

MEETING OF WHO COLLABORATING CENTRES FOR THE FAMILY OF INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATIONS

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WHO-FIC Education Committee: A Status Report 2006-2007

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Abstract

The WHO-FIC Education Committee was established at the 2003 WHO-FIC Network meeting in Cologne, Germany, as a successor to the Subgroup on Training and Credentialing of the WHO-FIC Implementation Committee. New terms of reference were developed at the Cologne meeting to reflect generic tasks for education and training on the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD) and the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF). Specific tasks have been agreed for both ICD and ICF. The principal ICD tasks relate to an international training and certification program for ICD-10 mortality and morbidity coders; this program is being developed in conjunction with the International Federation of Health Records Organizations (IFHRO), a non-governmental organization in official relations with WHO. A Joint WHO-FIC – IFHRO Collaboration (JC) was established in late 2004 to carry forward this work (see separate paper). The JC held its third meeting in Washington, D.C. in May 2007, in cooperation with the WHO-FIC Education Committee (EC). The purposes of the meeting were to advance work on the International Training and Certification Program; receive reports on the project to pilot the program for underlying cause of death coders and trainers in Canada and Korea; prepare for the 15th IFHRO Congress in Seoul, Korea; address other Education Committee tasks and make plans for the 2007 WHO-FIC Network meeting. During the IFHRO Congress, the JC awarded its first certificates to underlying cause-of-death coders and trainers and recognized underlying cause-of-death training materials from three countries as meeting the JC standards. The JC and EC continue to solicit and review ICD-10 training materials and have developed a core curriculum for training certifiers of cause of death, which is posted on the EC website along with previously developed core curricula for ICD-10 mortality and morbidity coding (http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/otheract/icd9/nacc_ed_committee.htm) The EC also is supporting development of a “reference” web-based ICD-10 training tool with WHO; this tool will include a module for certifiers of cause of death, as well as modules for ICD-10 coders. The Education Committee is working closely with the WHO-FIC Implementation

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Committee to gather information, in a standardized format, on ICF applications, educational materials and electronic tools. The EC also is working with the Functioning and Disability Reference Group to develop a core curriculum for ICF training and introductory and advanced courses on ICF.

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Introduction

The WHO-FIC Education Committee was established at the 2003 WHO-FIC Network meeting in Cologne, Germany, as a successor to the Subgroup on Training and Credentialing of the WHO-FIC Implementation Committee. The Committee's terms of reference include generic and specific tasks for education and training on the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD) and the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF).

This paper provides a summary report of the Committee's activities and progress since the 2006 meeting in Tunis, Tunisia. Separate papers and posters will provide greater detail and recommendations on key aspects of the Committee's work plan. Related documents, including the minutes and presentations from the Committee's May 2007 meeting, can be found on the Committee's web site at:

http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/otheract/icd9/nacc_ed_committee.htm

ICD-10 International Training and Certification Program

The principal ICD tasks of the Education Committee relate to an international training and certification program for ICD-10 mortality and morbidity coders. This program is being developed in conjunction with the International Federation of Health Records Organizations (IFHRO), a non-governmental organization in official relations with WHO. A Joint WHO-FIC – IFHRO Collaboration (JC) was established in late 2004 to carry forward this work (see separate paper by Skurka and Walker). The Education Committee and Joint Collaboration continued to make significant progress in 2006-2007 on establishing this international program. During 2006, processes had been developed for solicitation and review of ICD-10 training materials, assessment of practicing coders, and recognition of trainers. In August 2006, the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention awarded a contract to the American Health Information Management Association Foundation of Research and Education (AHIMA FORE) to finalize the various components of the program and to publicize, pilot and evaluate it in conjunction with IFHRO. With this contract in place and the hiring of an administrative assistant, it was possible to conduct two pilots of the processes for certifying practicing underlying-cause-of-death coders, complete the review of several training packages, and conduct outreach to coders and trainers. The JC and EC held six conference calls since the 2006 WHO-FIC Network meeting and a face-to-face meeting on May 9-11, 2007 in Washington, D.C. The calls and meeting were supported by NCHS. Minutes are available for all calls and meetings. The JC and EC will start using the new Sharepoint to share documents.

Conduct of Pilots for practicing mortality coders and trainers

In order to pilot the processes for certifying practicing underlying cause-of-death (UCOD) coders, it was necessary to finalize the coder exam. The Portuguese language Centre in Sao Paulo had begun developing the exam in 2006, in collaboration with the Mortality Reference Group (MRG). By February 2007, the MRG reached agreement on the answers to 60 questions or cause-of-death statements that could be included in the exam. This support was invaluable to the Education Committee and Joint Collaboration and continues as additional questions are vetted for future exams. Both Statistics Canada and the Korean Medical Record Association agreed to pilot the exam process, which included coder self assessments and trainer applications, as well as the exam. A separate paper by Giannangelo, Hong and Wood describes the pilots, which involved outreach to coders and trainers and developing protocols for translating all of the materials and for conducting and scoring the exams. There also is the potential for several additional pilots by the end of 2007. The successful completion of the two pilots by May 2007 allowed the Joint Collaboration to meet its goal of awarding the first certificates to practicing UCOD coders and trainers at the 15th IFHRO Congress in Seoul, Korea.

Review and Recognition of Training Materials

A call for ICD-10 training materials was first issued by the JC in March 2005, and the request continues to be posted on the EC and IFHRO websites. Members of the JC and EC are serving as reviewers of the materials, using the core curricula as a benchmark, and assessing adequacy and gaps. Two persons conduct a qualitative review of the "How to Code" modules. Feedback is provided to the developers with a request to revise and resubmit the materials, if appropriate. During the IFHRO Congress, the underlying cause-of-death training materials developed by the Australian National Centre for Classification in Health, the Korean Medical Record Association and the U.S. National Center for Health Statistics were recognized as meeting the JC standard for several knowledge clusters. Review of other materials is continuing and ongoing. More information can be found in the separate paper by Margaret Skurka and Sue Walker and the minutes of the May 2007 meeting.

Assessment of New Mortality Coders

The assessment of underlying cause-of-death coders always has been the first priority of the JC. During their May 2007 meeting, the EC and JC discussed how to proceed with developing a process for certification of new mortality coders. At the Education Committee's 2004 meeting in Prague it had been decided that an international examination was not feasible and that certification would have to be based on a decentralized process by recognizing coders who had successfully completed approved training programs with recognized trainers in all modules of the core curriculum. Now, however, with the successful experience of an international examination for practicing underlying cause-of-death coders, the possibility of

offering an international examination for all UCOD coders is being reconsidered. Outstanding issues yet to be resolved are:

- The current exam specifically tests competency in underlying cause of death classification. This was considered appropriate for practicing coders. Should newly trained coders also demonstrate some level of competency in other knowledge clusters in the core curriculum (e.g., uses, users and sources of mortality data)? The self assessment for practicing coders includes questions about knowledge of all clusters, but there is no effort to test competency.
- Should there be an interval between the completion of training by the coder and eligibility to take the examination?
- How will the exam be administered? It is likely that a decentralized approach still will be needed.

Multiple Cause-of Death Coders

The May meeting participants also considered the possibility of certifying multiple cause-of-death coders. This currently is considered infeasible due to the absence of agreed-upon international rules for coding multiple causes of death to guide development of a training or certification program. However, a small workgroup agreed to work on development of guidelines for users of multiple cause-of death data to improve the quality and comparability of analyses. The group will coordinate with the MRG and will report at the May 2008 meeting of the EC and JC.

Assessment of Practicing Morbidity Coders

The intent of the Joint Collaboration is to build on the processes developed for assessing mortality coders to recommend a process for testing and certifying existing and, eventually new, morbidity coders and trainers. During the May 2007 meeting, EC and JC members presented information about morbidity coding and coder training in the USA, UK, Germany, Korea, Australia, Japan, Brazil and Canada (see meeting minutes). Again, the lack of internationally agreed rules and standards for morbidity coding is a barrier to developing an international exam or recognizing training materials. The EC and JC will work with the Morbidity Reference Group, which is addressing the need for international coding rules, guidelines and definitions, and will consider possible next steps at the May 2008 meeting. One of the issues identified is how to recognise the international training in ICD-10 morbidity coding that is being provided by some WHO-FIC centres, notably the Australian Centre, in developing countries before new standards have been agreed.

Education for Certifiers of Cause of Death

The terms of reference for the Education Committee include identifying "groups requiring education and training in the proper completion of source documents (e.g., death certificate, health record)". In response to this need, the EC and JC reviewed

existing resources for training certifiers of cause of death and have developed a core curriculum and best practices for certifiers. These documents were finalized during 2007 and are posted on the Education Committee website.

Development of Web-based Training Tool

The EC terms of reference approved in 2006 also included "support in the provision of a tool for self learning of ICD-10." The tool will be consistent with the core curricula and use a modular approach. Initial work is focusing on underlying cause of death coding and certification of cause of death. Prior to the May 2007 meeting, several members of the EC and JC met with the WHO representative to review and provide feedback on the modules that have been developed for the training tool. Subsequently, WHO has secured funding to complete the content for all chapters of ICD-10 and to create the web-based tool. A status report will be received during the Education Committee working session in Trieste.

It is anticipated that the training tool also will serve as a platform for web-based training on ICF and possibly other members of the WHO-FIC. Given this expectation, participants in the May 2007 meeting agreed to modify the EC Terms of Reference to include a sixth generic function – "Develop and harmonize self-learning tools" and to remove reference to such a tool in the ICD-specific functions. Other modifications of an editorial nature also were made in the Terms of Reference (Appendix 1), which will be presented in Trieste for approval.

Infrastructure Work Group

An Infrastructure Work Group was established during the 2005 meeting in Tokyo to identify areas that require additional resources, develop a budget, identify possible sources of funds and develop applications for funding. On August 30, 2006, NCHS awarded a contract to AHIMA Foundation of Research and Education to finalize the various components of the program and to publicize, pilot and evaluate it in conjunction with IFHRO. As noted earlier, this support facilitated and accelerated the work of the JC during this past year. NCHS intends to extend the current engagement with AHIMA FORE through June 2008, with additional funding. Under the extension, the contractor is expected to:

- Solicit additional ICD-10 training materials, as recommended by the JC
- Support additional pilots of the UCOD exam
- Develop a preparation booklet for persons who apply to take the exam for mortality (UCOD) coders
- Oversee the process for developing a pool of questions for the UCOD exam
- Work with the WHO-FIC Network in developing a Roster of Experts who can train mortality and morbidity coders. This Roster will be posted on the IFHRO and Education Committee web sites.

- Develop graphic representations of the skill levels and functions of coders, as previously developed by the JC
- Complete the evaluation of the International Training and Certification pilots

To date other applications for funding submitted by the JC have not been successful. The JC has decided to defer submitting additional applications until the evaluation is completed.

The continuing need for International Training and Trainers

During the year, WHO and members of the EC and JC have received several requests for training in ICD-10 coding, principally for underlying cause of death. Particular interest has been expressed by the MEASURE Evaluation group, which receives funding from USAID to strengthen the capacity of countries to collect and use population and health data. It has been possible to meet some of these needs through training programs already scheduled by NCCH and NCHS; however, additional trainers and training resources are needed to meet the increasing need as countries recognize the importance of improving their information systems. The Roster of Experts may begin to address this problem.

ICF Education and Training

Information Collection and Sharing

The ICF strategies of the Education Committee are closely aligned with those of the WHO-FIC Implementation Committee (IC); since 2004, the two committees have been partnering on a project to share information in a structured way on ICF applications, training materials and electronic tools. The IC annual report will report on progress during 2006 – 2007.

Joint Project with FDRG

Since the 2006 WHO-FIC Network meeting in Tunis, the EC also has been working closely with members of the Functioning and Disability Reference Group (FDRG) to address ICF education needs. In Tunis, the EC agreed to collaborate on Project 5 of the FDRG to develop “a suite of simple and accessible products, to be available on the WHO website, which are suitable as

- an introduction to ICF
- an advanced course on ICF”

The Chair of this joint effort from the Portuguese language Centre has worked with a representative of the Australian Collaborating Centre (see poster by Sykes and Buchalla) to develop a Core Curriculum for ICF training, which is under review by members of the EC and FDRG. The Curriculum draws on the experience of the EC and JC in developing core curricula for ICD-10 coding and certification of cause-of-

death training. The Chair of the effort also has solicited ICF training materials previously reported in the Information Sharing project noted above to serve as a basis for the introductory module on ICF (see separate paper by Buchalla). Additional ICF training materials also are being sought. These materials will be reviewed in the context of the Core Curriculum, the approach also followed for reviewing ICD-10 training materials. A detailed draft outline for the introductory training materials will be reviewed in Trieste.

Other ICF education projects

During the Tokyo meeting, there was a proposal to develop a "library" of modular PowerPoint presentations on the Collaborative Workspace for persons interested in introductory ICF training. A separate paper by Greenberg and Hough at the Tunis meeting further explored this proposal, taking advantage of the previously developed template to collect "metadata" on the presentations. A second discussion paper by Caulfeild, Hough and Syke presented in Tunis described additional approaches for making ICF introductory materials readily available to a wide audience of new users, and for shared virtual workspaces in which a narrow audience of advanced ICF users could collaborate on complex topics and methods, such as "mapping" and Core Sets. These projects have been deferred in order to focus on the joint project with the FDRG.

Publicizing the Work of the Network, Committee and Joint Collaboration

Websites

The National Center for Health Statistics continues to host the website for the WHO-FIC Education Committee (see above). During 2007, IFHRO also upgraded its website (<http://www.ifhro.org/>) and has included extensive information on the Joint Collaboration and its products.

Brochures

Following the request of the WHO-FIC Network during the 2005 meeting in Tokyo, the Education Committee developed a brochure for the entire Network with input from the Planning Committee. The latest version of that brochure includes the new mission statement recommended by the Planning Committee during its strategic planning session in Odawara (see separate paper by Greenberg) and can be found in appendix 4. The Education Committee is seeking approval of the brochure during the Trieste meeting so that it can be posted on the WHO-FIC website and broadly disseminated. The Joint Collaboration has developed a separate brochure to assist with marketing and disseminating information about the ICD-10 International Training and Certification Program. This brochure has received extensive dissemination.

Presentations and articles

Members of the EC and JC have made several presentations about the ICD-10

International Training and Certification program in their respective countries and will continue to do so. A paper on the EC's 2004 needs assessment of the international coder workforce and the Joint Collaboration was published during 2006¹. The 15th IFHRO Congress held in Seoul, Korea on May 26-30, 2007 provided an excellent opportunity to disseminate information about the EC, JC and WHO-FIC Network. A list of the relevant papers and presentations delivered during the Congress is contained in appendix 2. Several members of the JC and EC were recognized by the outgoing IFHRO President for their outstanding support of and contributions to IFHRO during 2004 – 2007.

Additional Educational Activities for the WHO-FIC Network

Induction Sessions at WHO-FIC Network Annual Meetings

The EC has organized an "induction session", principally for first-time attendees, since the 2004 WHO-FIC Network annual meeting and will conduct a similar session at the 2007 meeting. The session will familiarize attendees with the WHO-FIC, its Network of collaborating centres, committees and reference groups, and the organization of the annual meeting.

Abbreviations, Acronyms and Definitions

The Education Committee is continuing to update the list of abbreviations and acronyms relevant to the WHO-FIC Network, which was first developed in 2004 as an educational tool for participants in Network meetings. The list, which is a "living document" that can be updated and expanded on an annual basis, is contained in appendix 3. The Education Committee again recommends that this document be posted on the WHO-FIC Network website with hyperlinks wherever possible.

Frequently Asked Questions

The WHO-FIC Network website has a place for frequently asked questions (FAQ's), but currently only a few questions are posted. The Education Committee has developed some additional questions and answers, but they have not been posted or recently updated. The Committee believes that populating this section of the website is a good educational opportunity for the Network and has suggested that other committees and reference groups develop FAQ's on their work efforts, with appropriate links to the respective committee or reference group. Interest in expanding the FAQ section on the website as suggested will be explored in Trieste.

¹ Walker S. (2006) Capturing Health Information – A Perspectives Paper, Journal of the Health Information Management Association of Australia, 35(3):13-22

Summary

The WHO-FIC Education Committee, in collaboration with IFHRO, continues to make important progress in developing an international training and certification program for ICD-10 mortality and morbidity coders and trainers. The Committee also is making progress in integrating ICF education and training into its work plan and welcomes the new collaboration with the Functioning and Disability Reference Group. Although the Committee has proven its ability to carry out considerable developmental work with limited external resources, additional resources will be needed by the WHO-FIC Network, IFHRO and others to execute the plans that are developed and to assure that adequate training and quality assurance in the use of both ICD and ICF are available worldwide. Approaches for expanding resources should be included in the WHO Business Plan for Classifications.

Appendix 1

Terms of Reference***WHO FIC Education Committee*****Purpose**

Assist and advise WHO and the WHO-FIC Network in improving the level and quality of use of the WHO Family of International Classifications (WHO-FIC) in Member States by developing an education, training and certification strategy for the WHO-FIC, identifying best training practices and providing a network for sharing expertise and experience on training. The first priority will be for the reference terminologies, ICD and ICF.

Background

The Subgroup on Training and Credentialing of the WHO-FIC Implementation Committee was established at the 1999 meeting of Heads of Collaborating Centres in recognition of:

- The critical role of education and training for the successful implementation, use and maintenance of a classification system and for the quality of data produced
- The opportunities for sharing and strengthening education and training in members of the Family of International Classifications through international efforts, and
- The resulting benefits for comparability of national and international statistics

The Subgroup was established specifically to:

- Advise WHO and the WHO Regional Offices on best training practices
- Provide a network for sharing expertise and experiences on training
- Work with WHO Regional Offices in identifying needs for skills and training in countries both covered and not covered by Collaborating Centres
- Address the unique issues concerning mortality medical coders and nosologists in an automated environment
- Explore the possibilities for developing an international training and credentialing program for coders of WHO-FIC classifications
- Make recommendations to WHO and the WHO-FIC Collaborating Centres through the WHO-FIC Implementation Committee.

Following the integration of ICF into the Family in 2001, the Subgroup was expanded to consider parallel and related activities for users of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability

and Health. During the 2003 annual meeting, the Subgroup reorganized as the WHO FIC Education Committee to better describe its broad mission and the role of education beyond the implementation phase of a classification.

Functions

The primary function of the Committee is to develop an integrated educational strategy for the International Classification of Diseases and the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health. Other members of the Family of International Classifications will be considered as resources permit. The components of this strategy include the following functions:

1. Working with the Implementation Committee, assess the needs of users of the classifications, including those who provide source information, apply codes, conduct research or use the resulting data.
2. Identify the learning objectives for educational approaches.
3. Maintain an inventory of existing educational materials and capacity.
4. Make recommendations for learning content including development of core curricula
5. Make recommendations for best practices for promotion and delivery of educational material.
6. Develop and harmonize self-learning tools.

The components of the strategy for the ICD include the following tasks:

1. Conduct needs assessments about the capacity, skills and responsibilities of ICD coders in member states
2. Identify the additional groups requiring education and training about ICD (e.g., statisticians, epidemiologists, policymakers, relevant systems managers, physicians, other clinicians and health sciences educators and students) and approaches to address them.
3. Identify groups requiring education and training in the proper completion of source documents (e.g., death certificate, health record) and addresses to approach them.
4. Define the skills and levels of education and training required for coders and nosologists, as well as other users of the classification
5. Catalogue, characterize (e.g., purpose, subject, language, availability, media and technology) and disseminate information on current educational and training curricula and modules for the ICD, and identify gaps and methods for filling them
6. Review existing training materials and the mechanisms for their dissemination and identify best practices
7. Gather information from Collaborating Centres and Regional Offices on capacity for ICD-10 training in WHO member states
8. Explore national and international organizations (e.g., the International Federation of Health Record Organizations) with which coders and nosologists can affiliate

9. Explore the capacity of these organizations to support an international training and certification program
10. Identify approaches for assuring that training and certification are dynamic processes, responsive to changes in medical science, technology, coding rules, etc.

The components of the strategy for the ICF include the following tasks:

1. Liaise with Functioning and Disability Reference Group concerning applications and intended applications of ICF in order to identify educational needs and how to address them.
2. Identify the groups requiring education and training about ICF (e.g., coders, statisticians, epidemiologists, policymakers, administrators, relevant systems and program managers, clinicians, survey developers, health sciences educators and students, consumers) the objective of the required education and the need for training trainers.
3. Catalogue, characterize (e.g., purpose, audience, content, language, availability, media and technology) and disseminate information on existing educational materials for ICF applications.
4. Create a database on educational products based on the Framework agreed by the Implementation and Education Committees and provide ongoing maintenance.
5. Review existing training materials and the mechanisms for their dissemination and identify best practices. Identify gaps and methods for filling them.
6. Provide advice on best practices to developers of ICF educational materials.
7. Explore the capacity of Collaborating Centres and Regional Offices for providing ICF education in WHO member states.
8. Explore the need for international certification of those trained to use ICF as a coding and classification system or of ICF training materials. Identify a support network or mechanism.
9. Identify approaches for assuring that training and certification are dynamic processes, responsive to changes in medical science, disability policy, technology, coding rules, etc. Explore different approaches to training, e.g., face-to-face, E-learning.

Structure and Working Methods

The Committee should have an integrated mandate of WHO-FIC education, although the nature and phase of different members of WHO-FIC may differ in different countries. If necessary, different work groups may be formed on specific WHO-FIC classifications so as to address different issues.

The structure of the Committee should involve permanent members from WHO (including the regional offices) and each collaborating centre who will primarily devote their time to developing and, to the extent possible, carrying out strategies for addressing the functions specified above.

Membership is open to Regional Offices and all Collaborating Centres with national and regional responsibilities for WHO FIC implementation. All WHO-FIC centers may nominate participants and beyond the permanent members additional participants may take part in committee meetings as observers.

Preferably there should be a single Chair to emphasize the integration of WHO- FIC implementation.

The Subgroup should develop an annual work plan, which lists in detail aims, activities, deliverables, timelines and responsibilities for addressing the terms of reference.

Working methods should include e-mail, conference calls and meetings, including an annual meeting during the WHO-FIC HOC. Official meetings of the committee must be held in conjunction with international WHO-FIC meetings.

May 11, 2007

Appendix 2

**Papers and Presentations on WHO-FIC Network, Education Committee and
Joint Collaboration with the International Federation of Health Records
Organizations (IFHRO)****15th IFHRO Congress****May 2007**

1. Educational Strategies for the WHO Family of International Classifications by Marjorie S. Greenberg
2. The Joint Collaboration between IFHRO and the Education Committee of the WHO Family of International Classifications by Sue Walker and Margaret Skurka
3. Health Education Management in the Electronic and Global Age by Marjorie S. Greenberg (keynote address)
4. Health Records: Coding and Managing Knowledge in Terms and Classes by Dr. T. Bedirhan Ustun (keynote address)
5. Presentations on the WHO-FIC Education Committee and Joint Collaboration by Marjorie S. Greenberg, Margaret Skurka and Sue Walker at a pre-meeting attended by representatives of 17 countries
6. Presentations by Marjorie S. Greenberg, Margaret Skurka and Sue Walker at a pre-meeting of the Education Community
7. Presentation on the International Training and Certification Program and Joint Collaboration by Kathy Giannangelo, Marjorie S. Greenberg, Joon H. Hong, Margaret Skurka and Sue Walker at the IFHRO General Assembly
8. Award of international underlying cause of death coder and trainer certificates by Marjorie Greenberg, Margaret Skurka and Sue Walker
9. To Use a Fairy Tale in Coding Education: Little Red Riding Hood – the ICD-10/ICF Version by Olafur Steinum, Gunnar Henricksson and Catherine Sykes

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Appendix 3

WHO Family of International Classifications Education Committee
Abbreviations and Acronyms

Term	Meaning
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACBA	Australian Coding Benchmark Audit
ACCS	Automated Cause Coding Software
ACHI	Australian Classification of Health Interventions (Vols. 3 and 4 of ICD-10-AM)
ACME	Automated Classification of Medical Entities
AFRO	Regional Office for Africa of the World Health Organization
AHIMA	American Health Information Management Association
AIHW	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
AMRO	Regional Office for the Americas of the World Health Organization
ATC/DDD	Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical Classification System with Defined Daily Doses
CAM	Complementary and Alternative Medicine
CAP	College of American Pathologists
CAT	Classifications and Terminology section of WHO Headquarters, Secretariat to the WHO-FIC Network
CBCD	Centro Brasileiro de Classificação de Doenças (Brazilian Collaborating Center)

CCAM	Classification Commune des Actes Medicaux
CCI	Canadian Classification of Interventions
CCI	La Classification Canadienne des Interventions
CCSA	Clinical Coders' Society of America
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (USA)
CEMECE	Centro Mexicano para la Clasificación de Enfermedades (Mexican Center for Classification of Diseases)
CEN	Comite European de Normalisation (European Committee for Normalization)
CEVECE	Centro Venezolano para la Clasificación de Enfermedades (Venezuelan Center for Classification of Diseases)
CHIMA	Canadian Health Information Management Association
CID (CID-10)	Classificação Estatística Internacional de Doenças e Problemas Relacionados à Saúde
CID-O-3	Classificação Internacional de Doenças para Oncologia – Terceira Edição
CIE	Clasificación Internacional de Enfermedades
CIE-10	Clasificación Internacional de Enfermedades y Problemas Relacionados con la Salud
CIE-O-3	Clasificación Internacional de Enfermedades para Oncología – Tercera Edición
CIE-9-MC	Clasificación Internacional de Enfermedades, 9a Revisión, Modificación Clínica (Spanish version of ICD-9-CM)
CIF	Clasificación Internacional del Funcionamiento, de la Discapacidad y de la Salud Classification internationale du fonctionnement, du handicap et de la santé

	Classificação Internacional de Funcionalidade, Incapacidade e Saúde
CIHI	Canadian Institute for Health Information
CIM (CIM-10)	Classification statistique internationale des maladies et des problèmes de santé connexes
CIM-10-CA	Classification statistique internationale des maladies et des problèmes de santé connexes dixième version, Canada
ClAML	Classification mark-up language
COD	Cause(s) of death
CPT	Current Procedural Terminology (U.S.)
CRAES	Comité Regional Asesor en Estadísticas de Salud (PAHO Regional Advisory Committee on Health Statistics)
CTNERHI	Centre Technique National d'Études et de Recherches sur les Handicaps et les Inadaptations (France)
DATASUS	Departamento de Informática do Sistema Único de Saúde (Brazil)
DG SANCO	Directorate General for Health and Consumer Affairs, European Commission
DIMDI	Deutsches Institut für Medizinische Dokumentation und Information
DPI	Disabled Peoples International
DPS	Diagnosis Payment System (Japan)
DRG	Diagnosis-Related Groups
DSM-IV	Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders – 4 th Edition
DSS	Demographic Surveillance Site(s)
EBM	Evidence-based Medicine

EBP	Evidence-based Practice
EC	Education Committee (WHO-FIC)
EDI	Electronic data interchange
EIP	Evidence and Information for Policy (WHO cluster)
EMRO	Regional Office for Eastern Mediterranean of the World Health Organization
ETC	Electronic Tools Committee (WHO-FIC)
EU-HDP	European Union Hospital Data Project
EURO	Regional Office for Europe of the World Health Organization
FAQ	Frequently asked questions
FDC	Family Development Committee (WHO-FIC)
FDRG	Functioning and Disability Reference Group (WHO-FIC)
FIC	Family of International Classifications
Forum-CIE	Group for discussions by e-mail of issues related to mortality and morbidity coding and related themes (in Spanish)
HIM	Health Information Management
HIMAA	Health Information Management Association of Australia
HIS	Health Information Systems
HL7	Health Level Seven - one of several American National Standards Institute (ANSI) -accredited Standards Developing Organizations (SDOs) operating in the healthcare arena. Health Level Seven's domain is clinical and administrative data.
HMN	Health Metrics Network
HOC	Heads of WHO Collaborating Centers for the Family of International

	Classifications
HRG	Healthcare Resource Group – used in the UK for casemix grouping
IACR	International Association of Cancer Registries
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer
IC	Implementation Committee (WHO-FIC)
ICD	International Classification of Diseases
ICD-9-CM	International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification (USA)
ICD-10	International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision
ICD-10-AM	International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision, Australian Modification
ICD-10-CA	International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision, Canada
ICD-10-CM	International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (USA- not yet in use)
ICD-10-GM	International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision, German Modification
ICD-10-PCS	International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Procedural Coding System (USA – not yet in use)
ICD-10-XM	International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10 th Revision, International Clinical Modification (under discussion)
ICD-DA-3	Application of the ICD for Dentistry and Stomatology, 3 rd Edition
ICD-Forum	Group for discussions by e-mail of issues related to mortality and morbidity coding and related themes (in English)

ICD-NA	International Classification of Diseases, Neurology Application
ICD-O-2 or 3	ICD for Oncology, 2 nd Edition; 0-3, 3 rd Edition
ICE	International Collaborative Effort [on automating mortality statistics, on Injury Statistics] sponsored by NCHS
ICECI	International Classification of External Causes of Injuries
ICF	International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health
ICF-CY	International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health, Children and Youth version
ICHA	International Classification of Health Accounts (OECD)
ICHI	International Classification of Health Interventions
ICIDH	International Classification of Impairments, Disabilities, and Handicaps (Revised in 2001 and published as International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health)
ICIS	Institut canadien d'information sur la santé (also CIHI)
ICPC	International Classification of Primary Care
ICPM	International Classification of Procedures in Medicine (WHO 1978)
IFHRO	International Federation of Health Records Organizations
IHRIM	Institute of Health Record and Information Management (UK)
IHTSDO	International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation (SNOMED SDO)
IMIA	International Medical Informatics Association
IND	International Nomenclature of Diseases (Not currently maintained)
INSERM	Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Medicale
INTERCOD	Computer-assisted program for self-instruction for coding mortality and morbidity with ICD-10 developed by the Mexican Center for the

	Classification of Diseases and PAHO.
IRIS	A language-independent coding system based on MMDS
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
ISO 9999	Technical aids for persons with disabilities. Classification and terminology
KCD	Korean Classification of Diseases (KCD-7 is the second one based on ICD)
MbRG	Morbidity Reference Group (WHO-FIC)
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MedDRA	Medical Dictionary for Regulatory Activities
MF	Mortality Forum - Group for discussions by e-mail of issues related to mortality coding (in English)
MICAR	Mortality Medical Indexing, Classification and Retrieval
MIKADO	Swedish automated coding system
MMCB	Mortality Medical Classification Branch, NCHS
MMDS	Mortality Medical Data System (US automated coding system)
MRG	Mortality Reference Group (WHO-FIC)
NAACCR	North American Association of Central Cancer Registries
NACC	North American Collaborating Center
NCCH	National Centre for Classification in Health (Australia)
NCECI	NOMESCO Classification of External Causes of Injuries
NCHS	National Center for Health Statistics (USA)
NCSP	NOMESCO Classification of Surgical Procedures
NHS	National Health Service (UK)

NIC	National Interventions Classification – currently under development but will ultimately replace OPCS-4 for surgical procedures and intervention for the UK
NIH	National Institutes of Health (U.S.)
NLM	National Library of Medicine (U.S.)
NOMESCO	Nordic Medico-Statistical Committee
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
OMS	Organisation mondiale de la Santé Organización Mundial de la Salud Organização Mundial da Saúde
ONS	Office for National Statistics (UK) Formed in 1996 by a merger of the Central Statistical Office (CSO) and the Office of Population Censuses & Surveys (OPCS)
OPCS-4	The Office of Population Censuses and Surveys' Classification of Surgical Operations 4 th Revision. The current surgical procedures classification used in the UK
OPS (OPAS)	Organization panaméricaine de la Santé Organización Panamericana de la Salud Organização Pan-Americana da Saúde
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
RI	Rehabilitation International
RIVM	National Institute of Public Health and the Environment (Netherlands)
RSG	Revision Steering Group (ICD-10)
RUTENDON	Computer-based ICD-10 coding training, in Russian
SCB	Seleção de causa básica (automated system, Brazil)

SEARO	Regional Office for South East Asia of the World Health Organization
SNOMED	Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine
SNOMED CT	SNOMED Clinical Terms
SNOMED RT	SNOMED Reference Terminology
SRS	Sample Registration System
STC	Statistics Canada
STYX	French automated coding system
TAG	Topical Advisory Group (see RSG)
TENDON	Computer-based training package for ICD-10 produced by the WHO Collaborating Centre for the Classification of Diseases, London.
TRANSAX	Translation of axes – used to create data appropriate for either record-based analysis or person-based analysis
TRG	Terminology Reference Group (WHO-FIC)
UC or UCOD	Underlying cause of death
UMLS	Unified Medical Language System (NLM)
UN	United Nations
URC	Update and Revision Committee (WHO-FIC)
VA	Verbal Autopsy
WCPT	World Confederation for Physical Therapy
WFOT	World Federation of Occupational Therapists
WHO	World Health Organization
WHO CAT	World Health Organization Classification, Assessment and Terminology

WHO CC	World Health Organization Collaborating Center
WHO-FIC	World Health Organization Family of International Classifications
WICC	WONCA International Classification Committee
WONCA	World Organization of National Colleges, Academies and Academic Associations of General Practitioners/Family Physicians (The short name is World Organization of Family Doctors.)
WPA	World Psychiatric Association
WPRO	Regional Office for Western Pacific of the World Health Organization
XML	Extensible Mark-up Language
YLD	Years of life lived with disability Years of life lost through disability
YLL	Years of life lost

September 12, 2007

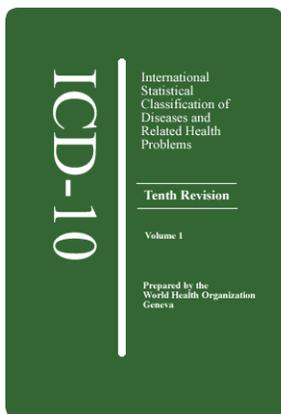
WHO-FIC 2007/00-3

**WHO-FIC Education Committee:
A Status Report 2006-2007**

Trieste, Italy
28 Oct. - 3 Nov 2007

Appendix 4

Draft WHO-FIC Network Brochure



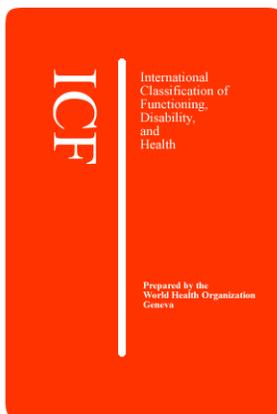
International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10th Revision (ICD-10)

These Reference Classifications are used in hospitals, health and community services, statistical agencies and research to describe the morbidity, mortality and disability of individuals and populations.

For more information about the WHO-FIC, contact WHO headquarters, a WHO regional office or any WHO Collaborating Center or visit the WHO-FIC web site:

www.who.int/classifications/

September 2007



International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF).

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Family of International Classifications (WHO-FIC)

Network of the Collaborating Centres for the WHO-FIC



World Health Organization

Classifications to support National and International Health Information Systems

[The WHO-FIC Network](#)

The **World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centres for the Family of International Classifications (FIC)** are an international network of expert centres in health classifications, coding, and terminology development. The Network also includes other representatives of WHO Member States and non-governmental organizations. The principal role of the WHO-FIC network is to promote the implementation and use of the two WHO reference health classifications, the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) and the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF). The Family also includes a suite of derived and related classifications. The Network's mission is to **improve health through the ongoing development, maintenance and promotion of an integrated suite of health classifications and related products that produce information of value and utility across the world.**

WHO collaborating centres

A WHO collaborating centre is a national institution designated by the Director-General to form part of an international collaborative network to support WHO's mandate for work on international health issues.

WHO-FIC Committees

Planning Committee (PC) monitors WHO-FIC Strategy and Work Plan and Business Plan and plans annual meetings.

Education Committee (EC) encourages the development and implementation of best educational practices to ensure comparable data within and among WHO Member States. A Joint Collaboration has been formed with the International Federation of Health Records Organizations to develop an international training and certification program for ICD-10 coders and trainers.

Electronic Tools Committee (ETC) is developing policies on the deployment and application of electronic tools for the WHO-FIC. The Committee supports WHO and the WHO-FIC Network in the dissemination of such tools and establishes liaisons with other organizations working in electronic classification.

Family Development Committee (FDC) aims to ensure that the WHO-FIC has a logical structure so that the classifications needed for each component and setting within the health system can be identified. FDC identifies and prioritises gaps in the WHO-FIC and assesses potential new member classifications against established criteria.

Implementation Committee (IC) focuses on tracking, promoting and supporting implementation of the WHO-FIC in health information systems internationally. This group is assisting WHO in the compilation of guidelines, educational materials, tools and strategies.

Update and Revision Committee (URC) assesses the need for updating WHO-FIC classifications and manages the process to update ICD-10 following submissions from the reference groups, collaborating centres,

and other experts.

WHO-FIC Reference Groups

Mortality Reference Group (MRG) identifies and solves problems related to the interpretation and application of ICD-10 to mortality, supports the development of internationally applicable software for mortality coding and classification, and addresses issues of analysis and assessment of mortality statistics.

Morbidity Reference Group (MbRG) identifies, discusses and solves problems related to interpreting and applying ICD-10 to morbidity coding and classification, through the development of agreed coding rules and guidelines.

Functioning and Disability Reference Group (FDRG) advises the WHO-FIC Network on functioning, disability and health classification and coding issues. The chief aim is to improve the quality and comparability of national and international data that describes functioning, disability and health by enhancing the appropriate use of ICF in statistics and information systems.

Terminology Reference Group (TRG) follows terminological developments and promotes awareness of the need to ensure and verify congruence between concepts underlying clinical terminologies and the WHO classifications.