**Report to SAC from Barbara Bushman, NLM Liaison**

June 2023

# COVID-19

Some NLM staff have returned on site, including those performing functions related to collection management. However, due to building renovations, many staff are still on maximum telework. The NLM Reading Room is open to the public [via appointment only](https://www.nlm.nih.gov/readingroom/index.html).

# MeSH Update

**NLM Listening Session**

On January 18, 2023, NLM welcomed 131 attendees to an online listening session to continue the conversation on how NLM and our users can work together to update the MeSH vocabulary. The session began by share sharing highlights of 2023 MeSH changes, describing the MeSH production process, and reviewing how customers submit their ideas and suggestions to Library Operations at NLM. Dianne Babski, Associate Director of NLM’s Division of Library Operations, and Dan Cho, PhD, Content Lead and Project Coordinator for MeSH, opened the session by leading attendees through the MeSH update cycle. They provided high-level updates made since the previous listening session held in June 2022 and an overview of the 2023 MeSH changes including a special focus on updated MeSH population groups and minority terms. This was followed by a review of NLM Customer Service responses to MeSH suggestions and the "Changes to MeSH Terminology for 2024 (in Progress)” listed on What's New in MeSH page (<https://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/whatsnew.html>). Following these introductory remarks, the floor was opened to hear from the audience.

The recording, transcript, slides, and feedback report are available at <https://www.nlm.nih.gov/oet/ed/mesh/2023/nlm-office-hours-special_mesh.html>

### Saco Medical Funnel

Elizabeth Lilker, of the Cataloging and Metadata Management Section (CaMMS), is a member of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging SACO Medical Subject Funnel. This funnel is intended to improve the medical vocabulary in the Library of Congress Subject Headings, and may indirectly affect MeSH by surfacing new vocabulary that could be recommended for MeSH. It may also inform the work of the LCSH/MeSH mapping project that NLM participates in, coordinated by Northwestern University. In April, Elizabeth presented an overview of MeSH vocabulary concepts and update processes to aid the group in determining how best to collaborate on suggesting improvements to the MeSH vocabulary.

# NLM Classification Update

## 2023 Winter Edition

The 2023 winter edition was published on January 31, 2023.

The major focus of the 2023 winter edition was the evaluation of the 2023 MeSH (Medical Subject Headings) vocabulary for inclusion in the [Classification index](https://www.nlm.nih.gov/class/index.html). Several additions and changes were made to the Index and Schedules based on this review. All main index headings are now linked to the 2023 vocabulary in the MeSH Browser. Additional minor updates were made to the Index and Schedules.

See [NLM Classification 2023 Winter Edition Now Available. NLM Technical Bulletin. 2023 Jan–Feb (nih.gov)](https://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/jf23/jf23_nlm_classification_2023_winter_edition.html)

### Statistics for the Winter 2023 Edition:

* 27 New Class Numbers
* 15 Modified Class Numbers
* 1 Canceled Class Number
* 2 Modified Schedule Headers
* 47 New Index Headings - (37 from 2023 MeSH)
* 86 Modified Index Headings
* 3 Deleted Index Headings

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **New Class Number** | **Caption** |
| W 26.55.C6 | Computer simulation |
| W 26.55.D4 | Digital technology |
| W 26.55.I3 | Information management |
| WA 708 | Processed food |
| WL 141.5.N3 | Nerve conduction studies |
| WM 420.5.R4 | Reality therapy |
| WM 450.5.A7 | [In psychotherapy] Aromatherapy |
| WS 350.25 | [Child] Art therapy |
| WS 350.32 | [Child] Bibliotherapy |
| WS 350.35 | [Child] Hypnosis |
| WS 350.36 | [Child] Imagery |
| WS 350.37 | [Child] Music therapy |
| WS 350.39 | [Child] Person-centered psychotherapy |
| WS 350.52 | [Child] Psychotherapy, brief |
| WS 350.53 | [Child] Psychotherapy, psychodynamic |
| WS 350.56 | [Child] Transference |
| WS 464.5 | [Adolescent] Art therapy |
| WS 465.2 | [Adolescent] Bibliotherapy |
| WS 465.5 | [Adolescent] Hypnosis |

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Canceled Number** | **Former Caption** | **New Instructions for Classification** |
| W 26.55.V6 | Virtual reality | W 26.55.C6 |

### Table G (Geographic Notation) Addition/Changes

The following geographic notations were added based on the new Z1 MeSH 2023 additions:

* JA7—Asia, Southern
* LM2—Maldives

The following geographic notation was modified based on the Z1 MeSH 2023 change:

* JA14—Far East was changed to Asia, Eastern

### New 2023 MeSH descriptors added to the index

Organisms [B]

* Human Papillomavirus Viruses

Diseases [C]

* Post-Acute COVID-19 Syndrome (Post-acute COVID-19 syndrome was added to caption at WC 506.5)

Analytical, Diagnostic and Therapeutic Techniques, and Equipment [E]

* Clinical Relevance
* Nerve Conduction Studies (new number created: WL 141.5.N3 Nerve conduction studies)
* COVID-19 Drug Treatment
* Blood Banking

Psychiatry and Psychology [F]

* Suicide Prevention
* Psychological Well-Being (Psychological well-being was added to caption at WM 101)
* Family Structure
* Family Support
* Group Dynamics

Phenomena and Processes [G]

* Food, Processed (new number created: WA 708 Processed food)

Disciplines and Occupations [H]

* Cytology
* Artificial Life
* Evidence Gaps
* Paramedicine (Paramedicine was added to caption at WA 290)

Anthropology, Education, Sociology, and Social Phenomena [I]

* Forensic Microbiology
* Tobacco Control
* Residential Segregation

Named Groups [M]

* Navajo People
* Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples
* Maori People
* Combat Medics
* Paramedics
* Gynecologists
* Obstetricians
* Traditional Medicine Practitioners (WZ 112.5.T7 caption changed from Traditional healers to Traditional medicine practitioners)
* African People
* European People
* White
* Oceanians
* Pacific Island People

Health Care [N]

* Working Conditions
* Blood Donation
* Cost-Effectiveness Analysis
* Resource-Limited Settings
* Access to Primary Care

## 2023 Summer Edition

The 2023 summer version will be published at the end of August 2023. It will encompass the systematic review of the WR Dermatology and WW Ophthalmology schedules and other miscellaneous updates.