Australian Government

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for the Family of International Classifications, Australia

ICD-11 Stakeholder Update no. 3 – January 2023

Welcome

Welcome to the third edition of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's (AIHW) ICD-11 Stakeholder Update.

Since our last update, the AIHW has held several meetings of the Australian ICD-11 Task Force and members of our Collaborating Centre attended the annual meetings of the WHO-FIC Network's Committees and Reference Groups either in person in Geneva, Switzerland or virtually. As one of those who attended in person, and it being my first in person WHO-FIC Network meeting, it was very valuable to meet our colleagues from other nations and the WHO in person and to have the richer opportunities to work out issues in corridor and tea break conversations that have been missing in recent years.

Among other things, we were selected to host some of the mid-year Network meetings and there's more details elsewhere in the newsletter on that.

It was also great to see so many people attend the ICD-11 workshop at the HIMAA National Conference in Adelaide, in October.

More information about these activities is contained in the Update. Please let us know if you have any feedback or questions about any of these activities. We hope you enjoy reading this edition of the Stakeholder Update.

Michael Frost

Senior Executive, Data Governance Group and Head, WHO Collaborating Centre for the Family of International Classifications Australia

International Classification of Diseases, 11th Revision (ICD-11) Updates

ICD-11 Implementation Planning: Establishment of the Australian ICD-11 Task Force

The Australian ICD-11 Task Force (AITF) has held several meetings since our last published update (July 2022) working on developing the broad, multi-year roadmap of activities required to make a decision regarding implementation of the ICD-11 in a range of contexts, particularly in relation to mortality and admitted care (morbidity) coding, as well as other use cases.

AIHW

National health indicator mapping to ICD-11

In the January 2022 edition of this newsletter, the outcomes of a 2021 exercise to map the ICD-10-AM codes to ICD-11 codes for 10 national health indicators were reported. These indicators related to Hospital Acquired Conditions, Drug and Alcohol, Diabetes, Heart Failure, COPD and Delirium.

This mapping exercise was undertaken again in 2022 due to the release of the February 2022 Frozen Version of the ICD-11.

Summary results

Mapping	Number of codes	%
Direct match i.e. one to one mapping	536	52.8%
Partial match i.e. postcoordination required of extension and/or stem codes	474	46.7%
Incongruous mapping i.e. no map possible	6	0.6%
Total	1016	100%

It is encouraging to see that 99.4% of the ICD-10-AM codes in these National Health Indicators are classifiable either directly or via postcoordination in ICD-11.

There are several reasons for partial matches, such as:

- Change in the classification of clinical concepts, including sepsis and diabetes

- Change in the inclusion of descriptors, such as severity and acuity in code titles

- Precoordination in ICD-10-AM that is not in ICD-11

- Where a specific code in ICD-10-AM is classified to a residual code in ICD-11

- Where entities classified to one code in ICD-10-AM have been separated into discrete entities in the ICD-11

- Higher granularity in ICD-10-AM than in ICD-10.

There are several reasons for incongruent mapping such as:

- Granularity level in ICD-11 is beyond that of ICD-10-AM and there is no residual code in the ICD-11 category

- There is no direct matching concept in the ICD-11.

In 2023, the AIHW will also be continuing to identify all national health indicator sets held within METEOR to identify those that use ICD-10 or ICD-10-AM codes, with the aim to extend the mapping exercise to these indicator sets. In addition, indicator sets that are not currently using ICD-10 or ICD-10-AM but could potentially be calculated using ICD-11 codes will also be identified.

Gender Incongruence and the ICD-11

In mid-2022, the AIHW had an opportunity to work with a Gender Incongruence Unit (GIU) at one of Melbourne's hospitals, which holds a database of patients being seen for issues related to gender incongruence.

The Resident Medical Officer of the GIU has reviewed admission records for this patient cohort across a three year period and has provided a subset of 100 episodes of care where gender incongruence was a contextual factor. The coding team and HIMs at the hospital are currently undertaking a dual coding study using both ICD-10-AM (without applying ACS 0002 to primarily assess capacity of the ICD-10-AM to capture this cohort of patients) and then also using ICD-11.

The AIHW provided education sessions to the hospital team for the use of ICD-11 for this project. The results of this study are expected mid-2023.

ICD-11: Did you know?

Precoordination

Some stem codes contain all pertinent information about a clinical concept in a pre-combined fashion. This is referred to as 'precoordination'.

For example, 2C25.2 *Squamous cell carcinoma of bronchus or lung*

Postcoordination

A health condition may be further described to any level of detail, by applying more than one code (i.e., combining codes). This is referred to as 'postcoordination'.

A group of codes that have been postcoordinated is called a 'cluster'.

A forward slash (/) or ampersand (&) is used to show the linkage between postcoordinated codes.

For example,

Condition: GC08.0 *Urinary tract infection, site not specified, due to Escherichia coli*
Associated with: MG50.27 *Extended spectrum beta-lactamase producing Escherichia coli*

Cluster: GC08.0/MG50.27

World Health Organization Family of International Classifications (WHO-FIC) related updates

October 2022 saw the annual meetings of the WHO-FIC Network and its committees and reference groups, held in Geneva, Switzerland and virtually (hybrid).

The WHO-FIC Network currently consists of 34 Collaborating Centres, 5 Academic research Collaborating Centres, 8 non-governmental organizations (in official relations with WHO), and technical liaisons. Over 360 participants from 72 countries attended the 2022 Annual Meeting, of which 190 were in-person.

The theme of this year's Annual Meeting was "Mapping and Interoperability".

Australia remains very active in the WHO-FIC Network committees and reference groups, and the AIHW (as head of the collaborating centre) thanks the members of the Australian Collaborating Centre for all their past, present and future participation.

Some of the Australian delegation with WHO Director General Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus

Australia will be hosting many of the WHO-FIC Network committees and reference groups for the mid-year meetings of 2023, in Sydney, from 8 to 12 May. It will be great to see our international colleagues back in Australia after so many years. MbRG, EIC, MRG and FDRG have confirmed participation so far.

The 2023 Annual Meetings of the WHO-FIC Network committees and reference groups will be held in Bonn, Germany, from 16 to 20 October.
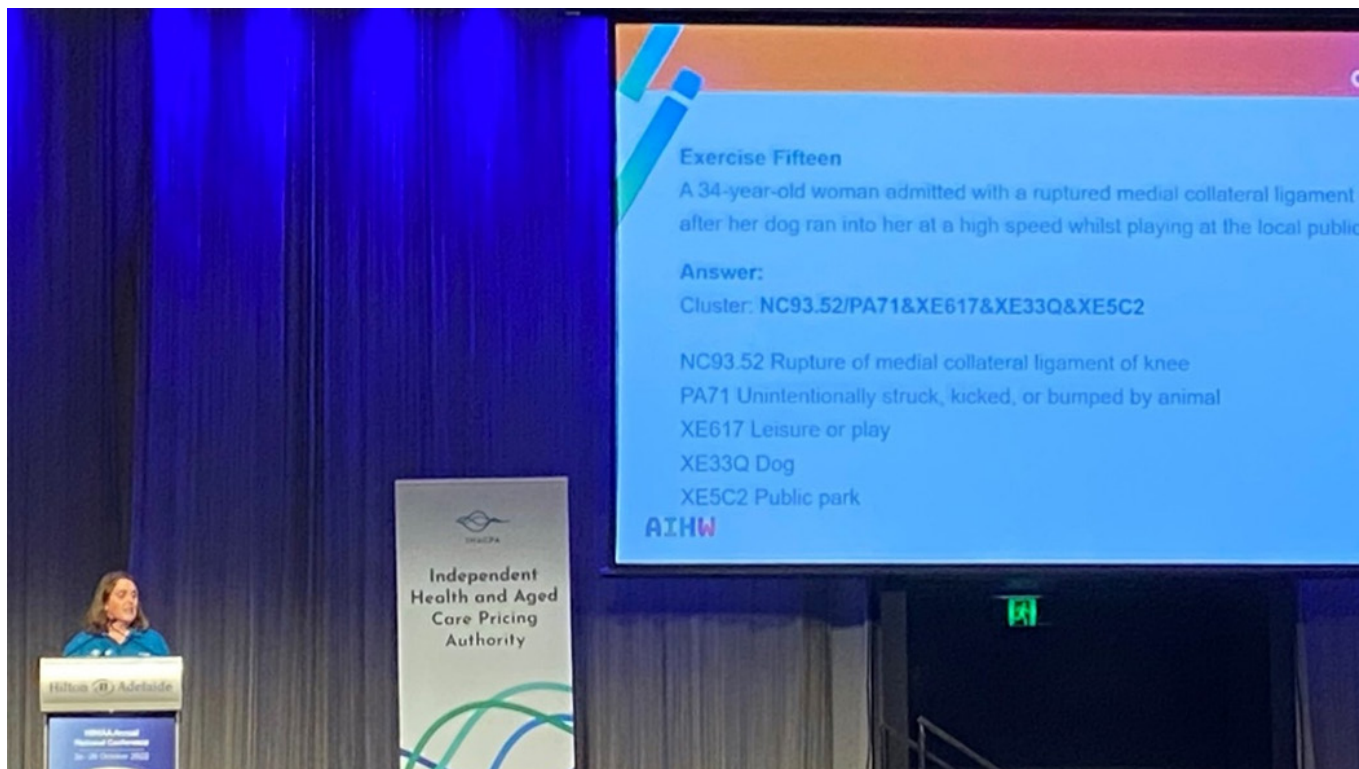
Recent ICD-11 publications and presentations including those by Australians

- The WHO hosted a mortality rules digitalisation workshop in Geneva on the 30th and 31st of August 2022. The workshop served to clarify and refine the rules further. The discussions were attended by programmers that transformed the instructions into computerised logical rules. The clarifications will also be added as written instructions to the Reference Guide for ICD-11.

- The WHO has conducted 12 global webinars since 2020, the most recent being on 27 September which was the Webinar on ICD-11 use for Rare Diseases. Slide decks for this webinar can be found here.

- HIMAA Annual Conference October 2022 – the AIHW held a plenary session on ICD-11 in Australia. This was chaired by Vicki Bennett and Michael Frost from the AIHW and included information regarding the Australian ICD-11 Task Force, and discussion of other projects being undertaken in preparation of the Roadmap for a decision regarding implementation of ICD-11. We had several guest presenters including James Eynstone-Hinkins from the Australian Bureau of Statistics who presented on Mortality data and the ICD-11, and James Harrison from Flinders University who presented on Patient Quality and Safety in the ICD-11. We also had a recorded presentation from our colleagues at the Canadian Institute for Health Information on the Canadian journey towards ICD-11 implementation.

Plenary speakers HIMAA October 2022 Conference

- Also, at the HIMAA conference the AIHW conducted an interactive 90-minute workshop, utilising a workbook of 28 exercises which participants had attempted pre-conference. The ICD-11 Coding Tool was demonstrated live for the 28 exercises, and classification concepts such as postcoordination were also explained and demonstrated. For anyone who was not at the conference but would like a copy of the workbook with answers please email who-fic-acc@aihw.gov.au to request a PDF copy.

AIHW Workshop

- On November 28, the WHO released a new document which recommends a new name for monkeypox disease. It can be found here.

What are other countries doing about ICD-11?

The National Center for Health Information in Kuwait released its "Demystifying ICD-11 URIs" video, which explains what a Unique Resource Identifier (URI) is, and how they are used in the ICD-11.

The Canadian Institute for Health Information has uploaded two webinars: an *Introduction to ICD-11 for mortality and morbidity statistics* and *Using the ICD-11 coding tool*.

For more information about ICD-11 visit the WHO's ICD-11 home page: ICD-11 (who.int).

International Classification of Health Interventions (ICHI) Updates

It was announced that the ICHI Coding Tool, Proposal Mechanism and Translation Tool are available online. Click here to access the WHO ICHI platform.

The ICD-FiT platform now also includes a module for line coding with ICHI.

ICHI-specific enhancements were made in the browser located in the maintenance platform.

Following WHO internal discussion, the process and timeline for ICHI finalization have been revised and updated to align with WHO governing board requirements. The Member State consultation letter is currently undergoing clearance and will be subsequently circulated to the Member States. Feedback will be requested on three areas: Data priorities and ICHI use cases, Advances and Implementation needs. The consultation process will inform the WHO governing body discussion in January and May 2023.

WHO-FIC Network Update

The WHO-FIC Network assists and advises the WHO to develop, disseminate, implement, maintain and update the WHO Family of International Classifications to support national and international health information systems, statistics and evidence to improve health.

WHO-FIC Network Committees and Reference Groups (CRGs) held their annual meetings during October 2022. The meetings were held in a hybrid model, allowing in-person or online attendance. The following is a summary from the Annual Meetings for each of the committees and reference groups.

Classification and Statistics Advisory Committee (CSAC)

There are two CSAC groups: CSAC-ICD which considers issues relating to the ICD-11 and CSAC-ICF which considers issues relating to the ICF. Neither group held formal mid-year meetings; however, both groups have been using the 2022 voting rounds to consider proposals for changes to ICD-11 and ICF.

The CSAC-ICD met over three sessions on Wednesday, 19 October 2022. In 2022 the CSAC-ICD reviewed 87 proposals of which 49 were accepted (some with modification). There was also a brief update provided on the renaming of monkeypox (disease) that had been the subject of two CSAC meetings in September 2022.

WHO confirmed that the new release of ICD-11 is intended to be published in early 2023.

The CSAC-ICF met during one session at the Annual Meeting in 2022. In 2022 the CSAC ICF processed 8 update proposals. 5 proposals were sent back to the author, 1 proposal was sent to Functioning and Disability Reference Group for advice, and 2 proposals were kept for further discussion. A brief overview of the new ICF update platform was given and information was provided on registering, receiving notifications, submitting update proposals (proposal types and templates were also shown), and voting.

Education and Implementation Committee (EIC)

The annual meeting of the EIC was across two sessions with the two primary focuses of Education and Implementation having a session each.

Education: An update was provided on the curricula and storyboarding of ICD-11 Modules for the WHO Academy, for which a prototype should be released in early 2023, and that the repository of ICD-11 morbidity exercises was updated to include the level of complexity and suitability for use as examples, exercises or for examinations. WHO noted that further refinement, such as target audience, should be added.

Implementation: 29 Collaborating Centres and country representatives made verbal presentations.

The WHO-FIC Information Sharing Forum will be formally launched after the Annual Meeting. A moderator job description has been developed to guide moderators regarding in and out-of-scope content. Sharon Baker will assume the role of moderator, and an invitation for an additional moderator will be sent to EIC and MbRG members.

EIC was invited to participate in the review of the ICHI Reference Guide.

Family Development Committee (FDC)

The FDC focused discussions on the terminologies paper / signposting discussion to address an increasing trend to use other terminologies with WHO-FIC classifications. Parallel use is ongoing in, e.g. Barcelona and Canada. There was conversation around the Mapping Taskforce, which will be reporting to the Council which will be determining its work, with the priority being on mapping ICD-10 to ICD-11. WHO has requested nominations from the CC. Also on the agenda was:

- finalization of Universal Health Coverage Mapping with a request for volunteers to finalize the mapping and paper according to comments from WHO.

- ICHI finalisation, which is now in the same Foundation as ICD-11 and ICF. There has been further enrichment of ICHI content and enhancement of the ICHI browser and coding tool. The ICHI reference guide has been updated. ICHI is now on the Translation Platform for use.
- as always content alignment and harmonization was considered across the WHO-FIC classifications.

Functioning and Disability Reference Group (FDRG)

In the FRDG meeting there was an update from the WHO on ICF modernization into the WHO-FIC foundation. There was a presentation of the IMINT tool on ICF implementation and an invitation to member states to provide input. There was keen interest in the development of WHODAS for children and there was a presentation of accomplished work with relation to content alignment and discussion on further steps of the ICF linking with ICHI and embracing signs and symptoms, laterality and other common concepts.

There was work done from mid-year meeting regarding the ICD-11 Education Tool, Unit 12 Section V, curricula and storyboard, with a presentation of accomplished work. New material will be shared among FDRG members to be commented on.

The need for an ICF reference guide was iterated, but resource limitation within the WHO means timing of this needs to be considered. Work plan to be discussed between co-chairs and WHO.

Informatics and Terminologies Committee (ITC)

WHO gave a comprehensive presentation on the WHO-FIC tooling for the maintenance and use of the classifications. The goal of having a common software infrastructure for all three classifications is becoming a reality. The Mexico CC presented experiences using the DORIS cause-of-death tool and enumerated ways DORIS and manual coding failed to match, thus providing good feedback to the DORIS developers.

ITC decided that the format used by DORIS satisfies all the requirements for software to exchange data for electronic medical certificates of causes of death and can be the standard format that developers should adopt. A presentation was provided on how the WHO-FIC Foundation could be enriched by integrating open ontologies like the Mondo disease ontology and the Human Phenotype Ontology. ITC reported on the previous survey of member countries' regarding the usage of the ClaML format to disseminate WHO-FIC classifications. It was found that, while ClaML had been used extensively for distributing some WHO-FIC and other classifications, only 4 of the 17 respondents indicated that they need ClaML in the future, so a way forward will be proposed to the Council. There was a report on the progress of mapping ICF body-structure entities to ICD-11 anatomy and topography extension codes, as well as on the conception of different "versions" of the WHO-FIC Foundation and the harmonization and alignment tasks each implies. A suggestion was also made that ITC meets more frequently than just having a mid-year and Annual Meeting.

Morbidity Reference Group (MbRG)

The meeting started with a review of 3 action items from the mid-year meeting which were:
- enhancing Coding Tool search functionality for external cause documentation
- applying a standard approach when mapping national intervention classification to ICHI, and
- the Implementation Forum.

New topics for discussion included the Czech review of descriptions and the need for guidance to address the following: What is the purpose of descriptions (users; use cases); who is responsible for descriptions content; references for descriptions; what are the ways to enhance the description content; is maintenance necessary?

There was a short presentation on Chapter 6 Descriptions / Clinical Descriptions and Diagnostic Requirements (CDDR). Work on an International Case Mix tool and there was feedback provided on the cancer coding guidance with ICD-11 with a brief overview of the results received by 20 participants who coded 34 examples of cancer diagnoses.

An update was provided on the work of the Quality & Safety Technical Advisory Group, as well as Tabulation Lists – the morbidity tabulation list is ready for review before being put on the platform.

ICHI Guide Review was also discussed, and members were asked to review and provide feedback.

Mortality Reference Group (MRG)

Feedback was provided from the WHO on the DORIS development, the digitization workshop held 30-31 August 2022 and associated discussions and outcomes (clarifying rules and updating reference guide). There was an Iris-11 project update, which briefly reviewed tasks that the Iris-11 project team have been working on during the past 18 months. Discussion following presentations focused on use cases for DORIS and Iris.

There was discussion around reference guide issues, which reviewed issues identified through implementation projects. Additional work is required to address the problems and several countries agreed to progress trials relating to capturing information on poisoning deaths.

There was discussion on coding of COVID-19 vaccine deaths and challenges of applying coding rules that enable transparent reporting and take account of source data quality/availability and previous country-specific coding practices. The decision was to add a caveat to the document for countries to code the COVID-19 vaccine death the same way they code other vaccine death.

The challenges in classification of sepsis were noted, along with a summary of the relevant discussion at the Sunday (pre-meeting) workshop, and the MRG agreed on the content of a resulting reference guide proposal.

Upcoming events

- **8 – 12 May 2023** WHO Family of International Classifications (WHO-FIC) Network Mid-Year Meetings, Sydney Australia. Attendance is by invitation only.

- **16 – 20 October 2023** WHO Family of International Classifications (WHO-FIC) Network Annual Meetings, Bonn, Germany. Attendance is by invitation only.

- **29 October – 1 November 2023** IFHIMA 20th Congress in conjunction with the 40th Health Information Management Association of Australia (HIMAA) Annual Conference, in Brisbane, Queensland.
The AIHW will hopefully be presenting in a plenary session dedicated to ICD-11, as well as hosting an interactive workshop on ICD-11. Come and visit us at our exhibition booth … we look forward to seeing you all there

Contact Us

The Metadata, Information Management and Classifications Unit (MIMCU) at the AIHW is the contact point for all enquiries relating to the WHO-FIC Network, the Australian Collaborating Centre and activities relating to ICD-11 implementation in Australia.

Email us at who-fic-acc@aihw.gov.au.

AIHW

Stronger evidence,
better decisions,
improved health and welfare