

WHODrug Newsletter

March 2022



WHODrug Global March 2022 version now available

The March 2022 version of WHODrug Global is now available. It can be downloaded from the WHODrug Download Area (by designated delivery contacts only) and accessed via WHODrug Insight, both available in the [WHODrug User area](#). **The March 2022 version of the WHODrug Global dictionary contains over 580,000 drug names from 167 countries.**

To get the latest news about WHODrug Global, please read the document '**What's New in WHODrug, March 2022**', available via the [UMC website](#). This document outlines the most important developments and revisions to the content of WHODrug. Topics covered include ATC alterations, general substance changes, and developments of the WHODrug Standardised Drug Groupings (SDGs).

Reminder: Changes to the WHODrug product files and modified packaging

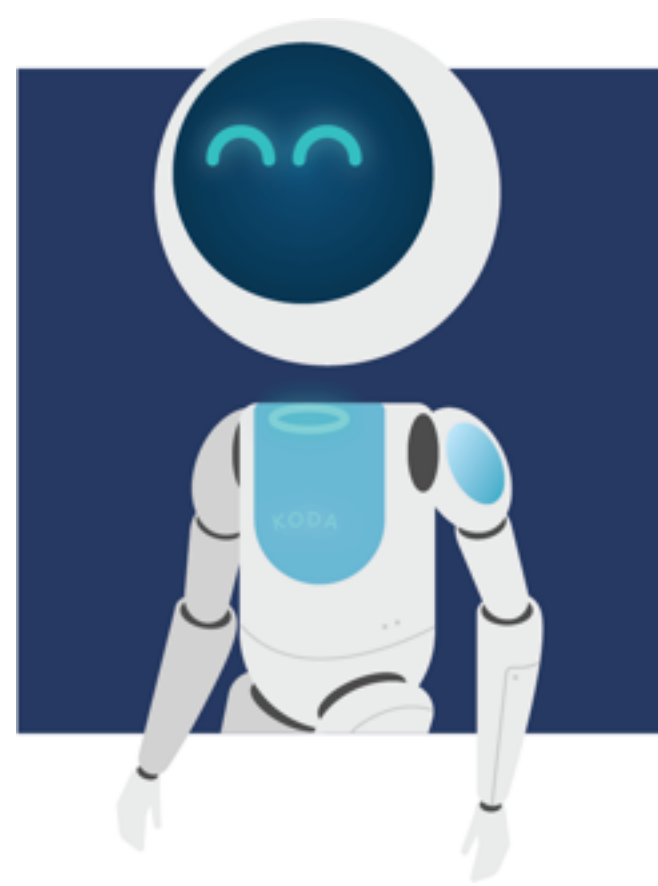
As previously announced, in the March 2022 release of WHODrug Global three modifications to the WHODrug Global files have been rolled out to meet evolving regulatory expectations and technical developments. Read more about the modifications below or on the [UMC website](#):

- The substance name field has been extended to **250 characters** in both the B3 and C3 formats, to accommodate a more granular naming of substances.
- The casing of **drug names in the C3** format has been unified to standardise the appearance of drug names bearing the same drug code.
- **The country codes and country names** have been updated for a few countries, to harmonise with the ISO 3166-1 standard.
- The WHODrug Global files have been **split into two file packages** to enable a faster and smoother download experience: WHODrug Global 2022 Mar 1, and WHODrug Global Chinese 2022 Mar 1.

For any questions, please contact the [WHODrug Support](#).

WHODrug Koda – retrained machine learning model

In line with UMC's commitment to continuously develop and maintain WHODrug, the machine learning model within WHODrug Koda has been retrained for the March 2022 version of WHODrug Global. The retraining is based on feedback received from the user community as well as data from VigiBase, aimed at improving the coding performance. Please [contact us](#) if you have any feedback for future improvements for WHODrug Koda.



Did you know that WHODrug Koda is offered free of charge to vendors within our WHODrug Vendor Programme? If you would like to access WHODrug Koda within your drug coding tool, please refer your vendor to the [WHODrug Support](#) for more information on how to get access.

WHODrug User Group meetings 2022

Seven WHODrug User Group meetings are planned for 2022.

- **India webcast**, 9 March 2022 (open for registration)
- **Berlin, Germany**, 18 May 2022
- **Global webcast**, 22 June 2022
- **Washington, D.C., USA**, 15 September 2022
- **China**, Q3 2022*
- **Republic of Korea**, 16 November 2022
- **Japan**, Q4 2022*

*dates for these events will be announced later.



[Read more and sign up](#)

We are fully committed to the health and safety of all attendees, and it is our priority to create the safest environment possible. To achieve that, we will follow current health and safety guidance and best practices. If the situation does not allow for in-person events, we will meet virtually instead.

We are continually looking for engaging WHODrug-related presentations from the user community. By submitting an abstract, you will have the opportunity to present at one of our events (excluding the India meeting, for which the agenda is already set). The deadline for abstracts is three months prior to the event in question (e.g. 22 March for the Global webcast).

[Submit your abstract here](#)

Next WHODrug monthly webinar

Sign up now for our next monthly webinar, scheduled for **15 March 2022** and available at two time slots, **09:00 and 17:00 CET**. The webinar will cover the most recent enhancements and features in the March 2022 release of WHODrug Global.

[Register here](#)

Did you know...

...that back in December 2021 the UMC website received a major update. As a result, the path to WHODrug Insight as well as for appointed delivery contacts to access the WHODrug product files has changed. To download the latest version of WHODrug Global, please follow these instructions:

1. Visit <http://who-umc.org>;
2. Click on "**Our products**" navigation item;
3. Sign in using your personal login credentials by clicking the "**WHODrug User area**" button;
4. Once signed in, you can access WHODrug Insight as well as the WHODrug Download area under the navigation item "**Access WHODrug**".



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