WHO-FIC NETWORK MEETING

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Annual Report of the WHO Collaborating Centre for the Family of International Classifications for the German Language

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The WHO Collaborating Centre for the Family of International Classifications for the German Language was designated in June 2003 and is part of the German Institute for Medical Documentation and Information (DIMDI) in Cologne. It is headed by Dr. med. Michael Schopen.

The Clinic und Polyclinic for Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the University of Munich (Director: Prof. Dr. Gerold Stucki) acts as ICF Research Branch of the Collaborating Centre.

Activities in 2004 - 2005:

WHO-FIC Annual Meeting 2004: The Centre Head and three colleagues took part in the WHO-FIC Annual Meeting 2004 in Reykjavik, Iceland.

ICD-10: Together with the Federal Statistical Office, two two-day training courses for mortality coders were given focusing on metabolic diseases and on the discussion of difficult certificates from every-day work. A training module with basic medical information on metabolic diseases was part of the course. Representatives and coders from Austria joined the training course.

Another training course for physicians from the Robert-Koch-Institut was given focusing on general rules for mortality coding.

The World Health Organization and the WHO-FIC network was provided with updated files for ICD-10-2004, ICD-10-2005 and ICD-10-2006, including files for providing these versions on the Internet and including files for printing ICD-10-2006.

The Centre Head and three colleagues attended a meeting on the IRIS project for automated coding in Stockholm, Sweden, in the end of June 2005 to discuss options and ways of implementing automated mortality coding in Germany.

ICD-10-GM 2005: Version 2005 of the ICD-10-German Modification was implemented in January 2005. Version 2006 was released October 2005 and will be implemented in January 2006.

ICD-10 Thesaurus of Diagnostic Terms: The thesaurus was updated and released in October 2005 as the official Alphabetical Index to ICD-10-GM. The integration of the German Alphabetical Index (WHO edition) into the Thesaurus has almost been completed. The table of neoplasms was added for the 2006 version with both permuted and naturalized texts. Cross references, morphology terms and drugs and chemical substances will follow as soon as possible. For the present edition the database holds 74,000 entries which become more than 123,000 permuted entries in the paper version.

Crosswalks: Crosswalks from ICD-10-GM 2005 to ICD-10-GM 2006 were released in October 2005.

ICF: The German translation of ICF was finalized by Michael Schuntermann (Verband Deutscher Rentenversicherungsträger VDR). Copyright was transferred from VDR to DIMDI. ICF has been published in a preliminary version. Type settings have started as the authorization by the World

Health Organization is almost complete. The National Board for Classification in Health Care has founded a task force ICF to give guidance to the implementation of ICF in Germany. This task force held its first meeting in October 2004.

ICD-O-3: The first version of the German translation was released in August 2003 and is available in a paper version. Conversion tables and a second edition with extensive annotations to the morphology terms are still pending as resources for such work are limited due to intensive work on ICD-10-GM and OPS, which are the essential classifications for the German DRG system. All files are in the public domain and accessible on the DIMDI webserver.

OPS-301: Version 2006 of the German procedure classification was released as a draft in August 2005. The final versions of Tabular List and Alphabetical Index will be published in late October 2005 and are to be implemented in January 2006. They will be available in various file formats on the DIMDI webserver.

ICD-10-PCS and CCAM: A task force was founded by Austria, Switzerland and Germany to further investigate the French procedure classification CCAM with the aim to translate it into German and to adopt it to the countries' needs.

MeSH: Version 2005 of the German language edition of the Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) was published in 2005.

Electronic Tools Committee: The Centre Head chairs the Electronic Tools Committee of the WHO Collaborating Centres for the Family of International Classifications. Work in 2005 focused on the design of a maintenance and publication tool for WHO-FIC classifications that can be used to maintain the classifications, transform them into various target formats, and publish paper versions.

On February 17, 2005, the Centre Head and several colleagues met with WHO staff from Geneva and colleagues from the Dutch WHO-FIC Collaborating Centre to discuss the design of an XML schema to hold medical classifications. It is based on ClaML, an XML standard for medical classifications, developed by the Dutch participants. Results of this work will be presented at the WHO-FIC Network Annual Meeting 2005 in Tokyo.

As a result of the ETC work, WHO and the WHO-FIC network were provided with updated files of ICD-10 for 2004, 2005 and 2006.

SNOMED: A meeting with representatives of SNOMED International took place on March 16, 2005 in Cologne. As a result work on mappings of the Thesaurus of Diagnostic Terms to SNOMED CT has started.

Planning Group: The Centre Head is Vice Chair of the Planning Group and attended the PG meeting in Bangkok on April 28-29, 2005.

Education Committee: Dr. Stefanie Weber attended the EC meeting in Bethesda, USA, in May 2005.

Mortality Reference Group: Dr. Stefanie Weber attended the MRG meeting in Bethesda, USA, in May 2005.

Family Development Committee: The Centre Head attended the FDC meeting in Bangkok on April 27-28, 2005.

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