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Spotlight on ICD-11: New Features & New Opportunities

We have a new series of articles about ICD-11 in *BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making*. Funding from the Canadian Institutes for Health Information (CIHR) and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) supported aspects of this work and activities of several of the authors. The articles have undergone peer review.

Editors: Danielle A Southern, Harold A Pincus, Olafr Steinum and William A Ghali

Drösler, S.E., Weber, S. & Chute, C.G. **ICD-11 extension codes support detailed clinical abstraction and comprehensive classification.** BMC Med Inform Decis Mak 21, 278 (2021).

Background: The new International Classification of Diseases—11th revision (ICD-11) succeeds ICD-10. In the three decades since ICD-10 was released, demands for detailed information on the clinical history of a morbid patient have increased.

Methods: ICD-11 has now implemented an addendum chapter X called "Extension Codes". This chapter contains numerous codes containing information on concepts including disease stage, severity, histopathology, medicaments, and anatomical details. When linked to a stem code representing a clinical state, the extension codes add significant detail and allow for multidimensional coding.

Results: This paper discusses the purposes and uses of extension codes and presents three examples of how extension codes can be used in coding clinical detail.

Conclusions: ICD-11 with its extension codes implemented has the potential to improve precision and evidence based health care worldwide.

ICD-11 can be accessed at www.icd.who.int

Grant Funding

Building evidence for adopting a new disease classification system in Canadian primary care settings: a mixed methods feasibility study

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Project 1: Explore gaps & overlap between ICD-9 and ICD-11, ICPC-3 in their coverage

Project 2: Understand readiness to replace ICD-9, challenges with implementing a new system, and possible solutions.

The International Classification of Disease (ICD) is a global system for coding health conditions and diseases. This creates standardized, comparable information that is used by different countries worldwide for research, understanding disease trends, & making policy decisions. In Canada, ICD-9 is used by healthcare providers to submit billing claims to governments for payment for their clinical services. ICD-9 is over 40 years old and is in need of updating. It does not fully capture the broad scope of primary care activities, types of conditions seen, and workflow. There are two new systems that may be more useful and relevant for primary care: ICD-11 and the International Classification for Primary Care version 3 (ICPC-3). Both have been recently made available with updated clinical and scientific content.

Project 1: use pan-Canadian primary care data to explore gaps & overlap between ICD-9 and ICD-11 in their coverage of common patient visits/activities in primary care.

Project 2: we will ask family doctors from across Canada to test the ICD-11 by using these codes to describe a series of example patients and asked to complete a survey to determine what features of a new system would be preferred for use in primary care. Lastly, we will hold focus group discussions/interviews with family doctors/policymakers who have experience with ICD-9. These conversations will help us understand different perspectives in more detail.

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