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

January 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 Sessions**

On June 30, 2022, NLM held a special NLM Office Hours Listening Session, focused on Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) terms related to population groups. Dianne Babski (NLM Associate Director, Library Operations) discussed the process of developing and updating the MeSH vocabulary, as well as upcoming adjustments NLM is pursuing, in line with the NIH UNITE initiative to end structural racism and promote racial equity and inclusion at NIH and within the larger biomedical research enterprise. Following the presentation, Dianne Babski, Amanda Wilson (Acting Deputy Associate Director, Library Operations), and Dan Cho (Technical Information Specialist, NLM MeSH Team) answered questions and listen to feedback from the audience. A [*recording*](https://www.nlm.nih.gov/oet/ed/mesh/office-hours-mesh_special.html) of the webinar is available.

Another NLM Office Hours Special Listening Session on MeSH will be held January 18 and will continue the conversation on how NLM and our users can work together to update the MeSH vocabulary. Dianne Babski, NLM Associate Director for Library Operations and Dan Cho, Technical Information Specialist, NLM MeSH Team, will briefly discuss how NLM determines which new and updated terms are added to MeSH and share factors that impact the updates to MeSH. The remainder of the session will be reserved for attendees to share their feedback and ideas on future improvements to MeSH. Statements can be focused on these general categories:

* What other feedback do you have about MeSH?
* What should we consider reviewing? Why?

Anyone is invited to share feedback in advance by emailing [NLMTrainers@nih.gov](mailto:NLMTrainers@nih.gov) with the subject line "MeSH Listening Session." Please include in the message your name and which pronouns we should use to refer to you when sharing your feedback during the session.  
  
*A recording of the Listening Session will be made available following the event, along with a document summarizing feedback received before, during, and after the Listening Session.*  
**Date and time:** Wednesday, January 18, 2023, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. EST  
**Register here:** <https://www.nnlm.gov/civicrm-event/737> (registration limited to 100 registrants)

## 2023 MeSH

NLM began using 2023 MeSH in early December.

Beginning with the release of 2023 MeSH, NLM now offers reports detailing the changes to the MeSH vocabulary. The nine MeSH 2023 Update reports detail the changes to MeSH terms that are performed during YEP. The [MeSH 2023 Update](https://datadiscovery.nlm.nih.gov/stories/s/MeSH-2023-Update-Overview/4ekx-rduw) allows users to view changes made to the MeSH vocabulary in various formats (CSV, PDF, HTML) as well as providing exportable reports (CSV, JSON, RDF, and XML). These include detailed reports regarding:

* [**Descriptors and SCRs Additions**](https://datadiscovery.nlm.nih.gov/dataset/MeSH-2023-Update-Add-Report/aq5t-7aga/data)
* [**Preferred Term Updates**](https://datadiscovery.nlm.nih.gov/dataset/MeSH-2023-Update-Preferred-Term-Update-Report/ipap-cksm/data)
* [**Registry Number Updates**](https://datadiscovery.nlm.nih.gov/dataset/MeSH-2023-Update-Registry-Number-Update/vtwh-v35w/data)
* [**Updates Made to All Fields**](https://datadiscovery.nlm.nih.gov/dataset/MeSH-2023-Update-Update-All-Fields/85gd-bw4a/data)
* [**Descriptor and SCR Replaces**](https://datadiscovery.nlm.nih.gov/dataset/MeSH-2023-Update-Replace/7vzs-mg28/data)
* [**Entry Combination Updates**](https://datadiscovery.nlm.nih.gov/dataset/MeSH-2023-Update-Combine/nfn2-3v66/data)
* [**Descriptor and SCR Splits**](https://datadiscovery.nlm.nih.gov/dataset/MeSH-2023-Update-Split/ckve-znde/data)
* [**Descriptor and SCR Deletes**](https://datadiscovery.nlm.nih.gov/dataset/MeSH-2023-Update-Delete/czsr-ugu4/data)
* [**Merge Updates**](https://datadiscovery.nlm.nih.gov/dataset/MeSH-2023-Update-Merge/5bhp-bdab/data)

# **Special MeSH Projects**

Several special projects resulted in the following new 2023 MeSH headings:

## **New and Updated Population Group Headings**

Working with partners across NIH led by the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), MeSH 2023 added Federally recognized American Indian and Alaskan Native tribal names and ethnic and ethnolinguistic minority terms as newly created SCR type 5 designated as "Population Groups." These minority and tribal names (1,700+ terms) were mapped and reviewed by subject matter experts and scientists from within NIH and outside including contributions from Network of the National Library of Medicine members.

## **New and Updated Social Determinants of Health Headings**

As a part of ongoing research and study, MeSH added new descriptors and updated concepts as they relate to Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) with help from the NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research and other NIH Institutes and Centers.

## **MeSH 2023 Changes in NLM Bibliographic Records and Cataloging Policy**

Generally, vocabulary changes in NLM bibliographic records for books, serials, and other materials were implemented as they were applied for citations in MEDLINE.

A new 2023 heading was created for [Population Groups, US](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/record/ui?ui=D000095165). MeSH headings under [Population Groups, US](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/record/ui?ui=D000095165) are restricted to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) terms for people in the United States. When the 651 United States (or its subordinate areas) are used for works discussing specific U.S. population groups, catalogers must use one of the terms falling in [Population Groups, US](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/record/ui?ui=D000095165).

Several new MeSH headings were created under [Population Groups](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/record/ui?ui=D044382) for people outside of the United States. When a 651 outside of the United States is used or for when no geographic area is indicated, catalogers should use the broader people terms when that is the focus of the work.

**Publication Types**

There were no Publication Types (PT) added or changed for MeSH 2023, however, there was a change in cataloging policy for the use of existing PT [Validation Study](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/record/ui?ui=D023361). The annotation "CATALOGER: Do not use" was removed. As of 2023 MeSH, catalogers will assign Validation Study to a work when the title or summary explicitly states that it is a validation study.

**Geographic Headings**

Two new geographic descriptors were added (Asia, Southern and Maldives), and one was modified (Far East changed to Asia, Eastern). Any [Table G notation](https://classification.nlm.nih.gov/tableg) additions or changes in the NLM Classification will be addressed with the 2023 Winter edition of the NLM Classification.

## NLM Classification Update

## 2022 Summer Edition

The 2022 summer version was published on August 31, 2022.

The major focus of the 2022 summer edition was the systematic review of the following schedules: WF Respiratory System and WH Hemic and Lymphatic Systems. In addition to the systematic reviews of the WF and WH schedules, other minor additions and changes were made.

See [NLM Technical Bulletin September-October 2022](https://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/so22/so22_nlm_classification.html)

Highlights from the WF Respiratory Systematic Review

* 19 NEW WF CLASS NUMBERS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **New Class Number** | **Caption** |
| WF 105 | Respiration |
| WF 140.3 | Respiration disorders |
| WF 140.5 | Respiratory insufficiency |
| WF 140.7 | Respiratory system infections |
| WF 141.5.L9 | Lung volume measurements |
| WF 141.5.S8 | Spirometry |
| WF 144 | Apnea |
| WF 146 | Artificial respiration |
| WF 148 | Oxygen inhalation therapy |
| WF 235 | Therapy |
| WF 302 | Epidemiology (Table-G) |
| WF 302.1 | [Epidemiology] General coverage (Not Table-G) |
| WF 304 | Pathology |
| WF 306 | Diagnosis |
| WF 555 | Pediatric |
| WF 610 | Anatomy. Histology. Embryology. Congenital abnormalities |
| WF 620 | Physiology |
| WF 630 | Lung diseases (General) |
| WF 972 | Thoracic diseases |
|  |  |

* 4 CANCELED WF CLASS NUMBERS

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Deleted Class Number** | **Former Caption** | **New Instructions for Classification** |
| WF 225 | Mass chest X-ray | Classify works on mass chest X-ray in WF 975 |
| WF 290 | Lymph node tuberculosis. Scrofula | Classify works on lymph node tuberculosis in WH 700 |
| WF 405 | Tuberculosis in the workplace | Classify works on occupational exposure to tuberculosis in WF 200-WF 390 |
| WF 805 | Functional disorders | Classify works on functional disorders of diaphragm in WF 800 |

## Highlights from the WH Hemic and Lymphatic Systems

* **11 NEW WH CLASS NUMBERS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **New Class Number** | **Caption** |
| WH 173 | Sickle cell anemia |
| WH 220 | Lymphocytes |
| WH 260 | Lymphoid leukemia |
| WH 265 | Myeloid leukemia |
| WH 305 | Hemostasis |
| WH 311 | Fibrinolysis and associated blood proteins |
| WH 382 | Bone marrow transplantation |
| WH 383 | Hematopoietic stem cells. Hematopoietic stem cell transplantation |
| WH 470 | Blood donation. Blood donors |
| WH 490 | Hematologic neoplasms (General) |
| WH 720 | Lymphatic diseases (General) |

## 2023 Winter Edition

The 2023 winter edition will be published in late January 2023. It will encompass the additions and changes from the 2023 MeSH vocabulary as evaluated for inclusion in the Classification index. All main index headings will be linked to the 2023 vocabulary in the MeSH Browser at that time.