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

ICD-11 Stakeholder Update #2 – July 2022

Welcome

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

Since our first update, the AIHW held the inaugural meeting of the Australian ICD-11 Task Force in April and members of our Collaborating Centre attended mid-year meetings of the WHO-FIC Network's Committees and Reference Groups. The indicators mapping exercise to the ICD-11 continues and preparations are being made to hold an ICD-11 workshop at the HIMAA National Conference in Adelaide, in October. The AIHW finished undergoing redesignation with the WHO's Western Pacific Regional Office and I am happy to announce that this has been extended for another four years to 2026.

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

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AIHW

Stronger evidence,
better decisions,
improved health and welfare

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) was established by the Australian Health Classification Advisory Committee (AHCAC) following a recommendation to do so by stakeholders at the AIHW's ICD-11 workshop in June 2021. The AITF held its first meeting (virtually) on May 21, 2022.

The AITF are tasked with developing a 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 morbidity coding, using the recommendations from the AIHW's ICD-11 Stakeholder Review.

Current membership of the AITF includes jurisdictional health departments and relevant federal government agencies representatives, including:

- Australian Institute of Health and Welfare – providing Chair and Secretariat functions
- Australian Bureau of Statistics
- New South Wales Ministry of Health
- Queensland Department of Health
- South Australian Department of Health
- Tasmanian Department of Health

- Australian Government Department of Health
- Australian Digital Health Agency
- Independent Hospital Pricing Authority
- Victorian Agency for Health Information
- Western Australian Department of Health

National health indicator mapping to ICD-11

In the January 2022 edition of this newsletter, the outcomes of a mapping exercise of 10 national health indicators were reported. The mapping exercise has since been identified by the AITF as an important task for the roadmap to ICD-11. The AIHW are now identifying 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.

❗ ICD-11: Did you know?

Stem & extension codes – ICD-11 includes two types of codes, stem codes and extension codes. Stem codes are the core diagnostic codes for clinical entities that can be assigned alone or to which more detail can be added. Extension codes are used to add relevant diagnostic detail to stem codes. One or more can be added to a single stem code, but they cannot be used on their own or sequenced first

Code Structure – Like ICD-10, ICD-11 uses an alphanumeric coding structure, however, the code string is longer (up to 6 digits) and covers the range from 1A00.00 to ZZ9Z.ZZ. The letters O and I are omitted to prevent confusion with the numbers '0' and '1'. The first character of the code always relates to the chapter number and may be a number or a letter. Codes starting with 'X' indicate an extension code. There is always a letter in the second position to differentiate ICD-11 codes from ICD-10 codes. The inclusion of a forced number at the third character position prevents spelling 'undesirable words'.

Independent Hospital Pricing Authority (IHPA)

To inform decision makers on the potential implementation of the ICD-11, the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority (IHPA) has identified two major projects that it plans to undertake.

1. **Mapping from ICD-10-AM to ICD-11**

   A comprehensive mapping between ICD-10-AM Twelfth edition and the ICD-11 will identify potential gaps in the ICD-11 content and guide updates to the ICD-10-AM in the interim. It may also assist to identify proof of concept projects and inform impact analysis using ICD-11 in other classifications, including activity-based funding classifications such as the Australian Refined Diagnosis Related Groups (AR-DRGs).

2. **Development of a cluster flag to enhance Australian morbidity collections**

   Clustering (via postcoordination) is a new functionality in the ICD-11 to capture additional context and meaning. In ICD-10-AM, it would enable the broader capture of chronic conditions in admitted patient care collections that are currently restricted by coding standards and may also assist Australia to implement ICD-11 in the admitted setting by aligning the ICD-10-AM with concepts in ICD-11.

   The ABS have indicated an interest to collaborate on whether clustering methods for morbidity could be aligned with mortality with the long-term benefit of being able to link these data sets.
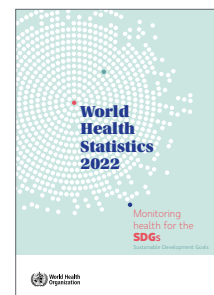
   Other countries such as Canada have introduced a cluster flag into their health data collections and have already begun to investigate a review of how ICD-11 could be implemented. It is therefore timely that Australia explore such opportunities to enhance data collection.

   There is support from AHCAC for both projects and IHPA is working with the ICD Technical Group, the National Health Data and Information Standards Committee and other stakeholders to progress these projects.

WHO-related updates

In May 2022, the AIHW successfully underwent the redesignation process to continue as the WHO Collaborating Centre for the Family of International Classifications in Australia. The AIHW is redesignated until May 2026.
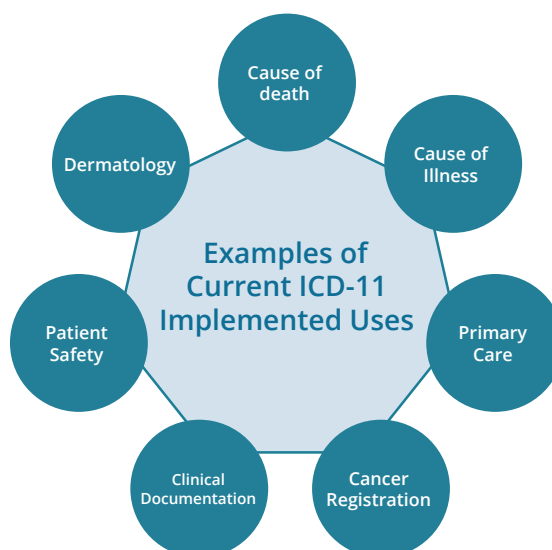
Also in May 2022, the WHO launched a new Mortality Database visualization portal (see here for more information) as well as releasing the 2022 World Health Statistics.

Recent ICD-11 publications and presentations including those by Australians

In February 2022, WHO released the 2022 frozen version of ICD-11. See WHO's statement regarding this release.

In April 2022, the International Federation of Health Information Management Associations (IFHIMA) released a position paper endorsing ICD-11 implementation and advocating health information professionals as essential to the successful planning and implementation of ICD-11.

Kuwait: The National Center for Health Information in Kuwait released its ICD-11 workshop (Part 2): Introduction to multiple parenting, residual categories and the foundation video, which explains why entities in ICD-11 appear in different colours, and introduces the new features of multiple parenting, grouping and the foundation component. The video also explains residual categories and how they are displayed in the classification.

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

ICHI is on track to be finalised at the annual WHO-FIC meeting in October 2022. After a review of the functioning interventions by multiple countries in December 2021, the managing editors of ICHI have been busy enhancing the content of the classification. The WHO are planning a review to be undertaken shortly for the public health interventions. Several countries have held workshops with the WHO to review and identify opportunities to add further index and inclusion terms to ICHI.

Other developments include:

- A Coding Tool is now available for use with ICHI and available at: https://icd.who.int/devct11/ichi/en/current
- A review of extension codes and the ability to use them across all three reference classifications (ICD-11, ICHI and ICF).
- Updating of high-level maps from ICD-9-CM Vol 3 to ICHI.

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 mid-year meetings during March, April and May 2022. The meetings were held in a hybrid model, allowing in-person or online attendance. All Australian attendance at mid-year meetings was online.

Classification and Statistics Advisory Committee (CSAC)

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

The CSAC-ICD Small Group reviewed 80 proposals over 3 days in March, with 61 going to voting members for decision in 2022. Voting Round 1 was held between April and June, and Round 2 will run from July to October. Any unresolved proposals after Round 2 will then be discussed at the Annual Meeting in October.

The CSAC-ICF have 18 proposals under consideration with voting due to begin in May and running until September.

Education and Implementation Committee (EIC)

The mid-year meeting of the EIC contained joint sessions with the MbRG and the FDRG, as these groups have overlap in their strategic work plans.

A major task of the EIC is the development of an ICD-11 Implementation Forum. This forum will provide a space for countries to share learnings regarding implementation of ICD-11 in different contexts. The forum is a joint effort between the MbRG and EIC and will be housed on the EIC platform. A final proposed platform will be demonstrated at the Annual Meeting in October. Watch this space!

Representatives provided updates on the status of ICD-11 implementation in their respective countries. Many are at a similar planning stage as Australia.

Family Development Committee (FDC)

A subgroup of the FDC have been progressing work on mapping terminologies. A paper discussing this was put forward at the mid-year meeting, with next steps being the establishment of a terminologies mapping task force. The ACC has put forward its intention to participate in this working group, with the final membership to be decided by WHO.

A long-standing project of the FDC has been assessing the ICD, ICHI and ICF to assist with monitoring progress towards Universal Health Coverage. A final paper has been drafted for publication outlining the FDC's work on this topic.

Functioning and Disability Reference Group (FDRG)

Discussions have continued within the FDRG on enhancing the ICF Foundation to provide index terms for the ICF, and on the ICF updates process which will recommence this year. As an open process, and in parallel with the update process for ICD, anyone can register on the website to view existing proposals and comment and/or pose new proposals according to the instructions in the update platform user guide available here.

Information on using the functioning entities in the V chapter of ICD-11 in the ICD reference guide, the ICD e-Learning Tool and proposed for the WHO Academy course, is to be reviewed. A reference guide for ICF is yet to be developed.

At its recent meetings, the ICF Australian Interest Group (ICF AIG) has been discussing use of the ICF in the National Disability Insurance Scheme. A technical paper authored by the group under the lead of Nicola Fortune and Rosamond Madden has been prepared and published on the ICF AIG website.

April 2022

The ICF and its potential uses in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

A technical paper of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and health Australia Interest Group (ICF-AIG)

Informatics and Terminologies Committee (ITC)

The ITC held its mid-year meeting in early June, where it was provided updates on the development of a number of tools and technologies by WHO including the Digital Open Rule Integrated cause of death Selection tool (DORIS), the electronic death certificate standard, the Classification Mark-up Language (ClaML) and work being undertaken on content harmonisation across the reference classifications.

Morbidity Reference Group (MbRG)

The MbRG have been leading a project to develop an international grouper to be used with ICD-11 and ICHI. The Nordic DRG system (NordDRG) is being used to pilot this process, as this system is in the public domain.

The MbRG are also about to embark on an ICD-11/ICD-O project, exploring the potential use of ICD-11 in national cancer registries.

Mortality Reference Group (MRG)

The MRG held an online mid-year meeting over three days in March 2022. This meeting focused mainly on the MRGs role in supporting the implementation of ICD-11 across areas such as coding, tabulation, mapping, data structures, data storage and data management. The meeting drew on examples of issues for consideration raised through existing ICD-11 implementation projects and used these examples to determine key themes for the MRGs future work program.

At the conclusion of the mid-year meeting, the MRG agreed to move to monthly meetings to build momentum on this broad program of implementation support. Meetings have since been held in April, May, and June of 2022. The MRG hopes to be able to have dedicated face to face meeting time in the week prior to the annual meeting in October.

Upcoming events

- **17 – 21 October 2022** WHO Family of International Classifications (WHO-FIC) Network [Annual Meeting](#), in Geneva, Switzerland. The theme for this meeting is: 'Interoperability and mapping of health information.' Attendance is by invitation only.

- **26 – 28 October 2022** Health Information Management Association of Australia ([HIMAA](#)) Annual Conference, in Adelaide, South Australia. The AIHW will 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.](mailto:who-fic-acc@aihw.gov.au)

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Stronger evidence,
better decisions,
improved health and welfare