# Proposal for stabilizing for DDI products’ RDF namespaceTC 10-Nov-22 (Darren Bell)

## Context

Since its inception, DDI products have largely followed a standardised URL pattern for the dissemination of artefacts such as XSD schema. As the DDI Alliance implements newer serializations beyond XML, there are some potential inconsistencies emerging in RDF namespaces:

## XSD Artefacts for illustration

* **DDI-C** <https://ddialliance.org/Specification/DDI-Codebook/2.5/XMLSchema/codebook.xsd>
* **DDI-L** <https://ddialliance.org/Specification/DDI-Lifecycle/3.2/XMLSchema/instance.xsd>
* **DDI-CDI** <https://ddialliance.org/Specification/DDI-CDI/1.0/XSD>

Generically consistent:
https://ddialliance.org/Specification/<PRODUCT>/<VERSION>/<SERIALIZATION>/<FILENAME>

## RDF namespaces by way of contrast

* **XKOS (existing):** [http://rdf-vocabulary.ddialliance.org/xkos#](http://rdf-vocabulary.ddialliance.org/xkos)
* **CVs (to be launched in Dec 2022):**[http://rdf.ddialliance.org/cv/<CVNAME>/<VERSION>/](http://rdf.ddialliance.org/cv/%3CCVNAME%3E/%3CVERSION%3E/)
* **DDI-CDI:** Achim Wackerow has currently proposed and implemented:
[http://ddialliance.org/Specification/DDI-CDI/1.0/RDF#](http://ddialliance.org/Specification/DDI-CDI/1.0/RDF)

## Proposal

As RDF artefacts are persisted and queried in foundationally different ways using techniques like HTTP content negotiation and reverse proxy servers, I propose that we establish a common, unified namespace of:
[http://rdf.ddialliance.org/](http://rdf.ddialliance.org/ddi-cdi/1.0)<product>/<version>/[[1]](#footnote-1) that allows for more flexible hosting options, rather than being tightly coupled to the existing ddialliance.org DNS and website. DDI CVs and the RDF representation of the DDI-CDI ontology are due to be released into production fairly soon so we have a short window to establish this convention before we become locked into a specific RDF URI pattern.

Practically, in the short term this means implementing the following RDF namespaces:

1. **CVs**: [http://rdf.ddialliance.org/cv/<CVNAME>/<VERSION>/](http://rdf.ddialliance.org/cv/%3CCVNAME%3E/%3CVERSION%3E/)
Easy to implement prior to launch in Dec 2022
2. **DDI-CDI Ontology** <http://rdf.ddialliance.org/DDI-CDI/1.0/>
Relatively easy to change before the production launch of DDI-CDI 1.0. Requires liaison with DDI-CDI WG, Achim Wackerow and Pierre Antoine Champin to update ontology generation from the UML model (via Eclipse Acceleo).
3. **XKOS:** <http://rdf.ddialliance.org/xkos/>
Could be very difficult to change based on existing namespace being well-established as
[http://rdf-vocabulary.ddialliance.org/xkos#](http://rdf-vocabulary.ddialliance.org/xkos) Needs further liaison with XKOS WG.
1. Trailing slashes as well as hashes are used in practice e.g. SKOS namespace is [http://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/core#](http://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/core) whereas DCTERMS namespace is <http://purl.org/dc/terms/>
Trailing slash is preferred to hash as we have found that proxy redirections in e.g.nginx can be complicated by varying browser treatments of #. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)