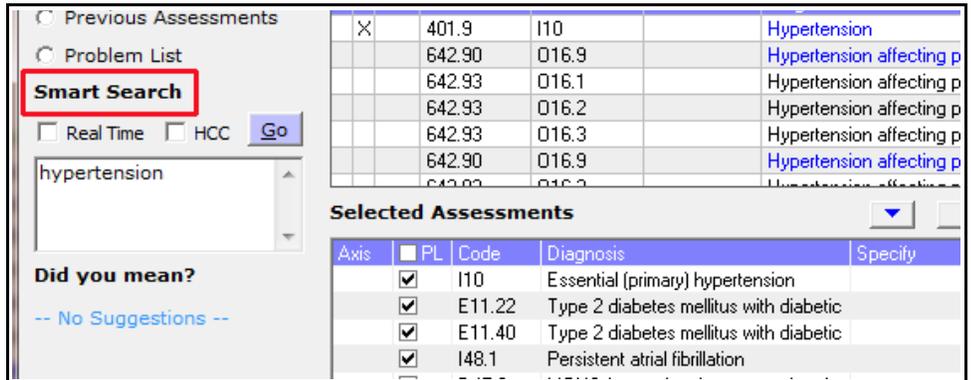


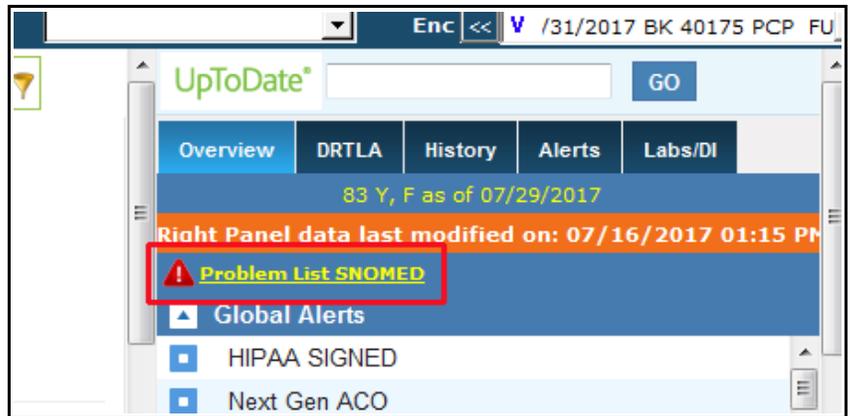
SNOMED Errors

First, what is SNOMED?

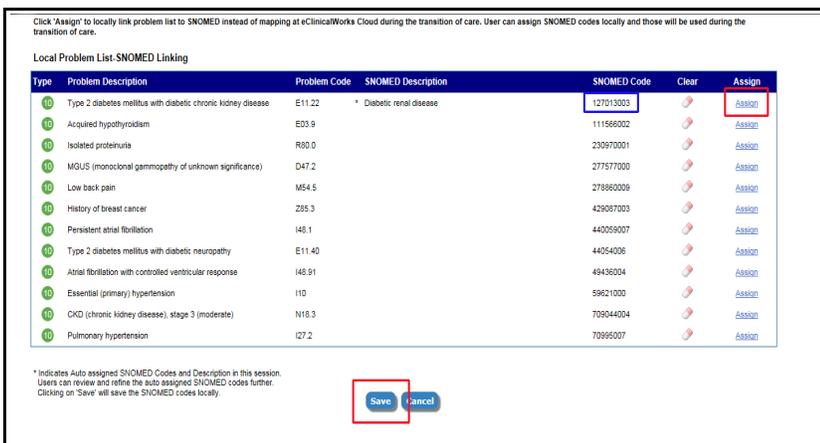
The **Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine (SNOMED)** is a systematic, computer-processable collection of medical terms that allows a consistent way to index, store, retrieve, and transmit information electronically. In 2002, SNOMED was updated and became SNOMED CT (SNOMED Clinical Terms). SNOMED CT provides the core general terminology for electronic health records. The Smart Search IMO (stands for “Intelligent Medical Objects”) we use in ECW is linked to SNOMED CT, so all diagnoses found with the Smart Search tool will be mapped properly to a SNOMED term.



HOWEVER – and this is why we are seeing the error message (the exclamation point in the red triangle) – some older data in ECW was NOT linked to SNOMED, and the error message is asking you to make sure the problem list is correct (this was mapped automatically by ECW during the upgrade). By my rough count, about 5-10% of my patients have some potential error in the problem list. It is very easy to correct.



The next screenshot shows what happens if you click on the “Problem List SNOMED” link.



Initially, I assumed that all the codes with the blank description were the source of the error. However, it is the single code that HAS a description that is the source of the error. ECW is asking me to confirm that “Type 2 DM with diabetic chronic kidney disease” is that same as the SNOMED description “Diabetic renal disease”.

Click 'Assign' to locally link problem list to SNOMED instead of mapping at eClinicalWorks Cloud during the transition of care. User can assign SNOMED codes locally and those will be used during the transition of care.

Local Problem List-SNOMED Linking

Type	Problem Description	Problem Code	SNOMED Description	SNOMED Code	Clear	Assign
10	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic chronic kidney disease	E11.22	* Diabetic renal disease	127013003		Assign
10	Acquired hypothyroidism	E03.9		111566002		Assign
10	Isolated proteinuria	R80.0		230970001		Assign
10	MGUS (monoclonal gammopathy of unknown significance)	D47.2		277577000		Assign
10	Low back pain	M54.5		278860009		Assign
10	History of breast cancer	Z85.3		429087003		Assign
10	Persistent atrial fibrillation	I48.1		440059007		Assign
10	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic neuropathy	E11.40		44054006		Assign
10	Atrial fibrillation with controlled ventricular response	I48.91		49436004		Assign
10	Essential (primary) hypertension	I10		59621000		Assign
10	CKD (chronic kidney disease), stage 3 (moderate)	N18.3		709044004		Assign
10	Pulmonary hypertension	I27.2		70995007		Assign

* Indicates Auto assigned SNOMED Codes and Description in this session. Users can review and refine the auto assigned SNOMED codes further. Clicking on 'Save' will save the SNOMED codes locally.



If I click “Save”, the diagnosis in ECW will be linked to that SNOMED code (127013003) highlighted by the blue rectangle. It is crucial for computers talking to one another to use the same language – SNOMED CT. Computers communicate in bits and bytes, not in words – so the SNOMED code is used when transferring data – a very important function in the future as the tower of Babel in medicine is slowly torn down. Clicking on “Assign” opens the next screen.

There are many more choices for this code, and the best code for this patient is not the simple code in the last screen – CKD3 due to T2DM is a far more accurate code. In this example, I chose this code, and you can see (screenshot below) that ECW linked the diagnosis in the problem list to a different SNOMED CT code.

ICD to SNOMED CT Conversion

Map Type: All Mappings Sort By: Name

ICD-10 Code: E11.22 (Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic chronic kidney disease)

Find/Filter: Search Clear

SNOMED Code	Concept	SNOMED Name
<input type="radio"/> 771000119108	disorder	Chronic kidney disease due to type 2 diabetes mellitus
<input type="radio"/> 431855005	disorder	Chronic kidney disease stage 1
<input type="radio"/> 751000119104	disorder	Chronic kidney disease stage 1 due to type 2 diabetes mellitus
<input type="radio"/> 431856006	disorder	Chronic kidney disease stage 2
<input type="radio"/> 741000119101	disorder	Chronic kidney disease stage 2 due to type 2 diabetes mellitus
<input type="radio"/> 731000119105	disorder	Chronic kidney disease stage 3 due to type 2 diabetes mellitus
<input type="radio"/> 431857002	disorder	Chronic kidney disease stage 4
<input type="radio"/> 721000119107	disorder	Chronic kidney disease stage 4 due to type 2 diabetes mellitus
<input type="radio"/> 433146000	disorder	Chronic kidney disease stage 5
<input type="radio"/> 711000119100	disorder	Chronic kidney disease stage 5 due to type 2 diabetes mellitus
<input type="radio"/> 90791000119104	disorder	End stage renal disease on dialysis due to type 2 diabetes mellitus
<input type="radio"/> 236435004	disorder	End stage renal failure on dialysis
<input type="radio"/> 704667004	disorder	Hypertension concurrent and due to end stage renal disease on dialysis
<input type="radio"/> 127991000119101	disorder	Hypertension concurrent and due to end stage renal disease on dialysis due to type 2 diabetes mellitus

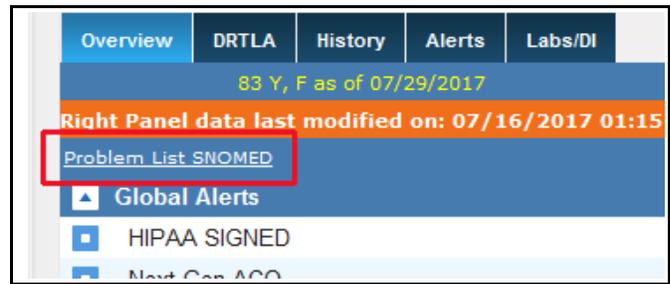
Page No: 1 Prev Next Apply Cancel

*SNOMED and "SNOMED CT" are registered trademarks of the IHTSDO (International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation)

Type	Problem Description	Problem Code	SNOMED Description	SNOMED Code
10	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic chronic kidney disease	E11.22	Chronic kidney disease stage 3 due to type 2 diabetes mellitus	731000119105
10	Acquired hypothyroidism	E03.9		111566002

At this point, I can hit the “Save” button, and the error message disappears.

So, why should you care? If SNOMED errors are not corrected, any P2P documents exchanged between providers will not “count” for Meaningful Use. So please try to fix the errors.



Note that in the first step above, I could have just elected to confirm the diagnosis that SNOMED chose – this is the easy way to fix the error – just hit “Save” without checking the diagnosis. It is clearly better to check the diagnosis, but if the person stuck with the SNOMED error prior to sending a P2P document doesn't know the actual correct code/diagnosis, hitting “Save” may be the best solution.

Brad Kney, MD
August 5, 2019