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Annual Report of the WHO Collaborating Center for the Family of International Classification in Portuguese (Brazilian Center)

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During the period from October 2004 to September 2005, the Brazilian Center (CBCD) continues to play its role of disseminating WHO's classifications, specially ICD-10 and ICF, and to work on the improvement of the health statistics.

Among the activities the Center has been developing with the Government is the constant consultancy to Committees and Work Groups in the elaboration of health statistics of the country (mortality and morbidity), such as the Brazilian Mortality System, Birth Information System and the Committee for the Improvement of Statistics on Maternal Deaths.

The following group of activities was developed by the Center during this period:

A – Activities Regarding to the Family of International Classifications

1- ICD-10

1.1 – ICD-10 Updating process

The Center has been working on the up date of the volume II and volume III. The major changes will be published on the Center web page and in Center's Bulletin. The two volumes updated will be published in a near future.

1.2 – Training Courses

1.2.1 – Mortality

The Brazilian Center has been training the trainers and supervising their training. They are highly experienced and competent coders that have working together with the Brazilian

Center in the revision of mortality the decision tables. During this year there were training courses in all regions of the country.

1.2.2 -Morbidity

Training courses for morbidity coders are given directly by the Center or by multipliers. All hospitals in Brazil use the ICD-10 to codify the medical records.

1.2.3 - Courses or training to trainers

The Center trains trainer to act as "multipliers" both in morbidity and mortality. These multipliers use the training material elaborated by the Centers and are responsible for reproducing the course in all regions of the country.

1.2.4– Supervision of Trainers

Periodically the Center holds supervision and updating meetings for the trainers. Their function is keep the coders network, to train and to supervise new coders. They also help the team that are reviewing the mortality decision tables.

1.2.5- Supervision of Coders

All trained coders are periodically contacted by their trainers to participate in meeting where doubts on codification are discussed. These meetings have a higher frequency after courses to new coders. This approach is a very important activity to ensure the quality of coders.

1.2.6 – Coders Update

Update is carried out by means of the Center's publication "Bulletin", through the Internet and supervisory meetings.

1.2.7- Training Material

The Center has been developing a Kit of Multiplier which is a set of all material used to training. In this kit there are PowerPoint presentation for each class, manual for trainers, exercises and legislation.

2-International Classification of Functioning, Disabilities and Health (ICF)

2.1 - Promoting ICF in Brazil and in Portugal

During this period the Center participated in many meetings, seminars, congresses, presenting the ICF to potential users. Lectures and Speech during medical meetings or rehabilitation reunion has been done by the Center.

We have been in close contact with the Ministry of Health from Portugal and we are part of the group of the ICF implementation in that country.

2.2 ICF Training Course

The Center participated in a Training Course on ICF under the responsibility of Dr. Alarcos Cieza, in the 3rd World Congress of the International Society of the Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine in April 2005.

The Center also offer the 1st Training Course in ICF in Brazil, aimed to the staff of the Family Health Program who will developed a project on ICF. The course was a 16 hours (in two days) .

It is planned three more courses for this year: one in the south region, one in the northeast and another in Sao Paulo.

2.3 ICF Didactic material

The Center prepared a didactic material on ICF for courses.

2.4 – Summary of the investigations involving ICF developed by the Center

2.4.1 Designing Social-Entrepreneurial strategies for delivering habilitation services in Brazil and the United States

The Brazilian Center is a partner of the Brazilian Academy of Science, the American Institutes for Research and the Melwood Training Center in a Project to be developed in the US and in Brazil to get resources for community Habilitation Organization Through an International Exchange of Human Services staff and training methodologies and to renew the lives of persons with developmental disabilities through social entrepreneurial strategies, measure their functional abilities and assess the costs of increasing their independence.

2.4.2 The Family Health Program ICF Project

The Center is also involved in a project to test the ICF Check list. This project has been developed with the Occupational Therapy School, the Family Health Program (FHP) and the CBCD. It is aimed to apply the ICF Check list in 18 persons with disability, been followed by the FHP.

2.4.3. Equivalence between ICD-10 and ICF

A project on the equivalence of codes from ICD-10 to ICF is been prepared. This project will be a PhD thesis at the post-graduation program of the School of Public health and has been supervised by the center.

2.4.4 ICF Core Set for AIDS patient

Another project related to a PhD thesis that the Center is supervising aimed to prepare a ICF core set for AIDS patient. This is an important tool to apply ICF in a number of people living with HIV and AIDS who are using the HAART.

B – Other Activities

1 – Software for Electronic Selection of the Underlying Cause of Death

The Brazilian Center is developing with the Brazilian Ministry of Health a new Windows-based software to electronically select the underlying cause of death. This software is part of the Mortality Information System (SIM) used all over the country.

2 – Publications

2.1 - Bulletins and booklets "Diffusion Series"

The Center continues to publish its "Bulletins", the booklets "Diffusion Series" and "Mortality" and "Morbidity" training manuals. The Mortality Manual was distributed in Portugal in 2002.

The "Diffusion Series" booklets are distributed to students, physicians and other professionals in the health care area.

2.2 - Other publications in scientific journals

The Center's staff has been publishing papers in national and international scientific journals.

3 –Consulting Services

This is a routine activity of the Brazilian Center in national level (Ministry of Health), state level (Secretariats of Health) and municipal level (Municipal Secretariats of Health). These consulting services are related to the use and application of the ICD-10 and health statistics,

among others. The Center has also provided consulting services to the agency responsible for the elaboration of mortality statistics of the Ministry of Health of Portugal.
The Center is also very active in supporting end-users, especially universities, on the use of the ICD-10 and ICF.

4 – Participation in Committees, Work Groups and the like, in Brazil

The members of the Center's team have participated in "Maternal Mortality Study and Prevention Committees", "Elderly Mortality Analysis Committee", "Birth and Mortality National System Analysis Group" and Morbidity Indicators and Risk Factors Management Committee for IDB – RIPSA".

5 – Joint Activities with Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)

Since its foundation in 1976, the Brazilian Center has always performed several activities with PAHO. These activities relate to several aspects of ICD, ICF , mortality and morbidity statistics.
It is worth to mention that these joint activities increased over the last years. Therefore, the Center has an active participation in the FORUM CIE, as well as in the Regional Committee for Health Statistics (CRAES) and many others.

6 – Joint Activities with the Ministry of Health

6.1 - Improvement of the Medical Information in the Death Certificate

This is an on-going activity of the Brazilian Center and includes lectures to physicians and students of medicine all over the country. On average we offer one lecture per month.

6.2 - Evaluation of Mortality and Morbidity Data Quality

The Center has routine activities in assessing the quality of data relative to the cause of death in the Death Certificates and discharge diagnosis in hospitals in the country.
The Center is involved in several projects, in different locations of the country to assess the quality of data on mortality and morbidity.

6.3 - Assistance and Supervision of the National System of Mortality

The Center continues to provide technical assistance and supervision to the SVS/Ministry of Health (at Federal level), to 26 States (state level) and to a large number of

municipalities that participate in the National System of Mortality. The Center is in charge not only of the personnel training, but also of the technical supervision of the National System of Mortality, including formation and assessment of coders, preparation and distribution of training material, decision table evaluation and update, and preparation of tables of data consistencies, analyses and publication of data.