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Title: **Training and Certification to Ensure High-Quality Data: WHO FIC Education Committee Brochure**

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Purpose: for information and decision

Recommendations:

- **that the WHO-FIC Network consider the recommendation of the Education Committee to produce a series of hard copy and web-based brochures to inform others about the work of the WHO-FIC Network and its committee structure**
- **that these brochures become part of the WHO-FIC-in-a-Box product**
- **that the brochures be distributed with new copies of the ICD-10**

Abstract:

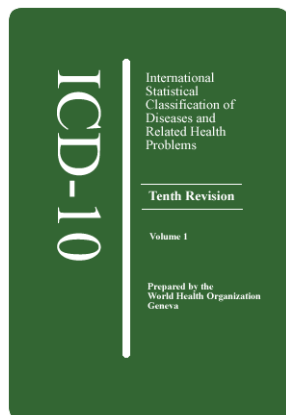
The work of the WHO-FIC Network is of vital importance in assisting with the production of high-quality, comparable national and international health data. However, much of this work occurs 'behind the scenes' and many health data providers, producers and users are unaware of the support network that exists. This is of particular concern in the so-called 'information paradox' countries. To date, it has been difficult to encourage contribution to the work of the Network to ensure that the needs of developing countries are taken into account in the development of WHO-FIC work programs.

The Education Committee has developed a brochure to assist with marketing and disseminating information about the ICD-10 coder training and certification program and the Committee's work more broadly. The information in the brochure will be made available on relevant websites, in addition to having hard copies available for distribution to interested parties. The Education Committee considers that it would be valuable to have such brochures available for all WHO-FIC committees. This suite of brochures could potentially become part of the WHO-FIC-in-a-Box and could also be available through WHO Headquarters and its regional and country offices. The possibility that the brochures could be packaged and distributed with new sets of the ICD-10 should also be discussed.

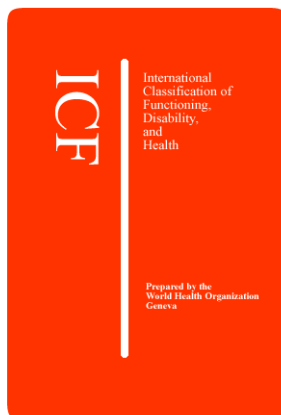
The WHO-FIC network

The **WHO Collaborating Centres** for the **Family of International Classifications (FIC)** are an international network of expert centres in health classifications, coding, and terminology development.

The principal role of the WHO-FIC network is to promote the implementation and use of the two WHO flagship health classifications:



International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10th Revision (ICD-10)



International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF).

These classifications are used in hospitals, health services, statistical agencies, and research to describe the morbidity, mortality, and disability experiences of a country. The WHO-FIC network carries out its functions through a series of committees.

Contact Information

For more information about the WHO-FIC, contact WHO headquarters, a WHO regional office, or any WHO Collaborating Centre.

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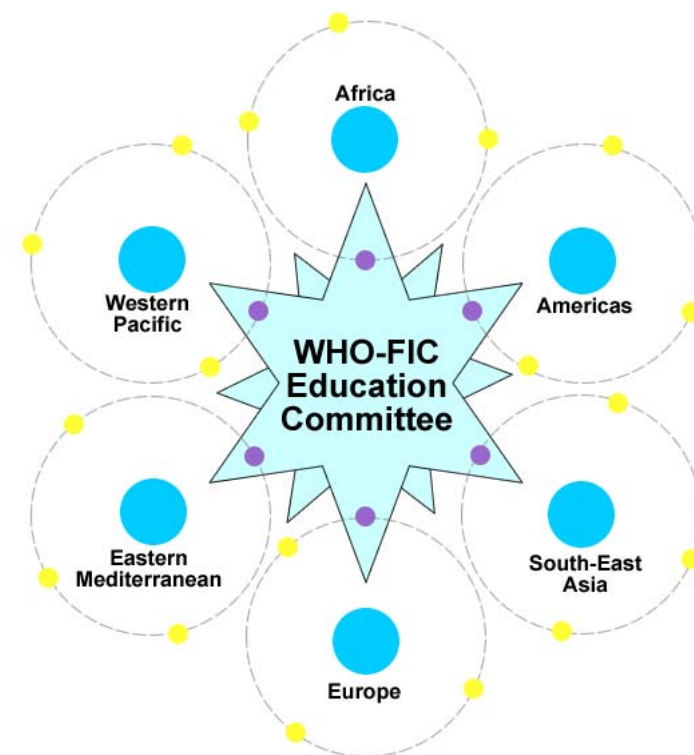
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Family of International Classifications (WHO-FIC)

Education Committee



Training & Certification to Ensure High-Quality Data



WHO collaborating centres

A WHO collaborating centre is a national institution designated by the Director-General of the World Health Organization to form part of an international collaborative network carrying out activities to support WHO's mandate for work on international health issues through structured programs and priorities. WHO collaborating centres play a strategic role in helping the Organization meet these major objectives by:

- Contribution to implementing WHO's program priorities in close coordination with the units concerned in WHO's six regional offices and headquarters
- Strengthening of institutional capacity in countries and regions

Functions of collaborating centres include the collection and dissemination of information; standardisation of terminology and nomenclature; development, application and evaluation of appropriate technology; collaborative research; education and training and the provision of information and advice on scientific, technical and policy issues.

WHO-FIC Committees

Education Committee focuses on standardised training and educational activities for users of the classifications and on methods for assessment of coding ability and knowledge.

Electronic Tools Committee is developing electronic versions of the ICD-10, a metadatabase of ICD-10 modifications, and other electronic applications for the Family of International Classifications.

Family Development Committee develops protocol for accepting new classifications into the WHO-FIC, and promotes data comparability. The Family consists of various health classifications published by the WHO.

Implementation Committee focuses on promoting implementation of the Family internationally. This group is developing "WHO-FIC in a Box" – guidelines, educational materials, tools, and information useful to countries introducing members of the Family.

Mortality Reference Group identifies and solves problems related to interpreting and applying ICD-10 to mortality coding and classification. MRG makes recommendations to the Update Reference Committee.

Update Reference Committee manages the process to update ICD-10 following submissions from the MRG, collaborating centres, clinical groups, national health agencies and classification experts.

WHO-FIC Education Committee

The aim of the WHO-FIC Education Committee is to ensure standardized, high quality coding of health data for comparability within and among WHO Member States. Committee activities and initiatives focus on facilitating ICD-10 and ICF implementation by providing standardized educational materials and training and encouraging the development of best practices.

Needs Assessment. Periodic surveys are conducted to assess the needs of WHO Member States for supporting and educating individuals about the Family of International Classifications and undertaking morbidity, mortality, and disability coding functions. Survey information helps guide the work of the Committee.

Development of Core Curricula. The Committee has developed model curricula for training of ICD-10 morbidity and mortality coders. Within these model curricula, coder training is guided by the WHO Classifications and international coding rules, principles, and definitions. Recognizing individual differences in health information systems in WHO Member States, the curricula focus on the basic needs of all coders in an international context.

Recognition and Certification. The WHO-FIC network, in collaboration with the International Federation of Health Records Organizations (IFHRO), will offer an international certification program for individuals who have successfully completed the model curricula. Providers of current training programs on mortality and morbidity coding can apply to have their curricula assessed by the joint WHO-FIC – IFHRO partnership. Approval will give coders confidence that their coding education program meets the benchmarks set by the Education Committee and IFHRO for high-quality teaching and learning.