

MetaMap2018 Release Notes

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MetaMap18 fixes user-reported bugs with term processing, which is described at <https://metamap.nlm.nih.gov/Docs/FAQ/TermProcessing.pdf> and user-defined acronyms/abbreviations (UDAs), described on page 9 of https://metamap.nlm.nih.gov/Docs/MM_2011_ReleaseNotes.pdf. MetaMap2018 also adds enhanced acronym/abbreviation (AA) detection, described next.

Consider the following text, from PMID 10547582.

This paper describes a study of squamous intraepithelial lesions (SILs, n=36), squamous cell carcinomas (SCCs, n=42), and normal mucosa (n=5) of the uterine cervix.

In previous version of MetaMap, the AAs detected were

```
10547582|AA|SILs, n=36|squamous intraepithelial lesions|6|10|5|32|846:10
10547582|AA|SCCs, n=42|squamous cell carcinomas|6|10|5|24|891:10
```

which incorrectly reports “SILs, n=36” and “SCCs, n=42” as the AAs for *squamous intraepithelial lesions* and *squamous cell carcinomas*, respectively.

Beginning with MetaMap18, however, the AAs for the above sentence will be

```
10547582|AA|SIL|squamous intraepithelial lesion|1|3|5|31|627:3
10547582|AA|SILs|squamous intraepithelial lesions|1|4|5|32|846:4
10547582|AA|SCC|squamous cell carcinoma|1|3|5|23|666:3
10547582|AA|SCCs|squamous cell carcinomas|1|4|5|24|891:4
```

There are two improvements:

1. The spurious characters “, n=36” and “, n=42” are not identified as part of the short form of the AAs, and
2. both the singular and plural versions of the AAs are reported.

The AAs discovered by MetaMap are displayed in MetaMap’s Fielded Output, described at

https://metamap.nlm.nih.gov/Docs/MMI_Output_2016.pdf

AAs are also displayed in human-readable output if either the `--aas_only` or `--dump_aas` (short form `-j`) is used.

MetaMap2018 will also report both singular and plural forms of non-quantified plural AAs. E.g., for *squamous intraepithelial lesions (SILs)*, MetaMap2018 will report

```
10547582|AA|SIL|squamous intraepithelial lesion|1|3|5|31|627:3
10547582|AA|SILs|squamous intraepithelial lesions|1|4|5|32|846:4
```

as above.