#### What's new in WHODrug

WHODrug is continuously being updated and further developed. The most significant news since the last March release is summarised in the document 'What's New in WHODrug March 1, 2018'. WHODrug users can access the document from the WHODrug Library.

Among the topics covered are the new developments in the WHODrug toolbox, new and revised SDGs, the annual ATC revision and the introduction of a new concept aiming to facilitate the handling of biosimilars in WHODrug.

To hear more about the news in WHODrug, please join us for a webinar on Tuesday, March 6, 2018 on the topic: 'What's New in WHODrug and User Presentation on Implementation of the WHODrug B3 format'. WHODrug users can sign up for the webinar <a href="here">here</a>.

### An update on the WHODrug B3/C3 formats

The new and improved WHODrug B3/C3 formats have now been available for all WHODrug users for a full year. To allow for flexible transitions to the new formats, the old B2/C formats are being provided during the entire transition period (i.e. until the September, 2018 release). From the March, 2019 release of WHODrug and onwards, the dictionary will only be provided in the new B3/C3 formats.

At present, 18 software systems have been technically approved to handle the WHODrug B3/C3 formats within the WHODrug Software Certification Programme. Find updated lists of certified systems <a href="here">here</a>.

To learn more about implementing the WHODrug B3/C3 formats, regulatory expectations of using the new formats, and more, please visit the dedicated B3/C3 format section on the UMC web.

#### **New License Validation Service**

UMC is delighted to announce the release of a new web-based service for automated verification of WHODrug licenses of collaborating partners. The service will be launched March 21, 2018 and will provide instant responses on requests, support the submission of multiple requests in a batch and offer export of request results.

To learn more about the workflow and functionalities of the License Validation Service, please join us for a webinar April 10, 2018.

## Improvements in WHODrug CAT and Insight

From March, users of WHODrug Insight can benefit from new functionalities, improving its usability. Users can now find the Medicinal Product ID (MPID) and C/C3 format-specific ATC assignments as parts of the search result. In the near future, users will also be able to view ATC code hierarchies and ATC texts in WHODrug Insight.

Following requests from users, WHODrug Change Analysis Tool (CAT) will shortly be updated to support upgrading to WHODrug Global from both WHODrug Enhanced and previous versions of WHODrug Enhanced and WHODrug Herbal. In addition, the interface of WHODrug CAT will be improved.

# New WHODrug Best Practice for how to handle imprecise verbatim

In March, a new version of the WHODrug Best Practices will be released. The new version features an additional chapter providing guidance on how to handle imprecise verbatim and when and how to use NOS and Umbrella Records. UMC believes that the new guidance is an important step towards simplifying and standardising the use of NOS and Umbrella Records and is extremely grateful to the working group, consisting of experienced WHODrug users, which developed the chapter in collaboration with UMC. The new version of the document will eventually be uploaded to the WHODrug Library on the UMC website.

# Forthcoming WHODrug User Group Meetings

Join us for any of our 2018 WHODrug User Group Meetings to learn more about WHODrug, participate in interactive workshops and network with colleagues in the industry. Below is a list of forthcoming meetings:

- Basel, Switzerland, April 17, 2018
- Boston, MA, USA, June 29, 2018
- South San Francisco, CA, USA, September 27, 2018
- China (more information will be available shortly)

Registration is free of charge if you are working for an organisation with a valid WHODrug license. For more information and to register, please visit the <u>UMC website</u>.

#### Did you know?

All WHODrug users have free access to a recently updated Online WHODrug Training Course. Upon completion of the course, a certificate is awarded. To sign up for the course, please <u>click here</u>.











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