



**INTERNATIONAL TRAINING
AND CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**
A REGIONAL APPROACH

PRESENTATION TO

The 16th Congress of the International Federation of Health Records
Organizations

“BETTER INFORMATION for BETTER HEALTH

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GOALS

- Improve the quality of coded health data
 - Support the coder workforce
 - Create a suite of tools for training and evaluating underlying cause-of-death (UCOD) ICD-10 coders and trainers
 - Promote a complementary process for ICD-10 morbidity coders
 - Offer international exams with country or regional support, to qualified candidates
 - Create a suite of information for global users of international classifications
 - Support health information system development on regional and global basis
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APPROACH

- Established Joint Collaboration between WHO-FIC Network Education Committee and International Federation of Health Records Organizations (IFHRO)
 - Joint Collaboration established an International Training and Certification Program (ITCP) for ICD-10
 - Components of ITCP pilot tested by member countries
 - Working with WHO on developing web-based training tools
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COMPONENTS OF THE ITCP

- Core curricula for coders using ICD for mortality and morbidity coding
- Core Curriculum for certifiers of cause-of-death
- Web based Training Tool for ICD-10 users based on the core curricula
- Procedures to review and certify training materials


COMPONENTS ITCP (CONT)

- International Underlying Cause-of-Death exam, available once candidates are prepared to sit for the exam
 - International Morbidity Coding Exam (in development and testing phase only currently)
 - Processes to assess the competence of coders and trainers
 - Processes to recognize qualified Underlying Cause-of-Death coders and trainers, once the exams have been properly scored, and the required minimum score obtained.
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ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT MATERIALS

- Information Sheets on uses of mortality and morbidity data and related classification topics.
- Six IFHRO Education Modules, for basic HIM practice
- Checklist for Implementation at the country level
- Educational materials for International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF), a complementary classification to ICD

WORK DONE TO DATE

- **Needs Assessment**
 - Confirmed lack of standardization of coder training, relatively low status of coders in many countries and need for continuing education
 - **Approved Training Materials and core curricula**
 - **Field testing of ITCP components**
 - **Field testing of Web based Training Tools**
 - **Conducted Exams and recognized (UCOD) coders and trainers**
 - Certificates awarded to 60 coders and 19 coder/trainers; also honorary certificates to 7 expert international trainers
 - **Development of seven (7) Information Sheets, one copy available to participants and posted on websites**
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TOPICS OF INFORMATION SHEETS


- WHO-FIC-IFHRO JC overview
 - ICD
 - ICF
 - Clinical Documentation – Acute care hospitals
 - Uses of Coded Clinical Data
 - Mortality (Cause-of-Death) Data
 - Civil Registration and Vital Statistics
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MORE DETAIL ON THE EDUCATIONAL MODULES AND CHECKLIST

Educational Modules:

- 6 Education Modules in HIM practice available at www.ifhro.org
- New module coming on EHR
- Educator's Manual, newly revised in Summer 2010

Implementation Checklist includes:

- Reasoning for implementation
 - Strategy
 - Necessary steps and material
 - Potential groups to involve
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WHY A REGIONAL APPROACH?

- Global mandate to improve health and health information systems
- Unique language, geographic and cultural factors
- Promoting a suite of health classifications and related products produces valuable information across the world
- Ties in with the regional organization of WHO, WHO-FIC, and IFHRO
- Good for dissemination of best practices
- Integrity of the exam process will be maintained by the Region



PROCESS CAN COORDINATE WITH RELATED ACTIVITIES IN REGIONS

- Health Metrics Network and MoVE-IT projects
- Health Information Systems Knowledge Hub (Queensland University, Brisbane)
- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Other partners are welcome

CONCLUSION

- ITCP has a commitment to improve the skills and status of the international HIM workforce and the quality of mortality and morbidity data
- Paper and poster were presented at 2010 WHO-FIC Network Annual Meeting in Toronto in October 2010
 - Liaised with WHO Regional Advisors, who were participating in WHO-FIC meeting
- Information now shared at this Regional meeting at the IFHRO Congress here in Milan
- Paper will be presented at a Congress track session later this week.
- Efforts will support health information system development on a regional and global basis