

Supplementary Table S2

Proportion of terms in MeSH trees *Anatomy, Biological Sciences, Chemicals and Drugs, Diseases, Geographicals, Health Care, Information Sciences, Named Groups, Natural Sciences, Organisms, Psychiatry and Psychology, Techniques and Equipment, and Technology, Industry, Acriculture* containing parent terms, ancestor terms or other existing terms in their definitions.

<i>Experiment</i>	MeSH	Anatomy	Biological Sciences	Chemicals and Drugs	Diseases	Geographicals	Health Care	Information Sciences	Named Groups	Natural Sciences	Organisms	Psychiatry and Psychology	Techniques and Equipment	Technology, Industry, Acriculture
Total	29348	1669	1995	8832	4420	381	1621	524	201	1517	3580	1093	2698	817
Terms with definition	96.0%	92.6%	98.5%	95.7%	97.6%	54.6%	97.0%	91.4%	95.5%	96.6%	99.0%	99.3%	95.6%	94.1%
Words in definition	30.2	32.2	29.7	30.2	35.8	52.1	26.5	31.2	19.2	28.7	25.3	27.8	30.3	28.1
	±19.3	±18.7	±19.7	±17.4	±23.4	±34.8	±18.5	±20.9	±12.1	±18.6	±14.1	±20.2	±19.4	±17.1
Terms in definition	5.7	6.3	5.1	5.9	7.6	7.1	4.2	4.3	3.4	4.5	5.7	4.2	4.9	5.0
	±4.1	±3.6	±4.1	±4.2	±5.2	±3.5	±3.3	±3.4	±2.5	±3.4	±3.0	±4.2	±3.6	±3.3
< 1 term in definition	97.2%	99.6%	95.7%	96.7%	99.3%	100.0%	94.8%	94.6%	96.4%	95.6%	99.8%	90.6%	96.7%	96.9%
< 1 ancestor in definition	56.2%	80.6%	38.7%	52.5%	51.9%	73.6%	49.7%	44.9%	54.7%	46.3%	92.2%	40.3%	39.4%	64.8%
< 1 parent in definition	36.6%	62.3%	28.1%	31.7%	26.7%	66.8%	28.7%	25.5%	26.6%	29.7%	72.4%	27.6%	23.6%	49.0%