

COVID-19 update

Uppsala Monitoring Centre (UMC) is continually monitoring the COVID-19 situation. Below, we summarise the status of our current operations and report on new COVID-19 related initiatives:

- All of UMC's WHODrug-related operations and services continue without disruption.
- Guidance on the structure and naming of COVID-19 vaccines in WHODrug and the WHODrug Standardised Drug Grouping (SDG) 'Drugs and vaccines for COVID-19' is now available on the [UMC website](#).
- UMC continues to host virtual WHODrug events as well as regular webinars. So far, UMC has hosted three virtual webcasts and is planning four more User Group webcasts in 2021. For more information, see below.

WHODrug Global Insight Updates

WHODrug Link Korea

The WHODrug Insight search tool was recently updated to further support the use of local Korean IDs. The Korean Product ID is presented in the detailed MPID product view in WHODrug Insight, where it's possible to browse and review detailed information such as MAH, pharmaceutical form and strength. The Korean substance ID is also shown for active ingredients and available to all WHODrug Insight users with a licence for WHODrug Link Korea.

The Korean IDs are included in WHODrug Insight for the regular March and September versions of WHODrug but also for UpComing Data. UpComing Data reflects what the dictionary would look like if released today and is updated daily. This means that new IDs can be found daily in WHODrug Insight.

Did you know?

WHODrug Insight will shortly be updated with an advanced search option that allows more flexible search options and functions to review and compare search results in detail.

New requirements for Korean ADRs in effect from 1 June

New requirements for ICSR reporting have been implemented in the Republic of Korea, with local Korean drug code identifiers now expected. To convert codes from WHODrug Global to local Korean codes, WHODrug users can use WHODrug Link Korea to simplify the regulatory submission process. Read more on the [UMC website](#).

Next WHODrug monthly webinar

Sign up now for our WHODrug SDGs Global webinar on Tuesday 8 June 2021, with two sessions scheduled for 09:00 and 17:00 CET (Central European Time). UMC staff will cover the basics of WHODrug SDGs, the latest SDG developments, and updates about the Drugs and vaccines for COVID-19 SDG. You will also have the opportunity to hear Prabhakar Chenna Kesavan, from Novartis, share his perspective as a WHODrug SDG user. WHODrug users are encouraged to submit questions beforehand to whodrug@who-umc.org. [Register here](#).

WHODrug Global Chinese in CAT

In September 2019 we celebrated the launch of WHODrug Global Chinese. The Chinese version of WHODrug Global has been a much appreciated addition to the WHODrug Global offering and based on user requests it is now time to introduce user support in the WHODrug Change Analysis Tool (CAT) for the new language version.

In CAT it's possible to upload your own data – for example, a synonym list – and get a full change analysis between two different versions of WHODrug Global Chinese. The user can review all deleted records and all updated records to get an in-depth understanding of WHODrug Global Chinese changes and to prepare for the upversioning process. In addition to uploading and analysing your own data, it's also possible to export a file with all deleted records in WHODrug Global Chinese and the new replacement record.

WHODrug User Group meetings 2021

We are about to level up our user experience of virtual WHODrug events. The upcoming WHODrug User Group meeting USA will enhance attendees' networking opportunities through interactive breakout room sessions, informal one-to-one chat functions and, of course, live polls and Q&As. Sign up now for the WHODrug User Group webcast USA on 22 June 2021. [Register here](#).

Make sure you don't miss out on the opportunity to engage with your industry colleagues: save the date for four more WHODrug User Group meetings during 2021. All these events will be virtual and are free of charge to users working at organisations with a valid WHODrug licence. Read more and sign up on the [UMC website](#).

- USA, 22 June 2021
- Special global WHODrug conference, 27 October 2021
- Japan, 2021*
- Republic of Korea, 2021*

*dates for these events will be announced later.

Did you know...

WHODrug Koda is continuously improved upon based on feedback from the WHODrug user community. High-certainty coded drug name results are now just a click away in WHODrug Koda thanks to the new coding result filter developed for the web application. This new feature supports users reviewing coded drug data. For more information, or to access the trial version of WHODrug Koda, please contact WHODrug Support.

In regards to upcoming file changes, UMC is planning three modifications to WHODrug Global .txt and .csv files to meet the latest regulatory expectations and technical developments:

1. Standardisation of the letter case in C3 format (to be implemented in the September 2021 release).
2. Expansion of the substance length field to 250 characters (to be implemented in the March 2022 release).
3. Updated country codes and names (to be implemented in the March 2022 release).

Read more on the [UMC website](#) or contact [WHODrug Support](#).



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