

WHO-FIC Education Committee: A Status Report, 2009-2010

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Abstract

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The WHO-FIC Education Committee (EC) assists and advises WHO in improving the quality of use of the WHO classifications in member states through the development of training and certification strategies, the identification of best training practices and by providing a network for sharing expertise and experiences on education and training. The WHO-FIC Network Council approved the merger of the EC and the Implementation Committee during the Council's April 2010 teleconference. The EC 2009-2010 terms of reference include both 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). The principal ICD tasks relate to an international training and certification program for ICD-10 mortality and morbidity coders; this program has been developed as part of a Joint Collaboration (JC) with the International Federation of Health Records Organizations (IFHRO), a non-governmental organization in official relations with WHO. The Education Committee's ICF tasks are being carried out in collaboration with the WHO-FIC Network's Functioning and Disability Reference Group (FDRG). The EC and JC held three teleconferences in 2010 and a mid-year meeting in Cologne, Germany to discuss and plan future steps for the web-based training tools for ICD-10 and for ICF, and to make progress on other components of its work plan. This paper and several related papers and posters describe the status of each element in the EC's work

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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 (see appendix 1) 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). The Education Committee (EC) assists and advises WHO in improving the quality of use of the WHO classifications in member states through the development of training and certification strategies, the identification of best training practices and by providing a network for sharing expertise and experiences on education and training. A Joint Collaboration (JC) with the International Federation of Health Records Organizations (IFHRO) was established in 2004. The WHO-FIC Network Council approved the merger of the EC and the Implementation Committee (IC) during the Council's April 2010 teleconference. Co-chairs of the EC and IC held several teleconferences during 2010 to discuss the terms of reference and work plan for the new Education and Implementation Committee (EIC), which will hold two working sessions during the 2010 WHO-FIC Network meeting in Toronto.

This paper provides a summary report of the Education Committee's activities and progress since the 2009 meeting in Seoul, Korea. The paper is organized around the three goals for the EC included in the WHO-FIC Network 2009-2010 Work Plan. The EC held three teleconferences and a mid-year meeting between January and September 2010 to progress its work. Separate papers and posters will provide greater detail and recommendations on key aspects of the Committee's work plan. Related documents, including the minutes from the Committee's February 2010 mid-year meeting in Cologne, Germany, can be found on the Committee's web site at: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/icd/nacc_education_committee.htm

Develop and sustain education, training strategy and tools for WHO classifications

Promote the development and use of WHO-FIC Training Tools - ICD-10

The development and review of web-based training tools for ICD-10 and ICF continued as a major focus of the Education Committee during 2009-10. The EC terms of reference include "Develop, harmonize and maintain self-learning tools." The EC and JC developed core curricula for training ICD-10 mortality and morbidity coders, which were approved by the WHO-FIC Network and IFHRO in 2004; the EC and JC also developed a core curriculum for certifiers of underlying cause of death, which was approved in 2007. These curricula became the framework for development by WHO of a web-based training tool for ICD-10 coding and certification of cause-of-death, in cooperation with the EC and JC, Mortality and Morbidity Reference Groups and several Collaborating Centres. The work on the tool began in 2006, and testing by the Education Committee took place in 2009.

Progress on finalizing the tool was discussed at the EC/JC mid-year meeting in Cologne, Germany in February 2010. Dr. Robert Jakob, WHO, reported that the tool

had been released as a pre-final version at:

<http://www.who.int/classifications/icd/implementation/en/index.html>,

and that the number of on-line views was increasing. However, following consultation with the EC co-chairs and tool authors, it had been agreed that the publication of the tool should be delayed to allow for an additional external review by the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) and to take into account early translations, if possible. Translation files were released to several countries with a request for feedback on any problems encountered. The expectation was that the final version of the ICD-10 training tool would be released by June 30, 2010.

During the August 3, 2010 EC/JC teleconference, Dr. Jakob reported that AHIMA had completed its extensive review and that their comments and suggestions were being incorporated into the electronic tool. It was now anticipated that the tool would be finalized in September. Brazil, Germany, Japan and the Netherlands are all planning to translate the tool. The EC will encourage translation into other languages as well.

In anticipation of the tool's full availability on the WHO website and as a CD-ROM, the EC discussed in Cologne its role in supporting users. It was agreed to establish a Training Tool Support Group (TTSG) to serve as a bridge to users of the tool between July and October 2010 and to answer questions that may arise during that time. The TTSG, chaired by Sue Walker, was asked to report back to the EC during the 2010 WHO-FIC Network meeting in Toronto, Canada. A Google site for a user forum was established following the Cologne meeting; however, as of the writing of this paper, because the training tool is still in release candidate version, the site has not been activated. Once the tool is released to the public, it will be necessary to advertise the existence of the site, so that people who are working their way through the materials can send any queries or comments they might have. Answers to these queries may be posted as Frequently Asked Questions to assist all users. The role and functioning of the TTSG will be discussed further in Toronto.

In Cologne, the EC also discussed the need to update the tool and CD-ROM on an annual basis, consistent with updates to ICD-10. Updates as a result of the proposed user forum also need to be taken into account. The EC and JC approved a resolution regarding ongoing maintenance of the tool, requesting that WHO include in its base budget adequate funding (estimated at approximately \$15,000 US per update) to maintain the tool. The resolution, which is included in appendix 2, was presented to the WHO-FIC Council during its mid-year teleconference in April 2010, and accepted with no objections.

Promote the development and use of WHO-FIC Training Tools - ICF

The Education Committee's work on an eLearning tool for ICF is being carried out in conjunction with the Functioning and Disability Reference Group (FDRG), as well as other members of the WHO-FIC Network. Version 1 of the ICF Curriculum Modules developed by the two groups was endorsed at the 2008 Annual WHO-FIC Network meeting. These modules are the framework for a self-learning tool under development by the German Collaborating Centre/ICF Research Branch and WHO; this tool also was discussed by the EC and JC during the Cologne meeting. As

originally conceived, the e-Learning Tool would consist of four modules: Introductory, Basic, Advanced and Specialized. The Introductory module has been developed in English and Spanish and is undergoing field testing from March 1 – August 31, 2010. The EC commented on the field test protocol following the 2009 WHO-FIC Network meeting in Seoul, Korea and also contributed to a pre-test of an ICF knowledge questionnaire, which everyone who participates in the field test will be required to complete before starting the Introductory Module and after having completed all the chapters of the Module. The EC agreed to identify persons to participate in the field test and to help with the identification of persons for the project groups that will be developing the advanced and specialized modules. The proposed basic module is has been incorporated into the Introductory Module.

As of the EC's teleconference on August 3, 2010, approximately 362 persons from 40 countries had registered for the field test, and 125 had completed the whole Introductory Module. The developers will be improving the module based on feedback received and plan to present the final version during the Toronto meeting. The final version will be available for translation to other languages than English and Spanish. Translation to Portuguese and to Germany already is planned.

It is expected that user support and updating will be the responsibility of the developers, but the EC will continue to be involved in the tool's development and expansion.

The involvement of both ICD and ICF education experts in review of both training tools has proven very beneficial.

Develop and promote International Training Strategy and Explore Development of International Certification Strategy

Since the inception of the Education Committee, the principal ICD tasks have related to development and implementation of an international training and certification program for ICD-10 mortality and morbidity coders. This program is being conducted in conjunction with IFHRO, a non-governmental organization in official relations with WHO and was successfully piloted in four countries in 2007 – 2008 for underlying cause-of-death mortality coders and trainers, culminating in the award of certificates to 60 coders, 19 coder/trainers and seven honorary trainers.

During the mid-year meeting in Cologne, the following questions regarding the future of the Program were raised:

- 1- Do we need additional pilot test sites?
- 2- Are we ready to offer the underlying cause-of-death exam globally? Or should we do this through a regional approach?
- 3- Is it possible to link the exam to the ICD-10 training tool?
- 4- How can we identify additional resources to take this work forward?
5. Should the program be expanded to support morbidity coders and trainers, as originally envisioned?

There were differing opinions on whether additional pilots were necessary, although

the group generally agreed that the number of questions in the exam bank should be increased and that new questions should be tested whenever the exam is offered. A process currently is underway to collect and finalize 100 more questions, in collaboration with the Mortality Reference Group (see separate paper).

Although the availability of the exam is not being advertised, due to resource constraints, if candidates express interest in taking the underlying cause-of-death exam, the EC is willing to work with appropriate organizations within the individual's country to facilitate a standardized process. Integration with the training tool will be explored, but it was reaffirmed that two years of coding experience are recommended before taking the exam, which is on the advanced level. A regional approach to promote the Training and Certification Program is considered promising, and the EC and JC agreed to develop a package of materials for the WHO Regional Offices and IFHRO Regional Directors (see separate paper by Greenberg and Skurka). Finally, the EC and JC agreed in Cologne that work should go forward on developing an international exam on morbidity coding, based on the rules in Volume 2, although the exam would not result in a certification at this time. A separate paper by Hong and Lewis, who are leading this effort and collecting questions for the exam, will be presented in Toronto.

No sources of funding currently are known. However, increased international interest in promoting civil registration and vital statistics systems could provide impetus for training and certifying underlying cause-of-death coders.

Training materials from Korea, Australia, Sri Lanka and the United States have been recognized by the JC as meeting the standard for Underlying Cause of Death coder training in several knowledge clusters of the core curriculum. The EC and JC also agreed at the mid-year meeting to accept additional training materials for review and recognition. The Australian National Centre for Health Information Research & Training (Brisbane) has agreed to coordinate the reviews during 2010.

Improve the level and quality of implementation of WHO classifications

Support users of the classifications with information resources

In 2008, the EC began developing a series of short documents for users of classifications. These have evolved into two-sided Information Sheets, which can be easily updated, placed on the web and translated. Because they are in the public domain, countries and collaborating centres can adapt them to meet local needs. The intended purposes of these high-level overviews are education, communication and promotion of best practices. Information Sheets on the following topics were approved by the EC during 2010:

- WHO-FIC – IFHRO Joint Collaboration
- What You Should Know about Clinical Documentation
- Uses of Coded Clinical Data
- Mortality (Cause-of-Death) Data
- Civil Registration and Vital Statistics
- International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF)

An additional Information Sheet on the International Statistical Classification of Diseases is under development and will be circulated for approval prior to the Toronto meeting. The German Collaborating Center has volunteered to propose a common design for presenting the Information Sheets, which will be posted on the Education Committee and IFHRO websites.

The EC also has served as a reviewer of the ICF Overview document prepared by the FDRG. The co-chairs of the EC and FDRG officially transmitted the document to WHO in August 2010 for posting on the WHO website to replace the current version, which is outdated.

Develop and Promote International Training Strategy

Best practices in ICD and ICF training have been a focus of the Education Committee sessions during the 2007 - 2009 annual WHO-FIC Network meetings and again will be included on the agenda in 2010. These presentations address the Committee's aims to identify best practices and provide a network for sharing expertise and experience on ICD and ICF education and training. To date, the EC has not developed specific criteria for identifying best practices, but has relied on members to select successful examples of educational courses and strategies, which are documented in the meeting summaries.

Build Partnerships and Serve Global Users

Briefing Kit for Collaborating Centres

The content and implementation plans for the Briefing Kit for Collaborating Centres were approved by the EC during the 2009 WHO-FIC Network meeting. The materials, which are being posted on the EC share point site, are intended for new WHO-FIC Collaborating Centres, as well as new Centre Heads, to facilitate their development and integration into the WHO-FIC Network and also as a useful reference for all WHO-FIC Collaborating Centres. All current Collaborating Centres have been requested to prepare short profiles of their respective centres for the Briefing Kit, and as of the writing of this paper, profiles have been received from eleven Centres. Profiles also have been requested from international organizations in official relations with the WHO-FIC Network, including IFHRO and the World Confederation for Physical Therapy.

Orientation for WHO-FIC Network Meetings

The EC organized an "induction session", principally for first-time attendees, during the 2004 - 2007 WHO-FIC Network meetings. With the reorganization of the agenda beginning with the 2008 Network meeting, it was no longer practical to hold the induction session. However, updated slides from previous sessions will be available on the meeting website.

Abbreviations, Acronyms and Definitions

The Education continues 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 document will be included in the Briefing Kit with hyperlinks wherever possible.

Standards for Health Records

Improvement of source documents is included in the EC terms of reference. As noted above, the EC has addressed the need for improving cause-of-death certification through its core curriculum and best practices for certifiers of cause of death. In regards to hospital record documentation, the EC has been liaising with UK representatives on work of the Royal College of Physicians to improve clinical documentation. This led to a poster submission at the 2008 WHO-FIC Network meeting, development of an information sheet on the topic and a paper jointly presented at the 2009 WHO-FIC Network meeting and at an IFHRO conference in Perth, Australia. The EC will continue to support this work, on which IFHRO has the lead.

Summary

The WHO-FIC Education Committee continued to make good progress in pursuing its ICD and ICF education and training objectives during 2010, with a major focus on development and review of web-based training tools for both classifications. The Committee continues its close collaboration with IFHRO, as well as the FDRG and other components of the WHO-FIC Network and welcomes merger with the Implementation Committee in October 2010. 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 continue to be addressed by the WHO-FIC Network.

The EIC and JC are planning a 2011 mid-year meeting in Budapest, Hungary on March 28-30, during which all aspects of the combined work plans will be addressed.

Appendices

1. Education Committee Terms of Reference
2. Resolution on Maintenance of ICD-10 Training Tool
3. Abbreviations, Acronyms and Definitions

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, harmonize and maintain 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 approaches to address 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.

The Committee 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 Network annual meeting. Official meetings of the committee must be held in conjunction with international WHO-FIC meetings.

April 2, 2009

Appendix 2

The EC approved the following resolution regarding ongoing maintenance of the ICD-10 Web-based Training Tool for submission to the WHO-FIC Council at its mid-year meeting on April 23, 2010, in Geneva, Switzerland:

The WHO-FIC Education Committee requests that the WHO-FIC Council endorse the following resolution:

Whereas the Education Committee:

- *has worked closely with the World Health Organization (WHO) on the development of the ICD-10 Web-based Training Tool,*
- *developed the core curricula on which the tool is based,*
- *contributed content to the tool,*
- *reviewed the full tool,*
- *participated in testing the tool,*
- *is developing a strategy for supporting users of the tool,*
- *is committed to the tool's maintenance and update consistent with the ICD-10 update schedule and user needs, and*
- *supports wide-scale use and further development of the tool*

The Education Committee:

- *expresses its sincere appreciation to Dr. Robert Jakob for his collaboration and tireless efforts on behalf of the tool and*
- *requests that WHO include in its base budget adequate funding (estimated at approximately \$15,000 US per update) to maintain the tool.*

The Education Committee will recommend an update schedule after the first year of operations, in consultation with WHO.

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
AIDOS	Associazione Italiana Documentazione Sanitaria (Italian Medical Record 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
BIREME	Latin American and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information (PAHO) Centro Latino-Americano e do Caribe de Informação em Ciências da Saúde (OPAS) Centro Latinoamericano y del Caribe de Información en Ciencias de la Salud (OPS)
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 Health Interventions
CCI	La Classification Canadienne des Interventions
CCSA	Clinical Coders' Society of America
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (USA)
CDISC	Clinical Data Interchange Standards Consortium
CEMECE	Centro Colaborador para la Familia de Clasificaciones Internacionales de la OMS en México (Mexican Collaborating Center)
CEN	European Committee for Standardization
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 Estadística 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

	(Spanish, French, and Portuguese editions of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health)
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
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
DRG	Diagnosis-Related Groups
DSM-IV	Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders – 4 th Edition
EBM	Evidence-based Medicine
EBP	Evidence-based Practice
EC	Education Committee (WHO-FIC)
EDI	Electronic data interchange
EDRS	Electronic Death Registration Systems
EHR	Electronic health record
EIC	Education and Implementation Committee

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 (FDRG)
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)
HIMAA	Health Information Management Association of Australia
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
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- will enter into effect on October 1, 2013)
ICD-10-GM	International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision, German Modification
ICD-10-PCS	International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Procedure Coding System (USA – will enter into effect on October 1, 2013)
ICD-10-XM	International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10 th Revision, International Clinical Modification (under discussion)
ICD-11	International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Eleventh Revision
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
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)
ICTM	International Classification of Traditional Medicine
IFHRO	International Federation of Health Records Organizations
IHRIM	Institute of Health Record and Information Management (UK)
IHTSDO	International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation
IMECCHI	International Methodology Consortium for Coded Health Information
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
ITC	Informatics and Terminology Committee
JHA	Japan Hospital Association
JHIM	Japan Society of Health Information Management
KMRA	Korean Medical Record Association
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)
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)
NCRA	National Cancer Registrars Association
NCSP	NOMESCO Classification of Surgical Procedures
NGO	Non-governmental organization
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
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 (also WHO) 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 (also PAHO)

	Organización Panamericana de la Salud Organização Pan-Americana da Saúde
PACC (UK)	Professional Association of Clinical Coders (UK)
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization (also OPS, OPAS)
RI	Rehabilitation International
RIVM	National Institute of Public Health and the Environment (Netherlands)
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
STC	Statistics Canada
STYX	French automated coding system
SWP	Strategic Work Plan
TAG	Topical Advisory Group (ICD-11)
TENDON	Computer-based training package for ICD-10 produced by the WHO Collaborating Centre for the Classification of Diseases, London.
TM	Traditional Medicine
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)

WCPT	World Confederation for Physical Therapy
WFC	World Confederation of Chiropractic
WFOT	World Federation of Occupational Therapists
WHO	World Health Organization (also OMS)
WHO CC	World Health Organization Collaborating Center
WHO CTS	World Health Organization Classifications, Terminologies and Standards
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

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