

OWL Representation (Encoding) of the DDI 4 Model

The OWL encoding of the DDI 4 model is part of the DDI 4 specification. It is intended to provide DDI 4 instances to the Semantic Web. This way, DDI 4 content can be discovered in the Web of Linked Data.

The OWL encoding is a representation of the DDI 4 model according to a set of rules which are documented in a separate document. The OWL representation of this prototype release doesn't use any other RDF vocabularies. Future OWL representations will include the usage of common and acknowledged RDF vocabularies in areas where a mapping of DDI 4 classes to classes of other RDF vocabularies make sense.

The whole DDI 4 model is represented in a large ontology. Future OWL representations might include ways for defining subsets of the model for specific purposes (functional views).

A set of RDF examples is provided to illustrate the usage of the model for specific purposes. The examples are generated on the basis of the hand-written XML examples. The generated representations in OWL and XML Schema provide a solid basis for transforming metadata in XML to RDF or vice versa.

For the prototype release, we expect comments with a focus on the transformation rules, on the RDF examples, and on the roundtrip of metadata between XML and RDF.