

How to Request Data from QWeb:

Using BNF Drug Codes to Build a New Code Group

To access data from the QResearch database, Code Groups need to be built and linked to a Project. This Guide explains how to build BNF Code Groups using QWeb.

Please note - you do not need to have Project Approval to build your Code Library, but data will not be released until approval has been granted.

Related Documents you may find useful:

- Building a New Code Group using SNOMED Codes
- Building a New Code Group using ICD-10 Codes
- Building a Code Group using QWeb Code Group Libraries
- Creating a QWeb Account
- Making a Project Application
- Your QWeb Project
- Linking Code Groups to Projects created by other QWeb Users
- Code Groups: Saving, Checking In and Checking Out
- Code Group Versions: An Overview
- Using Code Groups in Projects
- Requesting a Review
- Reviewing someone else's Code Group
- Merging Code Groups
- How to make your own Code Groups visible to others

QWeb is a regularly updated piece of software. The accompanying User Guides and Videos are frequently reviewed to ensure compatibility with the latest version of QWeb. It is important that you use the most recently published User Guides and Videos to ensure maximum accuracy. These can be found at:

<https://www.qresearch.org/qweb-guides>

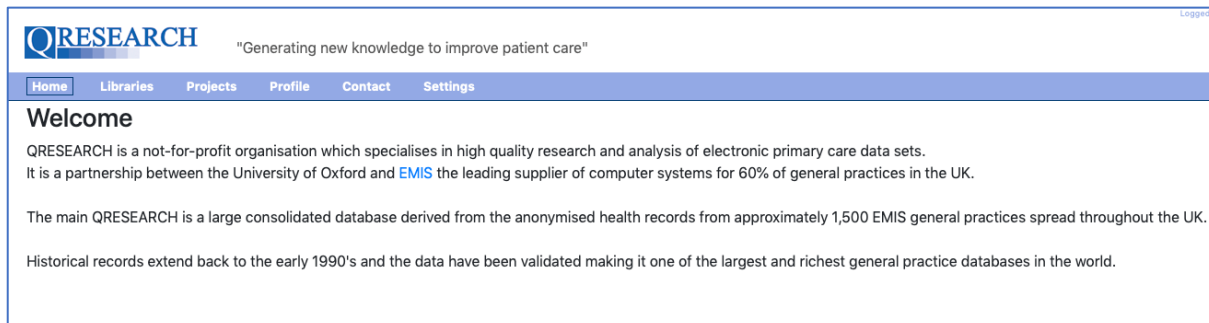
QResearch welcomes feedback on these User Guides and Videos. If you have any suggestions or questions, please feel free to contact us here:

<https://www.qresearch.org/about/contact-us/>

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Building a Code Group Using BNF Codes

1. Use the Login function to take you to the Welcome screen:

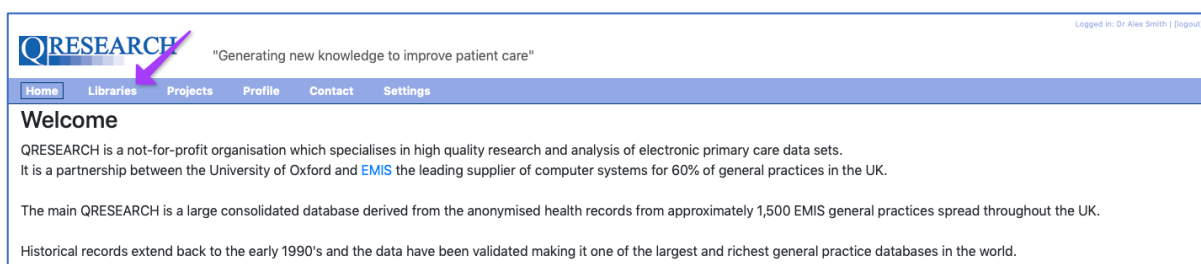


The screenshot shows the QRESEARCH website's welcome page. At the top left is the QRESEARCH logo with the tagline "Generating new knowledge to improve patient care". Below the logo is a navigation menu with links for Home, Libraries, Projects, Profile, Contact, and Settings. The main content area is titled "Welcome" and contains the following text:

QRESEARCH is a not-for-profit organisation which specialises in high quality research and analysis of electronic primary care data sets. It is a partnership between the University of Oxford and EMIS the leading supplier of computer systems for 60% of general practices in the UK.

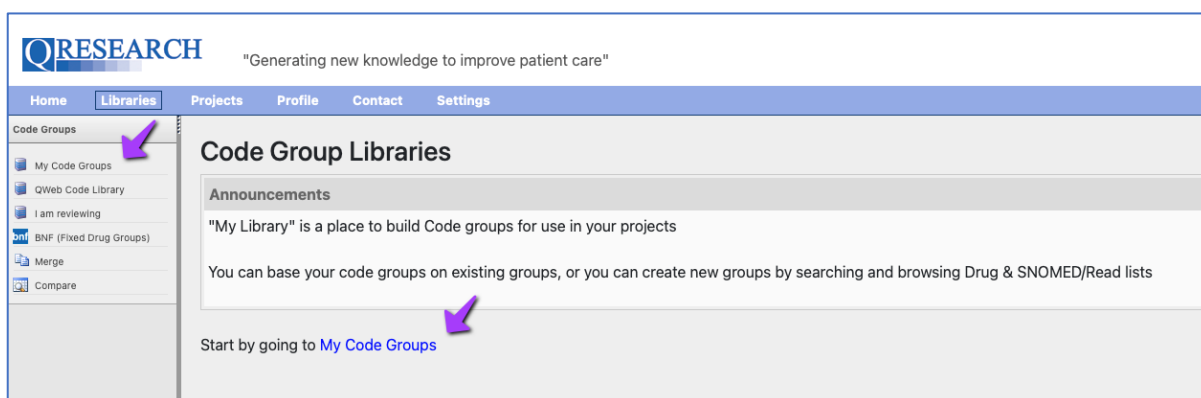
The main QRESEARCH is a large consolidated database derived from the anonymised health records from approximately 1,500 EMIS general practices spread throughout the UK. Historical records extend back to the early 1990's and the data have been validated making it one of the largest and richest general practice databases in the world.

2. To start building a Code Group, select 'Libraries':



The screenshot shows the QRESEARCH website with the "Libraries" menu item highlighted in the navigation bar. A purple arrow points to the "Libraries" link. The main content area is titled "Welcome" and contains the same text as the previous screenshot.

3. This takes you to the Libraries main page. From here you can access your personal Code Group Library by either clicking on the [My Code Groups](#) link in blue or by selecting 'My Code Groups' from the menu to the left:



The screenshot shows the QRESEARCH website's "Code Group Libraries" page. The navigation bar is highlighted, and the "Libraries" menu item is selected. On the left side, there is a sidebar menu with the following items: My Code Groups, QWeb Code Library, I am reviewing, BNF (Fixed Drug Groups), Merge, and Compare. A purple arrow points to the "My Code Groups" link in the sidebar. The main content area is titled "Code Group Libraries" and contains the following text:

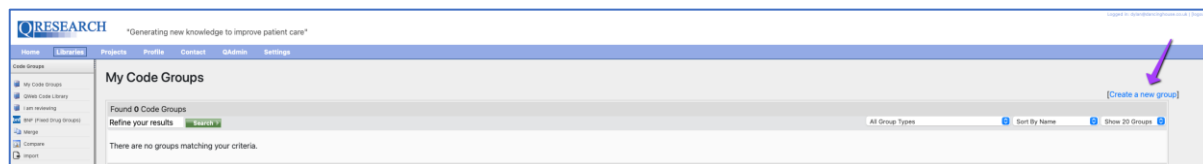
Announcements

"My Library" is a place to build Code groups for use in your projects

You can base your code groups on existing groups, or you can create new groups by searching and browsing Drug & SNOMED/Read lists

Start by going to [My Code Groups](#)

- On first accessing your Library you will see the information below, as no Code Groups have yet been added. To create a new Code Group, click on the blue link [Create a new group] in the top right-hand corner:



- This will take you to the following page:

Create new Code Group

What type of Code group?

SNOMED/Read Code Group

[continue](#)

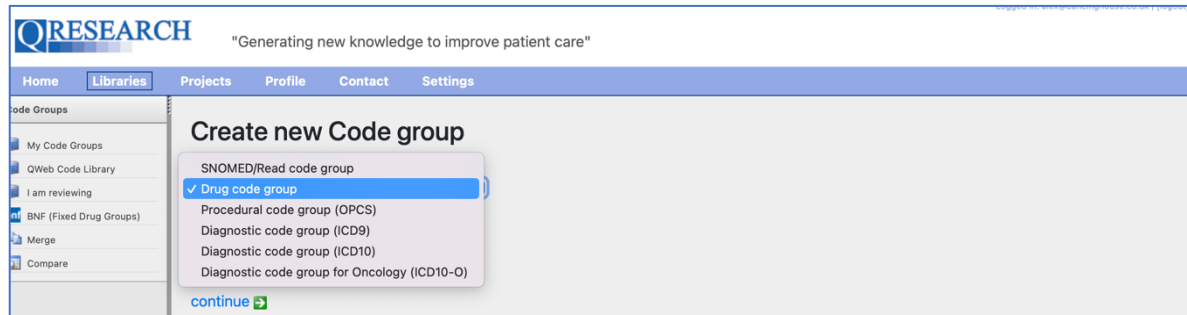
In the dropdown menu ('What type of Code Group?') there are several types of Code Groups to choose from.

The types of Code Groups refer to the types shown in the table below:

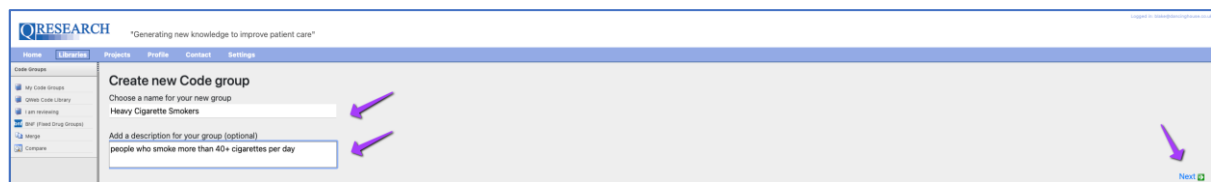
Type of Code Group	Description
SNOMED/Read	Systemized Nomenclature of Medicine Clinical Terms (SNOMED International)/ Read Clinical Codes (retired 2020) (NHS UK)
Drug	BNF Classification of Prescribed Drugs (British National Formulary)
Procedural (OPCS)	Classification of Interventions and Surgical Procedures (Department of Health, UK)
Diagnostic (ICD9)	International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems – 9 th revision (World Health Organisation)
Diagnostic (ICD10)	International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems – 10 th revision (World Health Organisation)
Diagnostic (Oncology - ICD10-O)	International Statistical Classification of Diseases for Oncology (World Health Organisation)

QWeb assumes an existing knowledge of these data types but if familiarisation is required, see the Appendix of this Guide for links to further information and training tools.

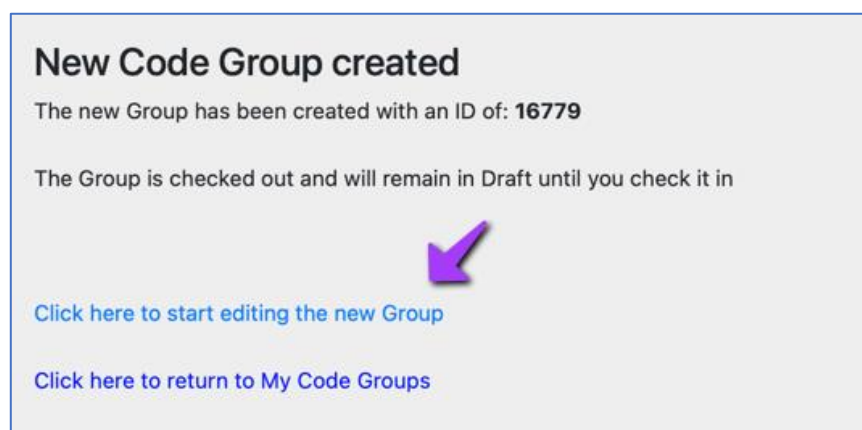
- In this Guide we are using BNF Drug Codes. To build a Code Group using these Codes, select 'Drug code group' from the Dropdown menu:



- Next, create a name for your Code Group and add an optional Group description (example below). Type in the boxes and then click on the blue [Next](#) link:



- Now that you have created a name for your Code Group, QResearch will assign it a numeric ID. You can then start selecting codes for your Group by selecting the blue link '[Click here to start editing the new group](#)':



This takes you to the default **Browse** option, where the BNF data is displayed. Scroll down to see the Drug Code Chapters – for example, 3: Respiratory system:

DMDID	Bnf	Text (DMD/SNOMED)	Approved / Emis	Ingredient(s)
	: Drug Explorer No. 73, Release v187, dm+d-5.1.0_20220509_1			
	: Emergency treatment of poisoning			
	: General information and changes			
	: Guidance on prescribing			
	: Preface			
	: Publication information			
	A1 : Interactions			
	A2 : Borderline substances			
	A3 : Cautionary and advisory labels for dispensed medicines			
	A4 : Intravenous additives			
	A5 : Wound management products and elastically stretched garments			
	Appendix - : Approximate conversions and units			
	Appendix - : Dental Practitioners' Formulary			
	Appendix - : Frequently asked questions for the BNF and BNF for Children (BNFC) - general			
	Appendix - : Frequently asked questions-clinical			
	Appendix - : General reference			
	Appendix - : Index of manufacturers			
	Appendix - : Medical emergencies in the community			
	Appendix - : Non-medical prescribing			
	Appendix - : Nurse Prescribers' Formulary			
	Appendix - : Special-order Manufacturers			
	Appendix - : Yellow Card Scheme			
	1 : Gastro-intestinal system			
	2 : Cardiovascular system			
	3 : Respiratory system			
	4 : Central nervous system			
	5 : Infections			

Clicking on a Chapter will display the Drug Codes associated with that BNF category:

DMDID	Bnf	Text (DMD/SNOMED)	Approved / Emis	Ingredient(s)
	: Human Alpha1-Proteinase Inhibitor			
	: Respreeza			
	3.1 : Bronchodilators			
	3.10 : Systemic nasal decongestants			
	3.11 : Antifibrotics			
	3.2 : Corticosteroids			
	3.3 : Cromoglicate and related therapy, leukotriene receptor antagonists, and phosphodiesterase type-4 inhibitors			
	3.4 : Antihistamines, hyposensitisation, and allergic emergencies			
	3.5 : Respiratory stimulants and pulmonary surfactants			
	3.6 : Oxygen			
	3.7 : Mucolytics			
	3.8 : Aromatic inhalations			
	3.9 : Cough preparations			
34026411000001109	3 : Respiratory system	Human alpha1-proteinase inhibitor 1g powder and solvent for solution for infusion vials		Human Alpha1-Proteinase Inhibitor
34606211000001106	3 : Respiratory system	Respreeza 1000mg powder and solvent for solution for infusion vials (CSL Behring UK Ltd)		Human Alpha1-Proteinase Inhibitor

It also allows you to explore the Sections within that Chapter, and their Drug Codes, by clicking on them (for example 3.1: Bronchodilators):

Bnf : 3 : Bronchodilators

DMDID	Bnf	Text (DMD/SNOMED)	Approved / Emis	Ingredient(s)
	: Asthma			
	: Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease			
	: Croup			
	: Management of acute asthma			
	: Management of chronic asthma			
	3.1 : Bronchodilators			
	3.1.1 : Adrenoceptor agonists			
	3.1.2 : Antimuscarinic bronchodilators			
	3.1.3 : Theophylline			
	3.1.4 : Compound bronchodilator preparations			
	3.1.5 : Peak flow meters, inhaler devices and nebulisers			

and by clicking on the Sections within them (for example 3.1.2: Antimuscarinic bronchodilators):

Browse | Search

Heavy cigarette smokers (0)

Bnf : 3 : 3.1 : Antimuscarinic bronchodilators

DMDID	Bnf	Text (DMD/SNOMED)	Approved / Emis	Ingredient(s)
	: ACLIDINIUM BROMIDE			
	: GLYCOPYRRONIUM			
	: IPRATROPIUM BROMIDE			
	: Oxitropium Bromide			
	: Oxivent			
	: TIOTROPIUM			
	: UMECLIDINIUM			
	3.1.2 : Antimuscarinic bronchodilators			
<input type="checkbox"/>	2944211000001101 3.1.2 : Antimuscarinic bronchodilators	Oxitropium Bromide Autohaler 100 micrograms/puff		Oxitropium Bromide
<input type="checkbox"/>	2947411000001107 3.1.2 : Antimuscarinic bronchodilators	Oxivent 100micrograms/dose inhaler (Boehringer Ingelheim Ltd)		Soya Lecithin,Oxitropium Bromide
<input type="checkbox"/>	36022911000001105 3.1.2 : Antimuscarinic bronchodilators	Oxivent 100micrograms/dose Autohaler (Boehringer Ingelheim Ltd)		Oxitropium Bromide, Soya Lecithin
		Oxitropium bromide 100micrograms/dose inhaler		Oxitropium Bromide

To learn about the Search function, see Step 15. Continue to Step 9 to build Codes using the Browse function.

Alternatively, once you have created your new Group, you can view your Code Groups in 'My Code Group Library' or click the blue link 'return to your list of groups':

QRESEARCH "Generating new knowledge to improve patient care"

Home **Libraries** Projects Profile Contact Settings

Code Groups

- My Code Groups
- QWeb Code Library
- I am reviewing
- BNF (Fixed Drug Groups)
- Merge
- Compare

New Code group created

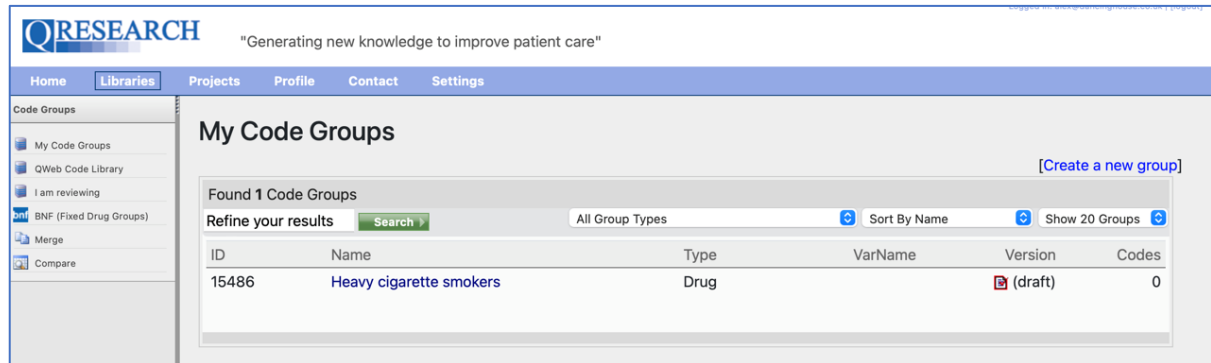
The new group has been created with an ID of: **15486**

The group is checked out and will remain in Draft until you check it in

[Click here to start editing the new group](#)

[Click here to return to your list of groups](#)

This returns you to your Code Group Library:



QRESEARCH "Generating new knowledge to improve patient care"

Home Libraries Projects Profile Contact Settings

Code Groups

- My Code Groups
- QWeb Code Library
- I am reviewing
- BNF (Fixed Drug Groups)
- Merge
- Compare

My Code Groups

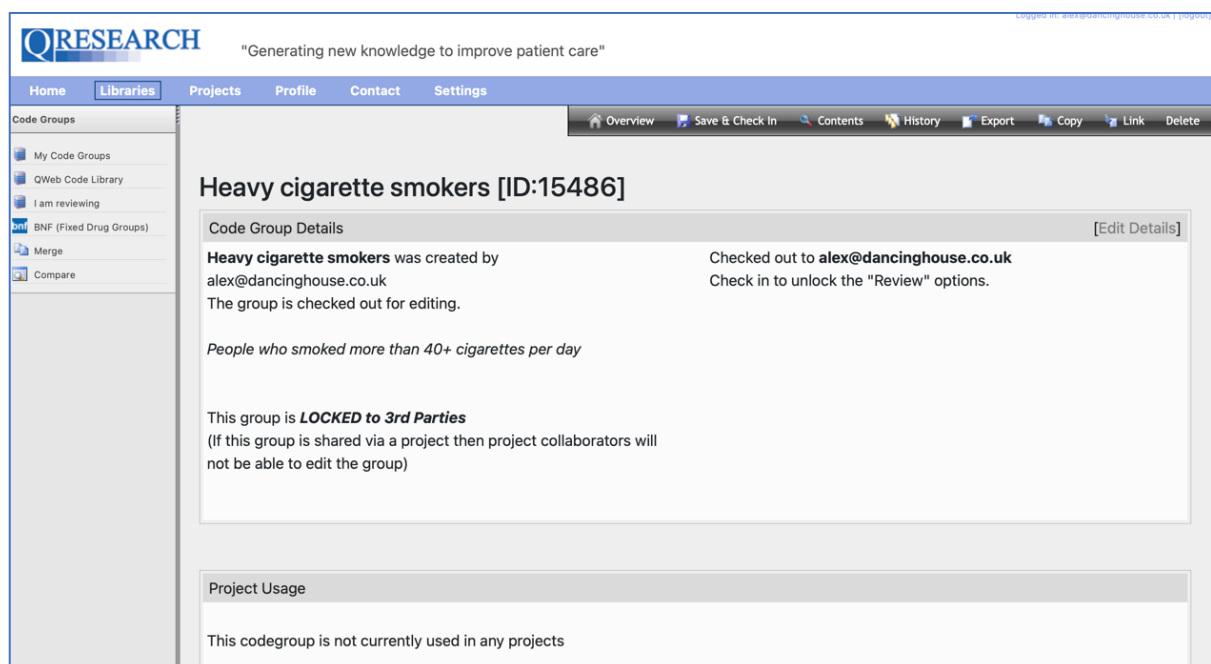
[Create a new group]

Found 1 Code Groups

Refine your results All Group Types Sort By Name Show 20 Groups

ID	Name	Type	VarName	Version	Codes
15486	Heavy cigarette smokers	Drug		(draft)	0

Here you can view/edit the Code Group details by clicking on the name of the Group. This takes you to the information below. (You can click on the [Edit Details](#) link on the top right to edit the Code Group name/description):



QRESEARCH "Generating new knowledge to improve patient care"

Home Libraries Projects Profile Contact Settings

Code Groups

- My Code Groups
- QWeb Code Library
- I am reviewing
- BNF (Fixed Drug Groups)
- Merge
- Compare

Overview Save & Check In Contents History Export Copy Link Delete

Heavy cigarette smokers [ID:15486]

[Edit Details]

Code Group Details

Heavy cigarette smokers was created by alex@dancinghouse.co.uk
The group is checked out for editing.


Checked out to alex@dancinghouse.co.uk
Check in to unlock the "Review" options.

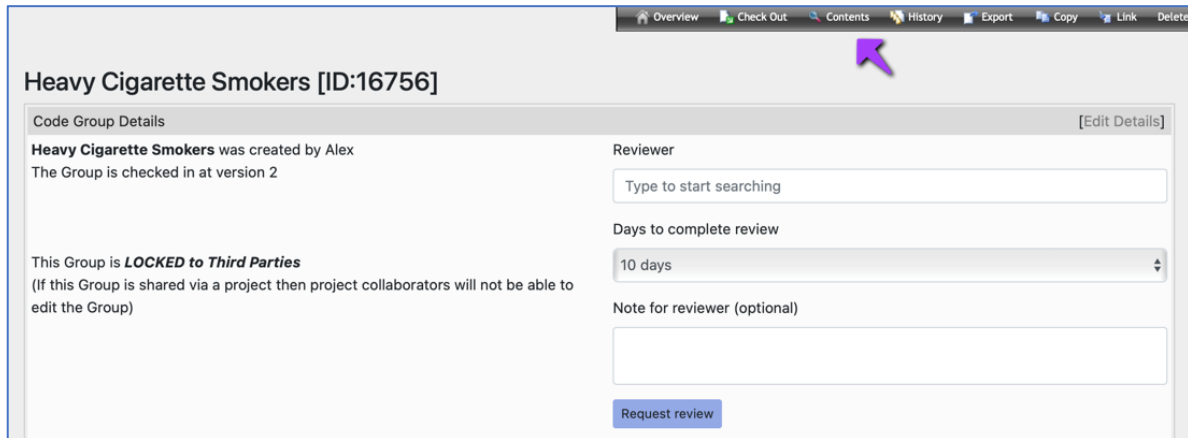
People who smoked more than 40+ cigarettes per day

This group is **LOCKED to 3rd Parties**
(If this group is shared via a project then project collaborators will not be able to edit the group)

Project Usage

This codegroup is not currently used in any projects

To add Drug Codes to your Group from here, click on  :



Heavy Cigarette Smokers [ID:16756]

Code Group Details [Edit Details]

Heavy Cigarette Smokers was created by Alex
The Group is checked in at version 2

This Group is **LOCKED to Third Parties**
(If this Group is shared via a project then project collaborators will not be able to edit the Group)

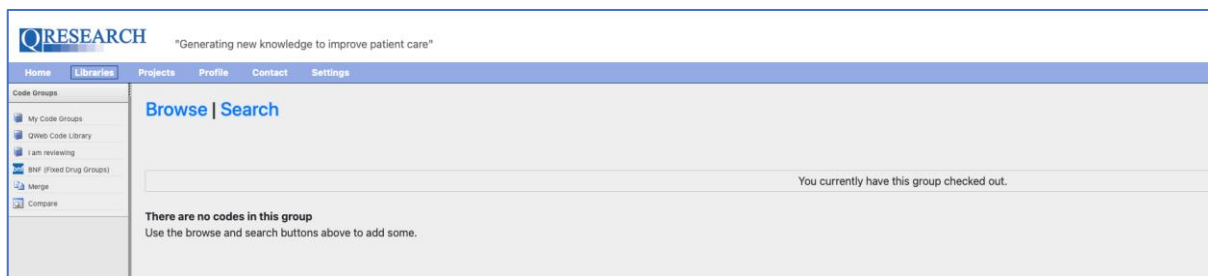
Reviewer
Type to start searching

Days to complete review
10 days

Note for reviewer (optional)

[Request review](#)

This returns you to the Browse/Search area:



QRESEARCH "Generating new knowledge to improve patient care"

Home Libraries Projects Profile Contact Settings

Code Groups

My Code Groups
QWeb Code Library
I am reviewing
BNF (Fixed Drug Groups)
Merge
Compare

Browse | Search

You currently have this group checked out.

There are no codes in this group
Use the browse and search buttons above to add some.

The next section of this Guide focuses on using the Browse Function. To learn more about the Search Function, see Step 15.

Building Codes using the Browse Function

9. If you are viewing Codes in Browsing mode, click on a Chapter's name (in blue text) to access its Drug Codes and Sections:



10. To select a Drug Code from a Section, tick its checkbox and it will be added to your Code Group:

Bnf : Respiratory system			
DMDID	Bnf	Text (DMD/SNOMED) Approved / Emis	Ingredient(s)
	: Human Alpha1-Proteinase Inhibitor : Respreeza 3.1 : Bronchodilators 3.10 : Systemic nasal decongestants 3.11 : Antifibrotics 3.2 : Corticosteroids 3.3 : Cromoglicate and related therapy, leukotriene receptor antagonists, and phosphodiesterase type-4 inhibitors 3.4 : Antihistamines, hyposensitisation, and allergic emergencies 3.5 : Respiratory stimulants and pulmonary surfactants 3.6 : Oxygen 3.7 : Mucolytics 3.8 : Aromatic inhalations 3.9 : Cough preparations		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 34026411000001109	3 : Respiratory system	Human alpha1-proteinase inhibitor 1g powder and solvent for solution for infusion vials	Human Alpha1-Proteinase Inhibitor
<input type="checkbox"/> 34606211000001106	3 : Respiratory system	Respreeza 1000mg powder and solvent for solution for infusion vials (CSL Behring UK Ltd)	Human Alpha1-Proteinase Inhibitor

11. Alternatively, click on a Chapter's Sections to access and add further Drug Code/s:

Browse | Search Overview Save & Check In Contents History Export Copy Link Delete

Heavy cigarette smokers (1)

Bnf : 3 : 3.1 : Antimuscarinic bronchodilators

DMDID	Bnf	Text (DMD/SNOMED) Approved / Emis	Ingredient(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> 2944211000001101	: ACLIDINIUM BROMIDE : GLYCOPYRRONIUM : IPRATROPIUM BROMIDE : Oxitropium Bromide : Oxivent : TIOTROPIUM : UMECLIDINIUM 3.1.2 : Antimuscarinic bronchodilators	Oxitropium Bromide Autohaler 100 micrograms/puff	Oxitropium Bromide
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2947411000001107	3.1.2 : Antimuscarinic bronchodilators	Oxivent 100micrograms/dose inhaler (Boehringer Ingelheim Ltd)	Soya Lecithin,Oxitropium Bromide
<input type="checkbox"/> 36022911000001105	3.1.2 : Antimuscarinic bronchodilators	Oxivent 100micrograms/dose Autohaler (Boehringer Ingelheim Ltd)	Oxitropium Bromide,Soya Lecithin
	3.1.2 : Antimuscarinic bronchodilators	Oxitropium bromide 100micrograms/dose inhaler	Oxitropium Bromide

The number of Codes in your Group will be visible in the Counter the top right of the screen. If you wish to remove Codes from the Group this can be done in this area by unticking the boxes.

12. You can navigate back through the Sections and Chapters by clicking on their numbers at the top of the screen:

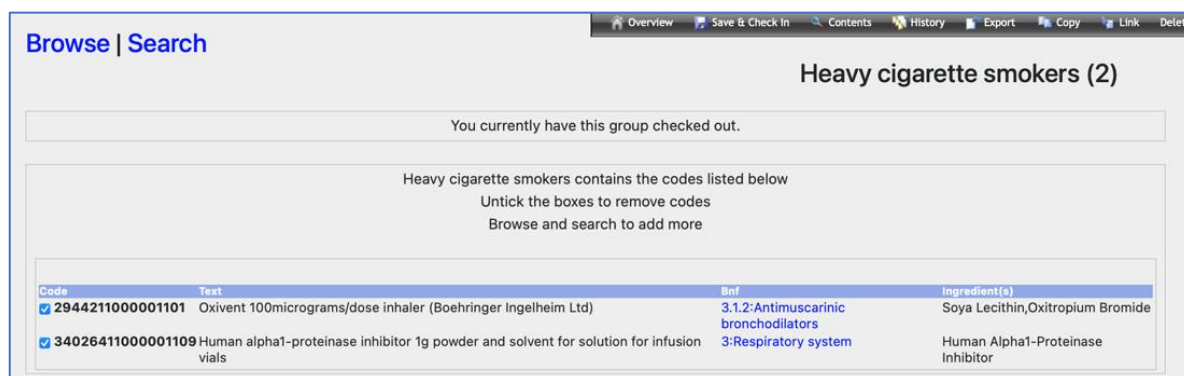
Browse | Search Overview Save & Check In Contents History Export Copy Link Delete

Heavy cigarette smokers (0)

Bnf : 3 : 3.1 : Antimuscarinic bronchodilators

DMDID	Bnf	Text (DMD/SNOMED) Approved / Emis	Ingredient(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> 2944211000001101	: ACLIDINIUM BROMIDE : GLYCOPYRRONIUM : IPRATROPIUM BROMIDE : Oxitropium Bromide : Oxivent : TIOTROPIUM : UMECLIDINIUM 3.1.2 : Antimuscarinic bronchodilators	Oxitropium Bromide Autohaler 100 micrograms/puff	Oxitropium Bromide
<input type="checkbox"/> 2947411000001107	3.1.2 : Antimuscarinic bronchodilators	Oxivent 100micrograms/dose inhaler (Boehringer Ingelheim Ltd)	Soya Lecithin,Oxitropium Bromide
<input type="checkbox"/> 36022911000001105	3.1.2 : Antimuscarinic bronchodilators	Oxivent 100micrograms/dose Autohaler (Boehringer Ingelheim Ltd)	Oxitropium Bromide,Soya Lecithin
	3.1.2 : Antimuscarinic bronchodilators	Oxitropium bromide 100micrograms/dose inhaler	Oxitropium Bromide

13. The Group Contents can also be viewed at this stage by clicking on the name of the Code Group at the top right of the screen. For example, if you click on [Heavy Cigarette Smokers](#) the Contents of the Code Group will be displayed:



Code	Text	Bnf	Ingredient(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2944211000001101	Oxivent 100micrograms/dose inhaler (Boehringer Ingelheim Ltd)	3.1.2-Antimuscarinic bronchodilators	Soya Lecithin,Oxitropium Bromide
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 34026411000001109	Human alpha1-proteinase inhibitor 1g powder and solvent for solution for infusion vials	3:Respiratory system	Human Alpha1-Proteinase Inhibitor

Clicking on the [Contents](#) link also enables you to view the Codes in your Code Group. It also returns you to the Browse function if you wish to select and add more Codes.

14. Your Code Group (including the Drugs Codes you have added) will automatically be saved as a Draft, accessible from the 'My Code Groups' area.

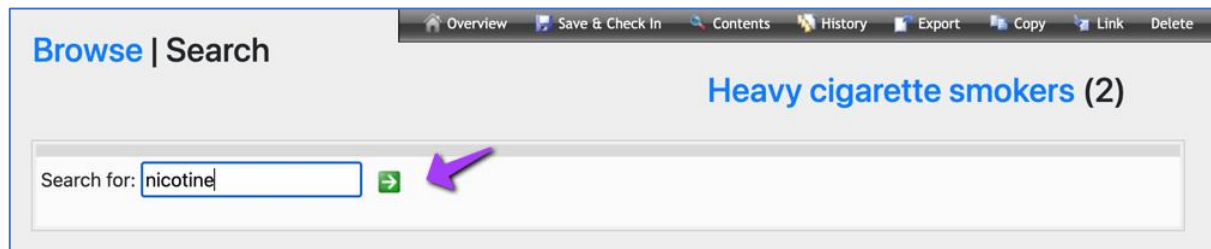
It will remain 'Checked Out' to you for editing until it is 'Checked In'. It will need to be 'Checked In' to be for data to be released to use in an Approved Project, or to be Reviewed by another user. (See the User Guide 'Code Groups: Saving, Checking In and Checking Out' for guidance on this.)

Once Checked In, a Version can be Checked Out by you for further editing or to another User for Review using the Review process. (For further details on this process, refer to the User Guides 'Requesting a Review' and/or 'Reviewing someone else's Code Group'.)

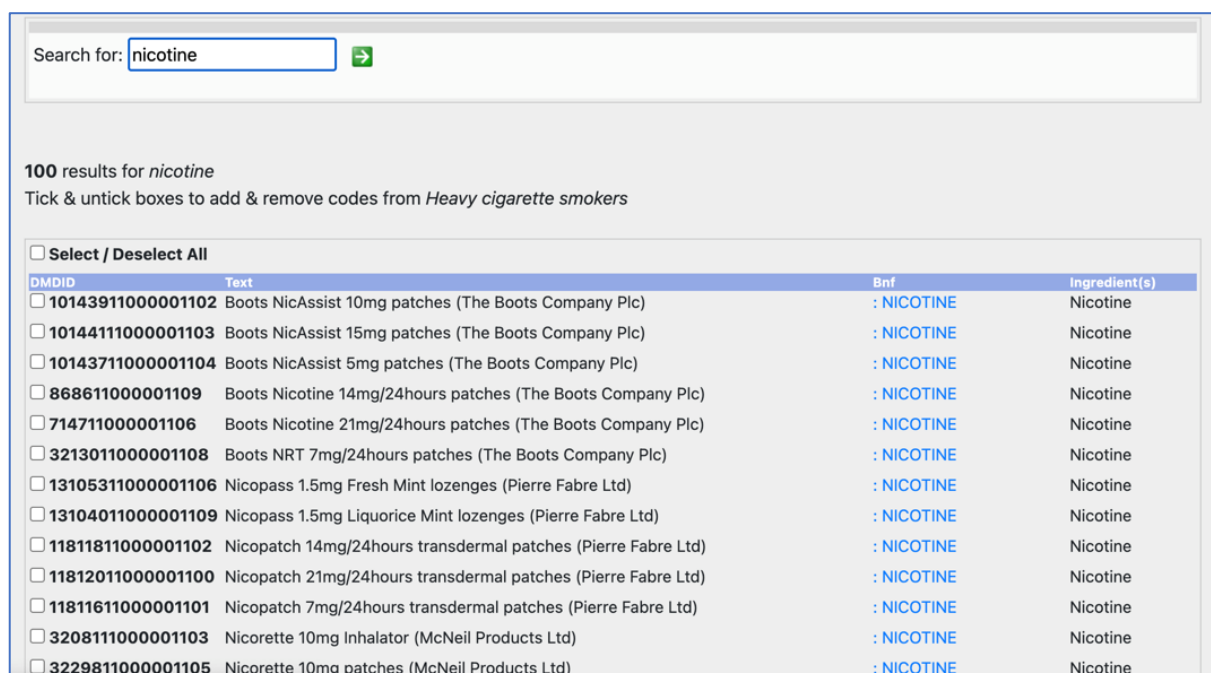
The next section demonstrates how to use the Search function to add Drug Codes.


Building a Code Group by Using the Search Function

15. You can use the Search function to search by a word or Drug Code number. For example, if you want to search for 'nicotine' type in the word and click on the green box with the arrow:



16. You will then see all 100 results for that search term (scroll down to see all the Codes, displayed by 100 results per page.) Tick the checkbox to select and add a Drug Code to your Group, or alternatively Select All:



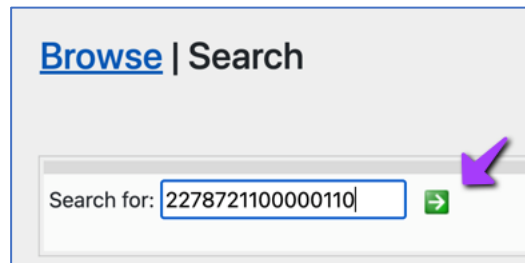
Search for: 

100 results for *nicotine*
 Tick & untick boxes to add & remove codes from *Heavy cigarette smokers*

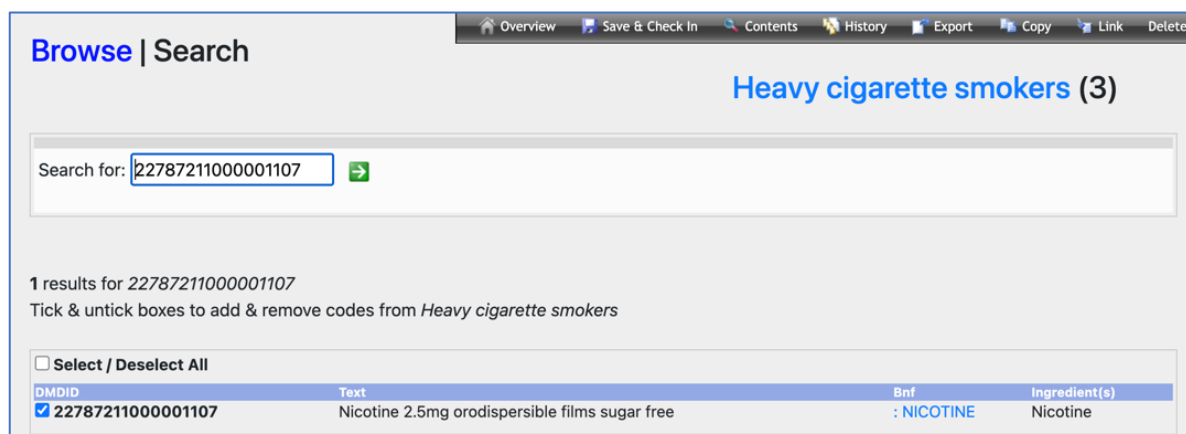
<input type="checkbox"/> Select / Deselect All	DMDID	Text	Bnf	Ingredient(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	10143911000001102	Boots NicAssist 10mg patches (The Boots Company Plc)	: NICOTINE	Nicotine
<input type="checkbox"/>	10144111000001103	Boots NicAssist 15mg patches (The Boots Company Plc)	: NICOTINE	Nicotine
<input type="checkbox"/>	10143711000001104	Boots NicAssist 5mg patches (The Boots Company Plc)	: NICOTINE	Nicotine
<input type="checkbox"/>	868611000001109	Boots Nicotine 14mg/24hours patches (The Boots Company Plc)	: NICOTINE	Nicotine
<input type="checkbox"/>	714711000001106	Boots Nicotine 21mg/24hours patches (The Boots Company Plc)	: NICOTINE	Nicotine
<input type="checkbox"/>	3213011000001108	Boots NRT 7mg/24hours patches (The Boots Company Plc)	: NICOTINE	Nicotine
<input type="checkbox"/>	13105311000001106	Nicopass 1.5mg Fresh Mint lozenges (Pierre Fabre Ltd)	: NICOTINE	Nicotine
<input type="checkbox"/>	13104011000001109	Nicopass 1.5mg Liquorice Mint lozenges (Pierre Fabre Ltd)	: NICOTINE	Nicotine
<input type="checkbox"/>	11811811000001102	Nicopatch 14mg/24hours transdermal patches (Pierre Fabre Ltd)	: NICOTINE	Nicotine
<input type="checkbox"/>	11812011000001100	Nicopatch 21mg/24hours transdermal patches (Pierre Fabre Ltd)	: NICOTINE	Nicotine
<input type="checkbox"/>	11811611000001101	Nicopatch 7mg/24hours transdermal patches (Pierre Fabre Ltd)	: NICOTINE	Nicotine
<input type="checkbox"/>	3208111000001103	Nicorette 10mg Inhalator (McNeil Products Ltd)	: NICOTINE	Nicotine
<input type="checkbox"/>	3229811000001105	Nicorette 10mg patches (McNeil Products Ltd)	: NICOTINE	Nicotine

The Counter to the top right of the screen records the total number of Codes selected.

17. Alternatively, to Search for a Drug Code by number, enter the number into the Search box and click on the green box with the arrow:



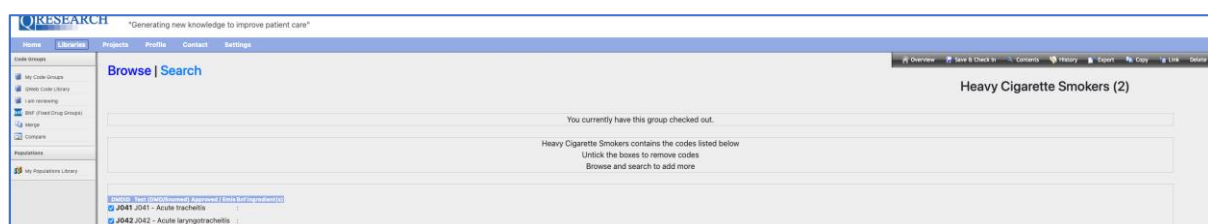
18. You will then see the Code displayed and be able to tick the checkbox to select and add it to your Code Group:



The Counter to the top right of the screen records the total number of Codes selected.

19. Your Code Group (including the Drugs Codes you have added) will automatically be saved as a Draft, accessible from the 'My Code Groups' area. The Group Contents can be viewed at this stage by clicking on the name of the Code Group at the top right of the screen. You can also view the Codes the Group contains by using the

Contents function:



The Code Group will remain 'Checked Out' to you for editing until it is 'Checked In'. It will need to be 'Checked In' to be for data to be released to use in an Approved Project, or to be Reviewed by another user. (See the User Guide 'Code Groups: Saving, Checking In and Checking Out' for guidance on this.)

Once Checked In, a Version can be Checked Out by you for further editing or to another User for Review using the Review process. (For further details on this process, refer to the User Guides 'Requesting a Review' and/or 'Reviewing someone else's Code Group'.)

Further Information/Training Tools for Clinical Code Classification

World Health Organisation ICD-10 Interactive Self-Learning Tool:

<https://apps.who.int/classifications/apps/icd/ICD10Training/ICD-10%20training/Start/index.html>

BNF list of Prescribed Drugs: <https://bnf.nice.org.uk/drug/>

SNOMED:

<https://www.snomed.org/snomed-ct/snomed-in-action>

<https://digital.nhs.uk/services/terminology-and-classifications/snomed-ct>

Read Codes:

<https://digital.nhs.uk/services/terminology-and-classifications/read-codes>