# NHS Classifications Browser

## User Guide

February 2024

# Contents

# Important information

## General

Send feedback suggested improvements and errors or issues relating to the Classifications Browser to information.standards@nhs.net.

## ICD-10

The NHS in England uses the ICD-10 content as released by the WHO and the Classifications Browser replicates the printed versions of the books, this means that:

- American spelling is used in the Alphabetical Index, **see Search for more details on this**

- Diacritics (marks placed above or below a letter in a word to indicate pronunciation, e.g. Sézary) are used in the classifications, **see Search for more details on this**

- Activity codes in Chapter XX External causes of morbidity and mortality and the Morphology of neoplasm section, although not used in the NHS in England, are still present within the Classifications Browser

**The exceptions to this are the alterations listed in ICD-10 and OPCS-4 Classifications Content Changes, which have been corrected in the content within the Classifications Browser**

The ICD-10 5th Edition Volume 2 – Instruction Manual can be accessed on Delen. See the Introduction within the ICD-10 5th Edition National Clinical Coding Standards for further information on the use of the Volume 2 - Instruction manual.

## Tree sync issue when viewing N in the ICD-10 Alphabetical Index

When an entry is selected in the tree under 'Alphabetical N' from 'Naeglei's' through to 'Neoplasm'; the entry selected in the tree is correctly shown in the classification contents pane, but the tree syncs to 'Zuckerkandl's organ' which is the last entry in the Neoplasm table.

This issue will be investigated to identify a fix.

# Access the Classifications

Access the current versions of the ICD-10 and OPCS-4 classifications using the buttons on the home page.

## The NHS Classifications Browser

The NHS Classifications Browser allows you to browse and search the ICD-10 and OPCS-4 statistical classifications and contains Coding Standards is released.

This browser is for use in the UK only.

ICD-10 5th Edition is included with permission from The World Health Organisation for UK purposes only.

The International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Health Related Problems (ICD-10) (**Ref SCCI0021**) and the Classification of Int

**Browse ICD-10 5th Edition**     **Browse OPCS-4.10**     Read the User Guide

Or using links in the top right of the home page. You can also access past versions here.

ICD-10 5th Edition | OPCS-4 ▾

OPCS-4.10
OPCS-4.9
OPCS-4.8
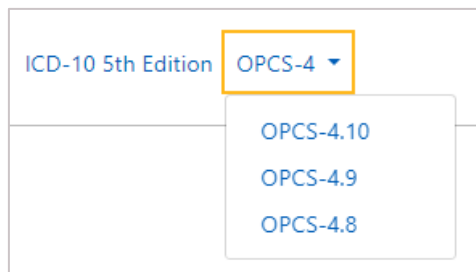
**When one of these links is selected the page is displayed in the current tab. You can open the link in another tab by right clicking on the link and selecting 'Open link in new tab'. This will allow you to have both ICD-10 and OPCS-4 classifications open in separate tabs.**

The classification and version selected is displayed in the top left of the screen. Click on 'Home' to return to the home page.

**NHS** Classifications Browser ICD-10-5TH-Edition     Home
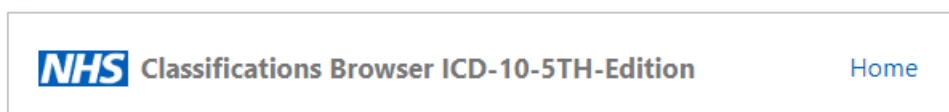
You can create a desktop shortcut and pin the NHS Classifications Browser to the start menu or taskbar. The method to do this will depend on which web browser you are using.

# Layout
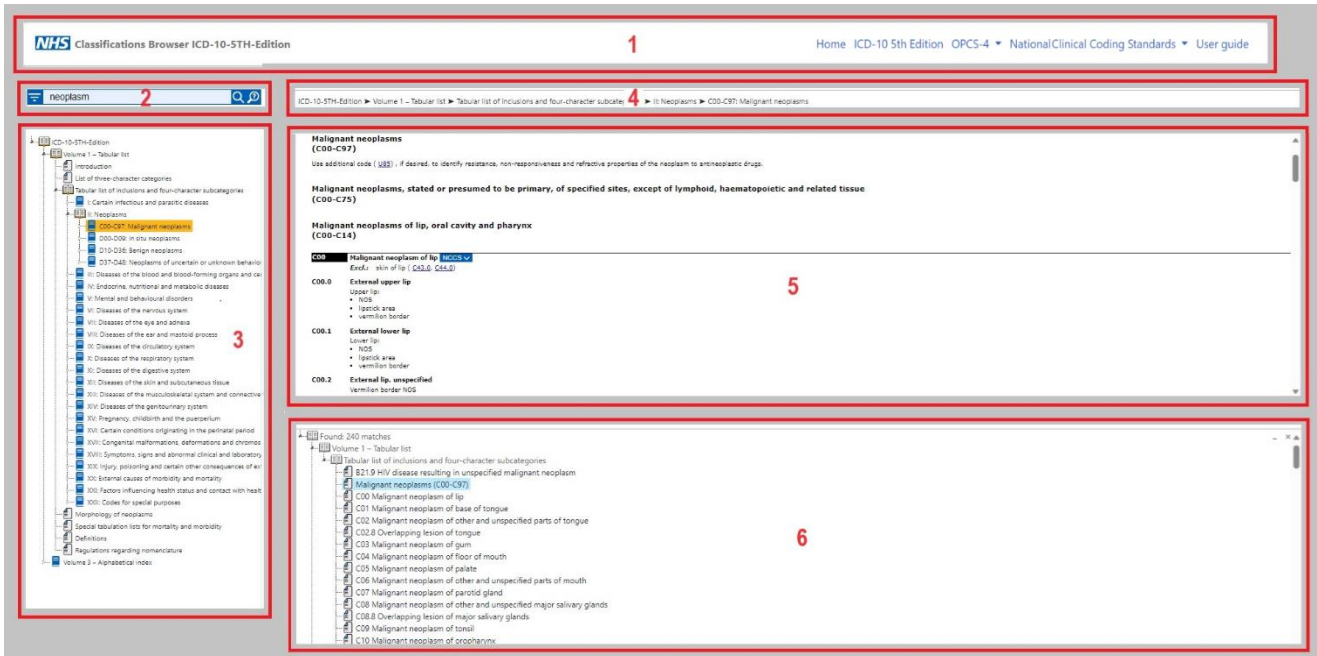


1. Header – Navigate to the NHS Classifications Browser Home page and the ICD-10 and OPCS-4 classifications. Download the National Clinical Coding Standards, OPCS-4 Supplementary Information, OPCS-4 Chemotherapy Regimens List and NHS Classifications Browser User guide and access past version of the National Clinical Coding Standards

2. Search pane – Enter and clear search terms, filter searches and access search help

3. Tree pane – See and navigate through the hierarchy of the classification.

4. Ribbon – See the full location of the content, that is listed at the top of the classification content pane, within the classification

5. Classification content pane – See the content of the classification

6. Search results pane – See and select results of searches

# Navigation

The Classification content is structured and presented in the same format as the printed books and can be used in the same way, but with the additional benefits that an electronic product provides.

The classification hierarchy is presented in the tree pane and this allows you to see and quickly navigate through each volume, section, chapter, block and category within the Tabular List. In the Alphabetical Index each section is broken down into each alphabetical letter, lead term (and essential modifiers in ICD-10). The presence of the tree pane means you don't have to scroll through multiple pages of content to find the appropriate Alphabetical Index or Tabular List entry.

Navigate through the classification hierarchy by expanding the nodes (triangles) within the tree. Select a node to expand the section; the content of the section will be displayed and the opened node will change colour to black:
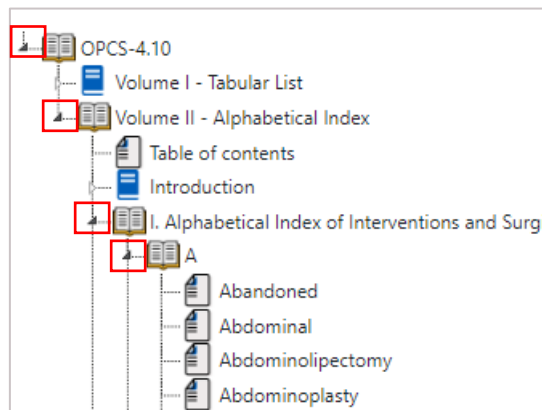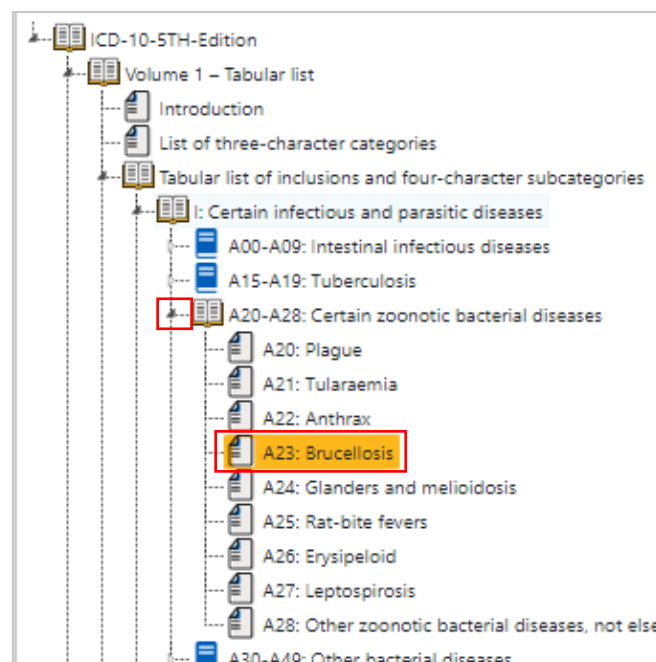


Reselect the open node to collapse the section:
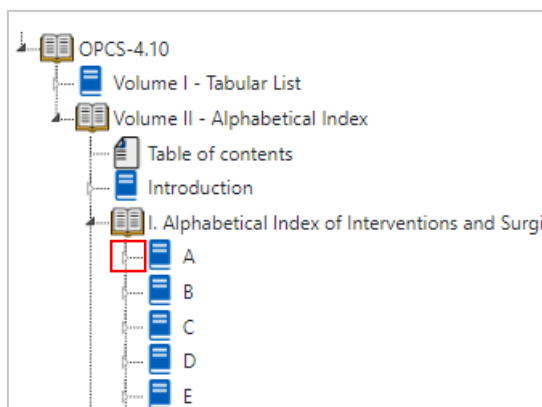
You can open multiple nodes concurrently to see the contents of each section:
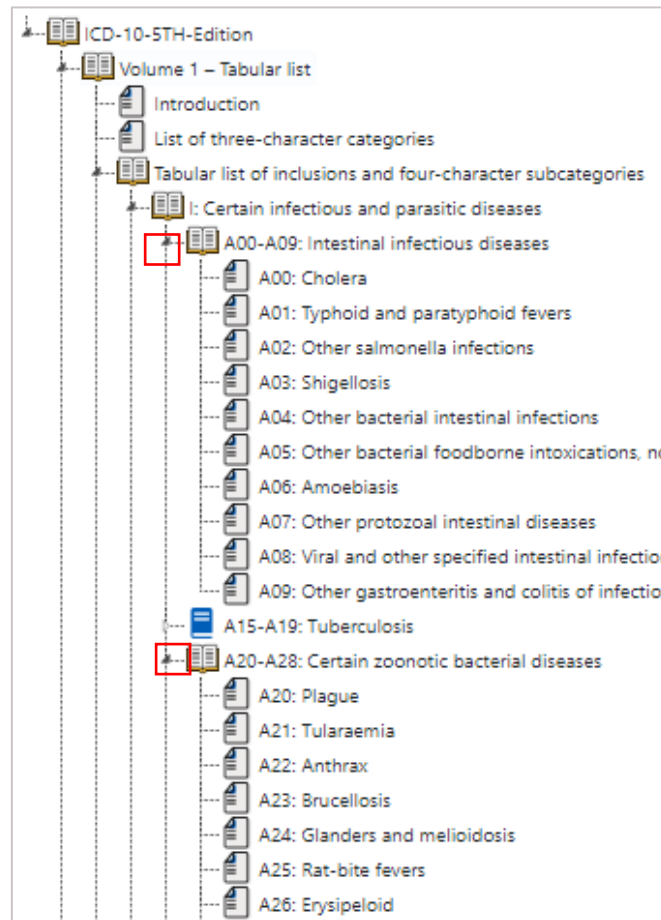


When a heading (which may be a section, chapter, block, category, lead term or essential modifier) is selected, rather than a node, all other opened nodes are closed, except for the node containing the selected heading:

Where the full entry cannot be seen in the tree pane, hover over the text to display it in full:
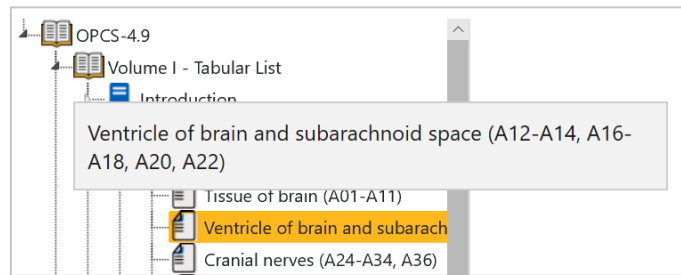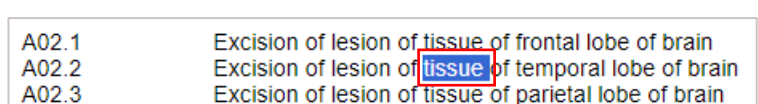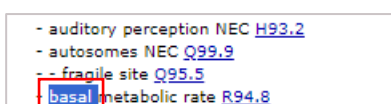


Selecting an entry in the tree highlights the entry and the full content from the classification is displayed in the classification content pane. The location within the classification is also displayed in the ribbon at the top of the pane and in the internet browser tab description.
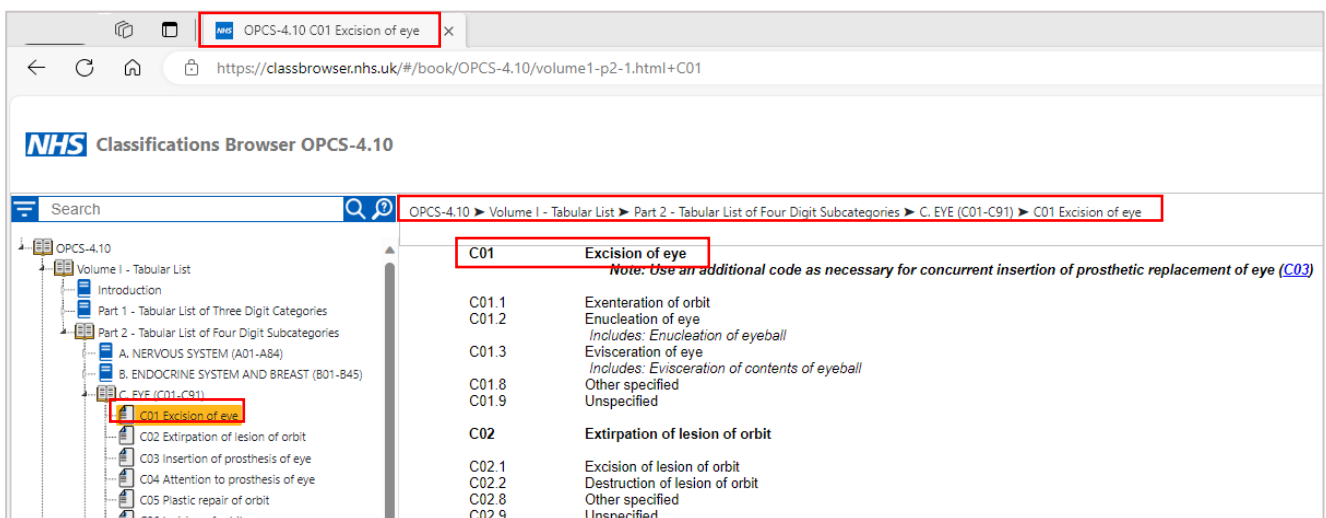


When scrolling through the classification the tree and ribbon will sync to show the location of the content in the contents pane.

When scrolling through the classifications content pane you can mark an Alphabetical index or Tabular list entry so that you can continue scrolling and return to the marked entry. This can be particularly helpful when looking for the lead term of an essential modifier where the lead term has a large number of essential modifiers or when verifying codes in the tabular list as you can mark the code and scroll up or down the categories and codes in the same range.

Do this be double clicking on an word to select the word:
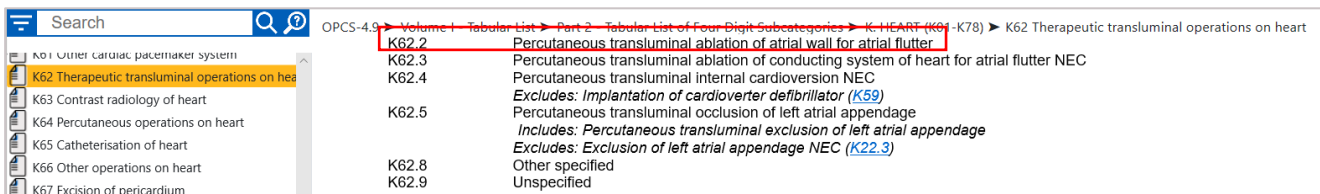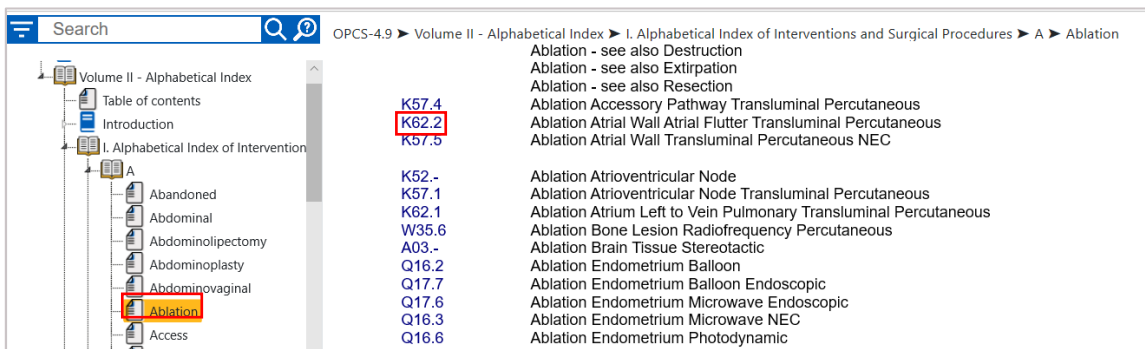
Or triple click to select the text in a row:



# Links

Throughout the classification contents pane there are clickable links that when selected take you to the respective chapter, block, category, code, etc.

In the ICD-10 and OPCS-4 Alphabetical Index select the blue code (underlined in ICD-10) to be taken to the code in the Tabular List.





Within the ICD-10 Alphabetical index you can also select the cross-references to be taken to that entry within the Alphabetical Index:



Cross-references within the OPCS-4 Alphabetical Index do not currently appear as links so you have to navigate to the cross-referenced term manually (we aim to correct this in a future release). You can also highlight the term and drag and drop it into the search box.

In the ICD-10 and OPCS-4 Tabular List, you can use the links to navigate elsewhere within the classification.



# ICD-10 Place of occurrence codes

When assigning ICD-10 codes in Chapter XX External causes of morbidity and mortality the fourth character 'Place of occurrence codes' can be found by selecting the Chapter heading in the tree and scrolling down the page on the right.

# Backwards and forwards navigation

You can navigate between classification content pages that you have looked at previously by selecting the backwards and forwards buttons within your web browser.

# Bookmarks

You can create bookmarks within your web browser for specific locations within the classification. The method by which this will be performed will depend on your web browser application.

# Copying content

Content can be copied from the Browser and pasted into other applications such as Microsoft Word. The pasted content may require some simple formatting alterations to such things as bullet points and numbering, list level and styles.

# Text size

Change the text size by changing the font size setting or changing the zoom setting within your web browser.

# National Clinical Coding Standards

Where a National Clinical Coding Standard is relevant to a Chapter, Category or Code the NCCS icon will be shown. Hover over the NCCS icon and the relevant references will be displayed.
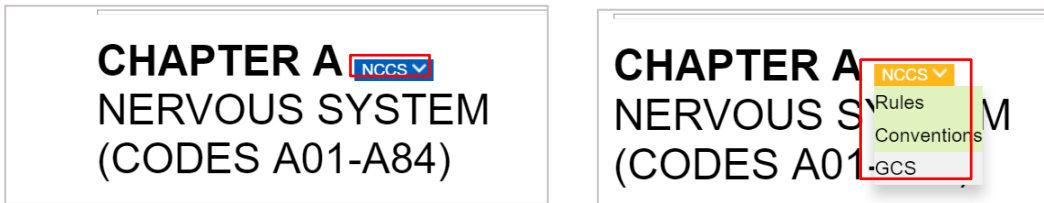


Click on a reference and the standard will display in a separate tab.

The NCCS links are updated at the start of each financial year to reflect any changes to coding standards and direct to the updated National Clinical Coding Standards.

**When the NCCS link is selected the page within the National Clinical Coding Standards that contains the selected standard is displayed, it does not link to the specific location of the standard on the page.**

**The links to standards are only for use in the NHS in England. For links to the coding standards used in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, see the Home page.**

You can also download the current and previous version of the National Clinical Coding Standards from the drop down on the home page. The drop down also contains links to all previous release of the National Clinical Coding Standards.
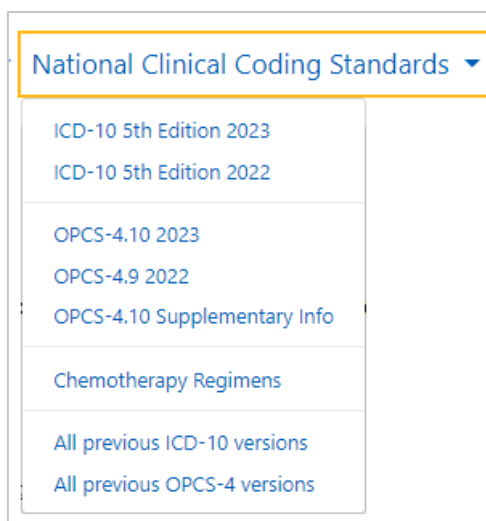
# Search
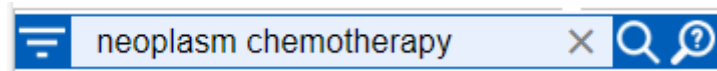


To search, enter text and select search  or press enter.

You must enter at least 3 characters to start a search.

To clear the search box and start a new search select the X icon.

Select the search help icon  to display the search section of the user guide in a separate tab.

When navigating from ICD-10 to OPCS-4, and vice versa, after a search has been performed the search pane will be reset and the search results pane will be closed.
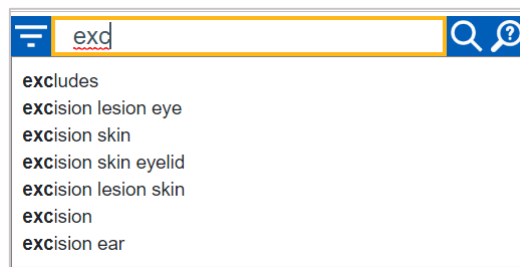
When a new search is started, after entering at least three characters, previous matching search results are displayed underneath the search box. Select a previous search without having to type the full search string.



You can also drag and drop words into the search box by highlighting the term, selecting and holding the left mouse button and dragging the term and dropping into the search box. You can do this with words from any other application (such as Word or a PDF).
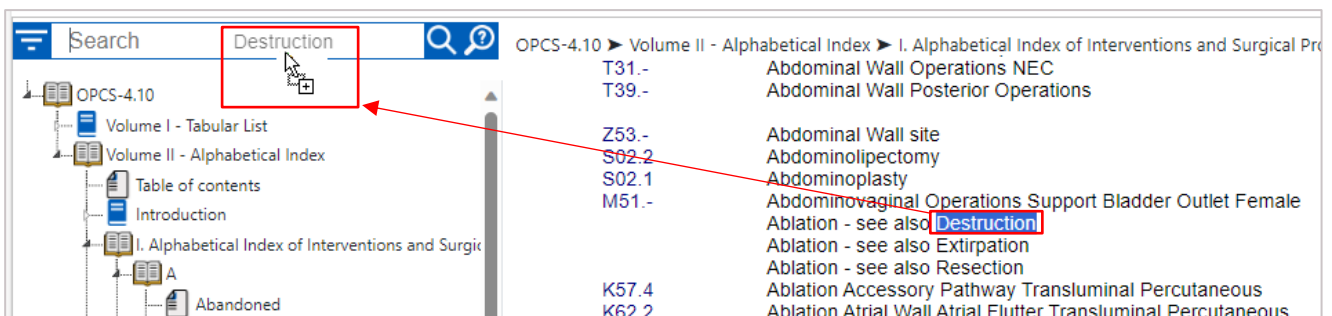


The results of the search are displayed in the search results pane. The number of results (to a maximum of 3000) and their location in the classification are shown. The ordering of the results mirrors the order they appear in the classification (i.e. in alphabetical order in the

Alphabetical Index and chapter, category, and code order in the Tabular List), with results from the Alphabetical Index listed before results from the Tabular List.
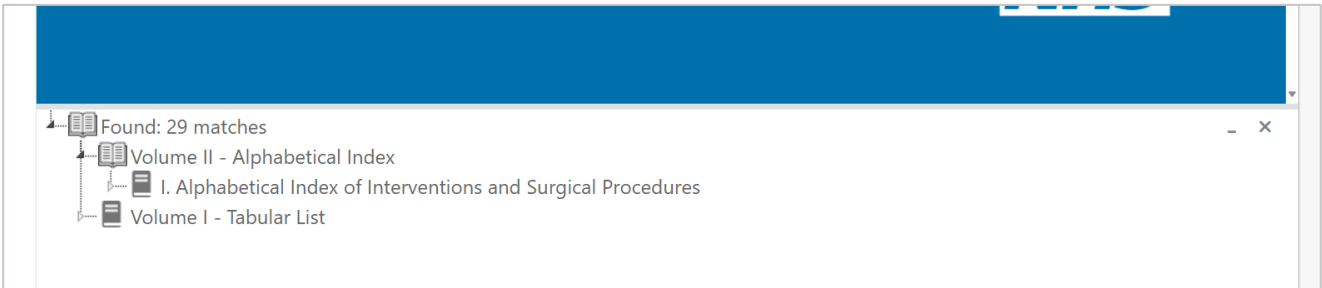


Select a search result to show it in the content pane. The selected result is highlighted in the search results pane allowing you to return to the selected result if you want to scroll through the other search results.
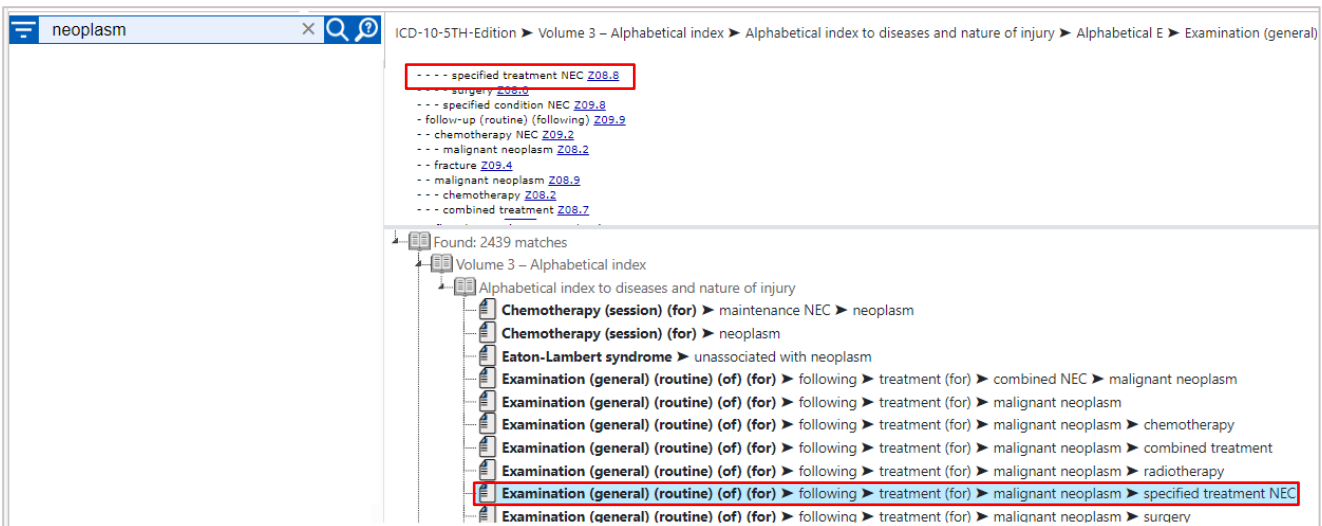


Resize the search results pane by hovering over the grey line at the top of the pane and dragging the arrow up or down.
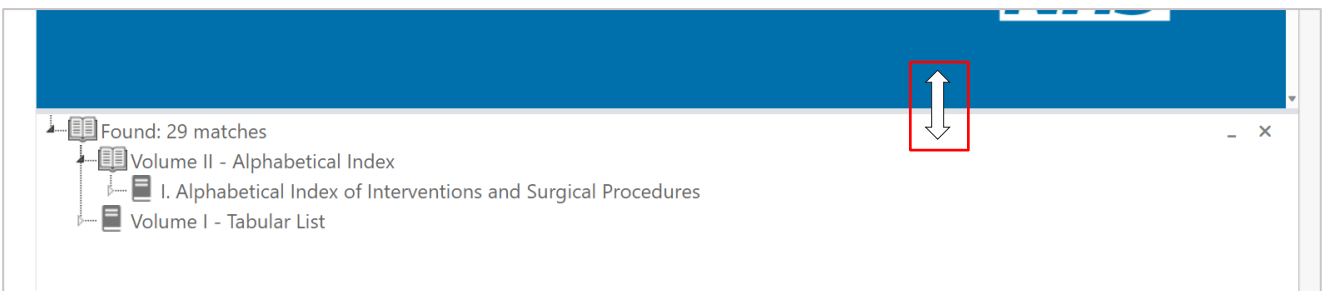
Minimise the results by selecting the minimise icon at the top right of the pane.



Select 'Show search results' in the bottom right of the screen, to re-open the search results pane.



Close the search by selecting the X icon at the top right of the pane; this will also cause the 'Show search results' box to disappear.
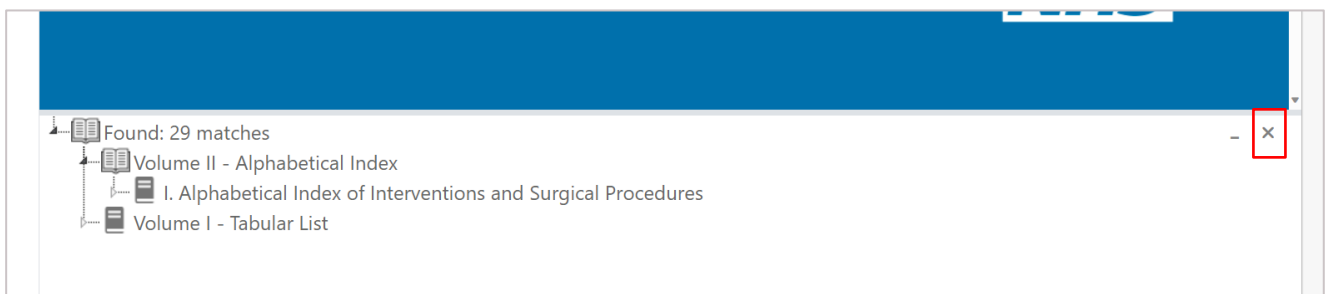


## OPCS-4 search

In OPCS-4 the default search returns results from the following sections:

- **Volume II – Alphabetical Index,**

  o   **I. Alphabetical Index of Interventions and Surgical Procedures**

- **Volume I – Tabular List**

  o   **Part 2 – Tabular List of Four Digit Subcategories.**
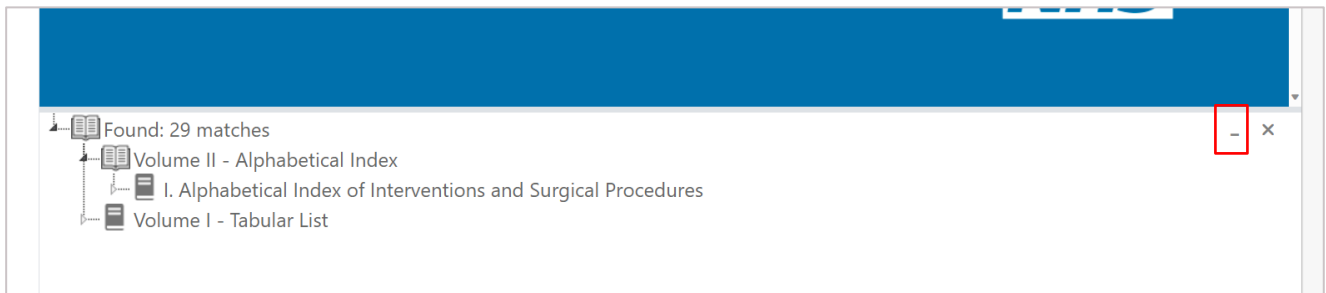
You can search other sections by using the filter, see Search filter.

The more words you enter into the search box, the more specific the results will be.

Results from the Alphabetical index are those index entries that contain all of the words entered into the search box.

Results from the Tabular Lists are those where the chapter title, category descriptions, or code description and their notes contain all of the words entered into the search box.
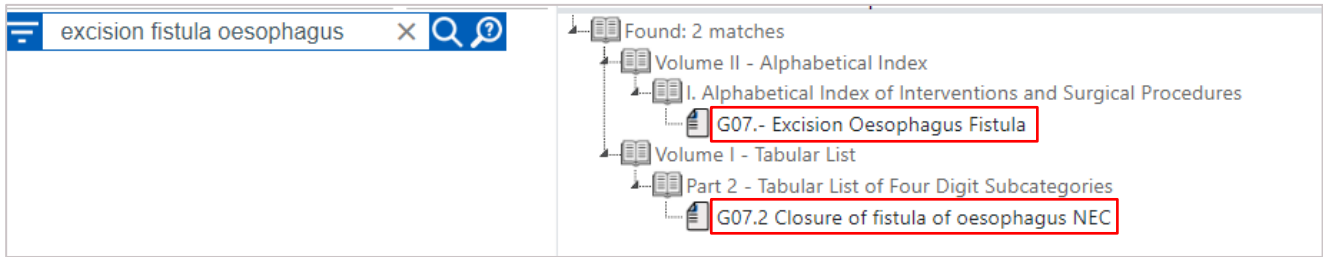


For this search there is one result returned from the Alphabetical index as this contains all of the words entered in the search box.

There is also one entry in the Tabular list. It does not contain all of the searched words as excision is missing, however this result is returned because excision is within the inclusion note at the code:



# ICD-10 search

In ICD-10 the default search returns results from the following sections:

- **Volume 3 – Alphabetical Index**

  o **Alphabetical index to diseases and nature of injury**

  o **External causes of injury**

  o **Table of drugs and chemicals**

- **Volume 1 – Tabular List**

  o **Tabular list of inclusions and four-character subcategories.**

You can search other sections by using the filter, see Search filter.The more words you enter into the search box, the more specific the results will be.

Results from the Alphabetical index are those index entries, including lead terms and their essential modifiers, that contain all of the words entered into the search box.

Lead terms are identified in bold and the full index string is displayed. The arrows indicate that the word after it are essential modifiers. Non-essential modifiers are displayed in parentheses.

Results from the Tabular Lists are those where the chapter title, category descriptions, or code description and their notes contain all of the words entered into the search box.
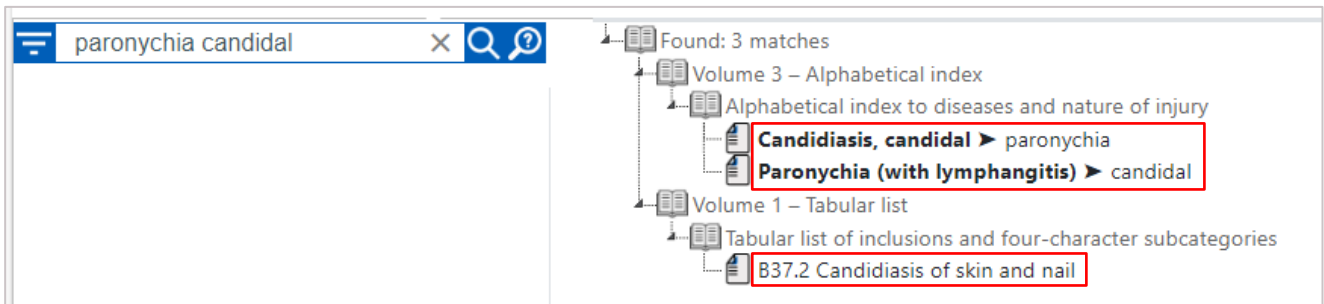


For this search there are two results returned from the Alphabetical index which contain all of the words entered in the search box either as a lead term or an essential modifier. In the first entry candidal is a lead term and paronychia is an essential modifier and vice versa in the second entry.

There is one entry in the Tabular list. It does not contain any of the searched words, however this result is returned because the searched words are within the inclusion note at the code:
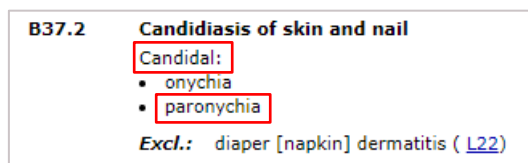


Cross references and codes are not shown in the ICD-10 search results, these can be seen in the classification content pane when an entry is selected:
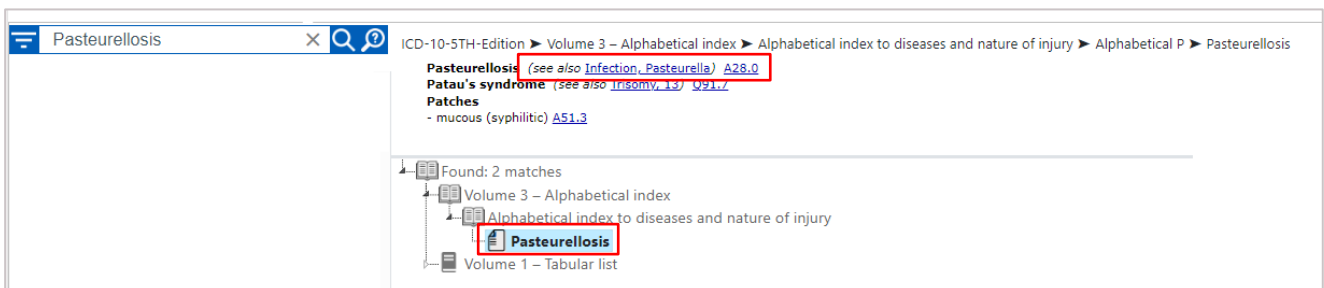


## Spelling in ICD-10

The ICD-10 Alphabetical Index uses American and British spelling[1] (e.g. anemia/anaemia and esophagus/oesophagus) and diacratics (a mark near or through an alphabetic character to represent a pronunciation different from that of the unmarked character, e.g. Sézary) therefore you must be conscious of this when searching ICD-10.

---

[1] Volume 3 – Alphabetical index, Introduction, General arrangement of the Index, Spelling

You can perform a fuzzy search by adding a tilde ~ to the end of the search term using the British spelling to identify both British and American spellings and words that contain diacritics. Note this will also identify other similar terms that may not be relevant.

## ICD-10 Emergency use codes

The code descriptions for the emergency use codes in categories **U06** and **U07** that classify Zika virus, vaping-related disorder and COVID-19 do not have equivalent Alphabetical Index entries and therefore you can only search for them in the tabular list.

# Search filter

When the filter icon ▤ is selected tick boxes display to the side of every entry in the tree allowing you to search in a specific part(s) of the classification. Place a tick in one or multiple boxes to search in only those specific locations and select search:
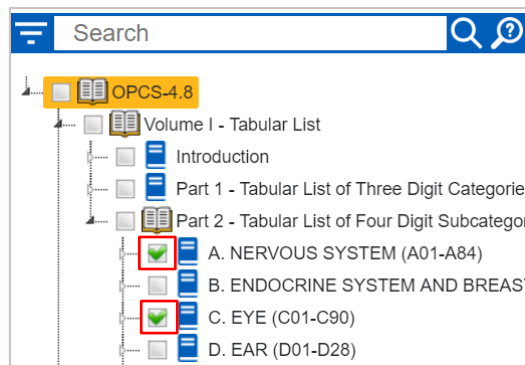


Select the filter icon again to clear and close the filter.

# Wildcard searches

If you are unsure of how a term is spelt you can do the following wildcard searches:

- If you are unsure of a single character use a question mark ?, e.g.

  Il?um returns results containing Ileum and Ilium

- If you are unsure of multiple characters use an asterisk *, e.g.

  Angio* returns results containing angiography, angioplasty, angiocardiography etc

  T*th returns result containing tooth, teeth, tenth, twelfth etc

# Fuzzy searches

You can do a fuzzy match to find similar terms by using a tilde ~ at the end of a single word, e.g.:

Hysterectomy~ returns results containing hysterectomy and hysterotomy

**Use a tilde after the word when searching the ICD-10 Alphabetical Index to identify both British and American spellings and words containing diacritics, as described in the Search section.**

# Using OR and NOT

To search for a specific word and exclude another one from the search enter NOT after the word you want the result to contain and before the word you want to exclude, e.g.

> Evacuation NOT haematoma will return descriptions containing Evacuation excluding any that contain haematoma

To search for entries that contain a number of terms together in the same description or alone in different descriptions separate the words using OR, e.g.

> Evacuation OR haematoma returns results that contain both evacuation and haematoma in the same description and those that contain only haematoma and only evacuation.