

ANNUAL REPORT 1999–2000



NATIONAL CENTRE FOR CLASSIFICATION IN HEALTH

THE SIXTH YEAR



THE MAJOR FUNDERS OF THE NATIONAL CENTRE FOR CLASSIFICATION IN HEALTH ARE:



Department of
Health and
Aged Care

COMMONWEALTH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGED CARE



AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF HEALTH AND WELFARE



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THE SIXTH YEAR





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CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

I would like to take this opportunity to say how much I have learnt and enjoyed working with the NCCH. The high level of commitment and knowledge of staff together with the co-operation between the University of Sydney, Queensland University of Technology and La Trobe University underpins the Centre's pursuit of excellence in health classification theory and clinical coding systems.

To maintain its position of primacy in the Australian health information systems industry it is important that the NCCH's core funding is extended to cover areas outside its initial interest of casemix. Areas where the importance of classification and coding needs to be raised are the public health and community sectors.

The advances made by NCCH in promoting classification in the acute inpatient sector have to be followed through so that all disciplines and settings reap the benefits of being able to describe and measure what they do. The current work to include ICD-10-AM in the Unified Medical Language System (UMLS) metathesaurus of the US National Library of Medicine will establish relationships with other classifications and allow mapping to concepts common to many systems.

Opportunities for quality assurance activities identified in the NCCH Strategic Plan remain unfunded. The proposed work on Coding for Safety and Quality of Care fits well with the National Actions to Support Quality and Safety Improvement and will improve the accuracy of data on adverse events in Australian health services.

Finally I would like to pass on my good wishes to the new chair of NCCH Executive, Mr Peter Williams.

Dr Margaret Dean
Chairperson, NCCH Executive Committee

MISSION, SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

The National Centre for Classification in Health (NCCH) believes that health information services should be regarded as public domain and part of the national health information stock. Our vision for health information can best be facilitated by:

- equitable access to classification products and services to provide effective and efficient use of health data
- client focus
- co-operation and collaboration with other stakeholders in the Australian health information arena
- scientific approach to classification and product development
- emphasis on coding and data quality
- ethical business practices.

MISSION

The National Centre for Classification in Health (NCCH) is the Australian centre of excellence in health classification theory and an expert centre in clinical coding systems. The NCCH is dedicated to supporting its clients in their use of health classifications and related products.

SCOPE

Mortality: Nationwide

Morbidity: Inpatient services including acute care hospitals, mental health facilities, rehabilitation services, palliative care services and nursing homes.

Ambulatory services including hospital outpatient departments, emergency departments, community health, community mental health, general practice and domiciliary care.

OBJECTIVES

Purpose

Australia's health classification centre

To provide scientifically robust health classifications in formats designed to meet users' needs. We consult widely with key stakeholders in the Australian health care system, and internationally with existing and evolving centres of expertise.

Electronic health classification systems

To meet emerging demands for new and adapted electronic products for health classifications users. We build electronic health classification products including adaptations of existing hardcopy products and apply new technologies to meet emerging needs.

Participation

Policy development

To contribute to the formulation of policies and practices in the collection, interpretation and use of health information. The Centre is also involved in international classification development work through the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

Emerging technologies

To develop and adapt electronic technologies and other innovations for application in health classification products.

Products and services

User-focused classifications

To create and adapt classifications that support the planning and operation of Australia's health services. We develop electronic applications to provide support at the point of care.

Maintenance and continuing support

To provide updates, education and enhanced versions of core products and services.

Industry sensitivity and awareness

To create services and products that harmonise with existing and emerging health classifications.

MISSION, SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

Marketing and promotion

Importance of health classification

To promote the significance of health classifications within the national health information strategy framework. Use of classifications enables sharing of standardised and meaningful health information.

An integral component of the national health information landscape

To ensure that the Centre and its activities remain intrinsic to the national health information landscape.

Dissemination of information and knowledge

To promote and share information and knowledge about health classification development, maintenance and application. Its staff teach clinical coders and users of coded data and host students from national and international education programs.

Communication with health care providers

To involve health care providers and users in the creation and use of health classifications.

Progress & planning

Innovation

To apply classifications to clinical knowledge and vice versa.

Improvements in health care and health status

To advance the use of health classifications to create nationally consistent and comparable data.

Technology efficiency

To use technology in the collection of health information and thus contribute to the efficiency of data collection, dissemination and use.

Forge closer links

To create meaningful links between health information, medical and clinical vocabularies and classification.

Research

To conduct and promote research into classification content and theory as well as use of coded data sets.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT



1999/2000 has been another landmark year for NCCH. Not only has it seen us move to Y2K, but it has also ushered in the electronic tools and products that will be essential to NCCH progress in the next millennium.

NCCH Strategic Plan

The Strategic Planning process in the second half of 1999 focussed our minds on what NCCH might look like over the next five years. The planning process was timely, coinciding as it did with negotiations for continued core funding of NCCH Sydney with the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care (DHAC). NCCH Brisbane had already been assured of funding through to 2003 from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare and the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). NCCH Sydney contract is now synchronous with NCCH Brisbane, so that both sites are secure to June 2003.

While core funding for casemix related functions is now guaranteed for NCCH Sydney, some research and development aspects of our functions are still to be properly supported, especially in relation to electronic applications and terminologies. Ongoing efforts are underway to attract appropriate funding to continue these vital endeavours.

ICD-10-AM Second Edition

Foremost in the achievements of NCCH's sixth year of operation has been the creation of the Second Edition of ICD-10-AM and the first printing of this publication from our ICD-10-AM database. Translation of the classification content and structure to an Access database has brought about a sea change in NCCH functions. It has exceeded our expectations in its versatility and the opportunities it now provides to maintain and develop the classification and the clinical terms on which it is based. Already, an ICD-10-AM browser has been produced and further funds are being sought to exploit the flexibility of the database format.

Casemix, DRGs and clinical coding

Publication of the series of specialty books 'Casemix, DRGs and clinical coding' is nearing completion, with support and clinical input provided from the Australian Casemix Clinical Committee and members of the Clinical Coding and Classification Groups (CCCGs). Expert clinicians and coders from these groups are now working with NCCH on the Third Edition of ICD-10-AM with input from the public submission process informing areas requiring further attention. Additional funding has been provided by the Department of Health and Aged Care for a series of eight classification update forums which focus on national health priority areas.

Education

The 6th NCCH Conference held in Hobart in September 1999 gave us the opportunity to invite an international guest, Dr Shekhar Saxena from WHO, to tell Australian coders about international developments including the International Classification of Functioning and Disability (ICIDH-2). It was again a most successful occasion, held as it was in conjunction with the Clinical Coders' Society of Australia, and created a forum for clinical coders and health information managers to meet and discuss in depth classification related issues.

ICD-10-AM Second Edition was available in time for our national education workshops, providing us with a chance not only to pass on 'the word' but to meet the primary users of our products – clinical coders and health information managers around Australia. Again, we are indebted to members of the Coding Educators Network and Tahnee Maker (NCCH Brisbane) who supported Karen Peasley, Education Manager, in the mammoth task of organising and presenting these workshops.

NCCH joint venture

Links between NCCH Sydney and Brisbane, manifest in a joint venture contract between the University of Sydney and Queensland University of Technology, have remained strong, with joint work programs and co-operation on specific projects and functions, particularly in relation to coding education. The close relationship between the two partners in NCCH is

reinforced by participation of the director and associate directors in the Australian delegation to WHO Meeting of Heads of Collaborating Centres for Classification of Diseases held in Cardiff in October 1999. Sue Walker is a member of the Mortality Reference Group, while Kerry Innes and Rosemary Roberts participate in the Update Reference Committee for ICD-10. Rosemary was elected chair of this international committee in 1999.

Coding quality

Despite the absence of funding for coding quality activities, NCCH, with the assistance of subcontractors, has continued its pursuit of measures of data quality. It launched a prototype of the Performance Indicators of Coding Quality (PICQ) at a seminar held at La Trobe University in February 2000 and commenced work on conversion of the Australian Coding Benchmark Audit (ACBA) to electronic format. The connection between the La Trobe University and NCCH Quality Division continues, thanks to the support of the Department of Human Services Victoria and the School of Public Health at La Trobe.

Research

The joint research program between NCCH Sydney and Brisbane has two main themes reflecting the functions of the two sites. At NCCH Brisbane, the emphasis is on accuracy of mortality data, while at NCCH Sydney, Donna Truran, Research Officer, has been breaking new ground with her work to include the terms of the ICD-10-AM index in the Unified Medical Language System (UMLS) metathesaurus of the US National Library of Medicine. NCCH is seeking ways to use its expertise in classification and terminologies, as well as ICD-10-AM itself, to assist in the introduction of electronic health records in Australia. The research effort at both sites brings the centre in closer touch with the Schools of Health Information Management and Public Health at the University of Sydney and QUT respectively.

Professional Relativities Study

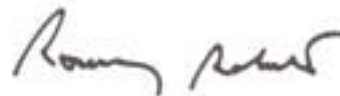
NCCH involvement in the Professional Relativities Study (PRS) of the Relative Value Study for the Medicare Schedule Review Board (MSRB) has been ongoing in 1999–2000. Valuable experience has been gained during this process, particularly through its emphasis on the relationship between the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) on which the ICD-10-AM procedure classification is based and the American Medical Association Current Procedural Terminology (CPT). Richard Juckes from the Department of Health and Aged Care has been seconded to work with NCCH on the PRS project.

Staff

The advances of the past year have not been achieved without hard work from all members of the NCCH team. Without their skill, experience and commitment, we could not confront the exciting but difficult challenges in health classification theory and practice. Thank you to all staff of NCCH who make the NCCH live and grow and particularly to Associate Directors, Kerry Innes and Sue Walker who manage the Sydney and Brisbane sites.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I wish to acknowledge the contribution of Dr Margaret Dean, Department of Health and Aged Care, who chaired NCCH Executive from March 1999 to June 2000. Maggie has helped NCCH to refocus its energies towards the outputs of coded data and uses of coded data sets for public health purposes. She took up our cause, and was converted! Welcome to the new chair, Mr Peter Williams, an old friend and colleague of NCCH, who I'm sure will steer us along electronic health record pathways. Mr Phil Hagan, Assistant Secretary, Information and Research Branch of the Portfolio Strategies Division, has agreed to fill Maggie's position on NCCH Executive representing the Department of Health and Aged Care together with Mr Peter Broadhead from the Acute and Co-ordinated Care Branch.



Associate Professor Rosemary Roberts AM
Director, NCCH

HIGHLIGHTS

1999

- 6th Annual NCCH Conference was held in Hobart
- ICD-10-AM database becomes operational
- NCCH Strategic Plan 2000–2005 completed
- ICD-10-AM Second Edition published
- Former NCCH students endorsed as regional ICD-10 trainers for south-east Asia
- Australian Bureau of Statistics begins ICD-10 coding for mortality.

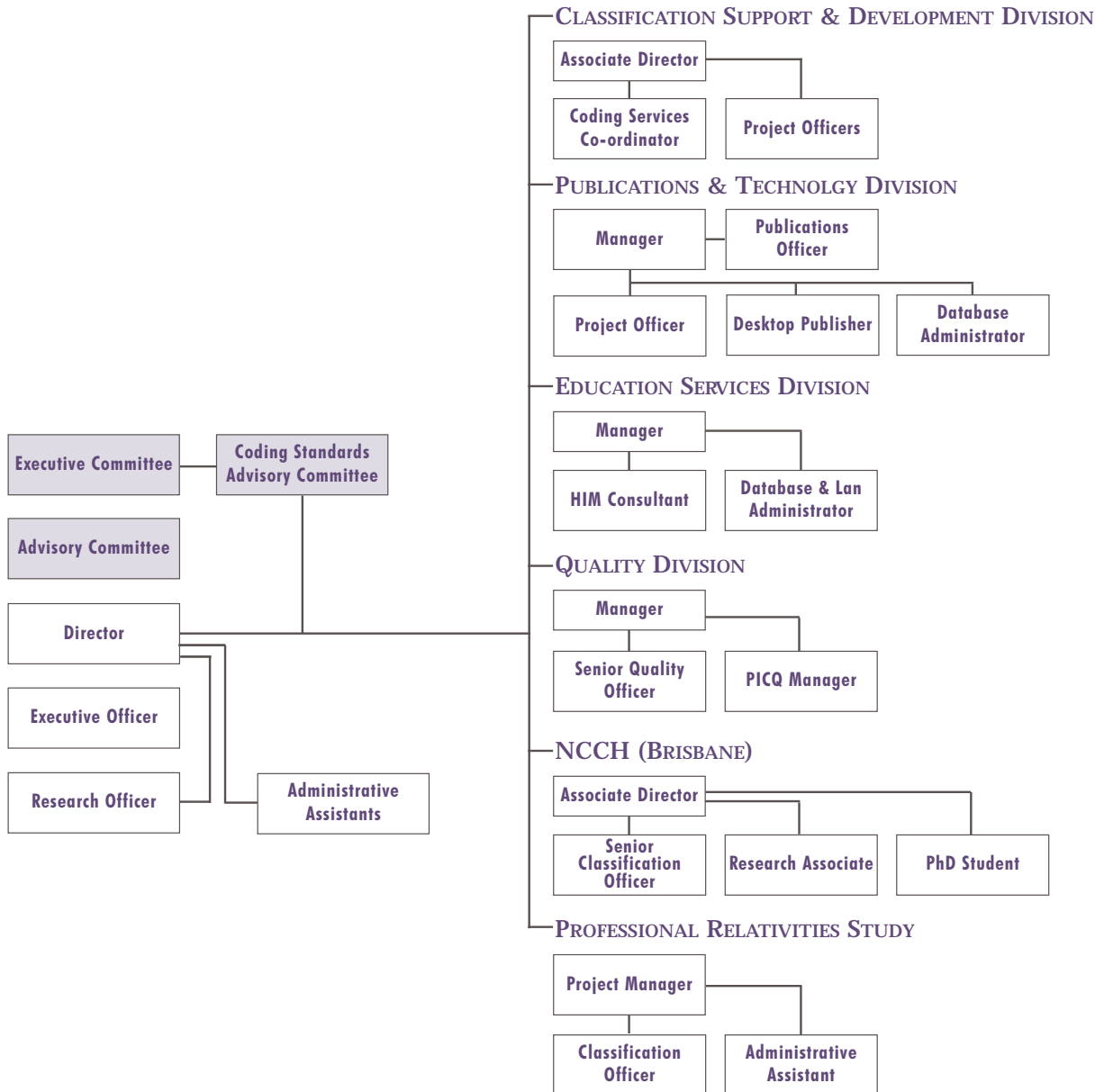
2000

- 40 ICD-10-AM Second Edition education workshops
- First of eight planned Classification Update Forums (CUFs) – Neonatology and Paediatrics
- Diabetes Update – A Video Presentation produced and released for sale
- Specialty book series expanded
- NCCH accepts first PhD student, Tung Wah (Sunny) Chan
- NCCH part of consortium to train Singapore hospital coders
- Associate Professor Rosemary Roberts made Member of the Order of Australia for 'service to medical records administration, particularly in the development of national coding standards, and as a contributor for the introduction of casemix classifications in health care'.



Dr Shekhar Saxena, conference keynote speaker from the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva and Assoc Prof Rosemary Roberts at the NCCH conference held in Hobart in conjunction with the Clinical Coders' Society of Australia (CCSA).

ORGANISATIONAL CHART



STAFF

Assoc Prof Rosemary Roberts AM, BA *Syd*, MPH *Syd*, MBA *Monash* Director

SYDNEY**Administration**

Christine Erratt, BBus (A/g) *UTS*, AssocDip (MRA) *Cumb* Executive Officer
 Donna Truran, BA Psych (Hons) *Syd* Research Officer
 Tina Stanhope Administrative Assistant
 Linda Maleszka (to December 1999) Administrative Assistant

Classification, Support and Development Division

Kerry Innes, AssocDip (MRA) *Cumb* Associate Director/Manager
 Michelle Bramley, BAppSc (HIM) *Syd* Coding Services Co-ordinator
 Linda Best, AssocDip (MRA) *Cumb* Project Officer
 Francine Brownlow, BHlthServMgmt, *CSU* Project Officer
 Tiffany Chan, MOperations Management *UWS*, BAppSc (HIM) *Syd* Project Officer
 Megan Cumerlato, BAppSc (HIM) *Syd* Project Officer
 Judith Hooper, BAppSc (MRA) *Cumb* Project Officer
 Monica Komaravalli, BAppSc (HIM) *Syd* Project Officer
 Allison Lawer, BAppSc (HIM) *Syd* Project Officer
 Merrilyn Morris, BAppSc (HIM) *Syd* Project Officer
 Patricia Saad, BAppSc (HIM) (Hons) *Syd* Project Officer

Publications & Technology Division

Rodney Bernard, GradDip (Design Studies) *UTS* Manager
 Chantel Garrett Publications Officer
 Ann Jones, BAppSc (Info) *UTS AALIA* Project Officer
 Elizabeth Azel, DipComm *Natal* Desktop Publisher
 Catherine Stanhope Database Administrator

Education Services Division

Karen Peasley, AssocDip (MRA) *Cumb* Manager
 Julie Rust, BAppSc (HIM) *Syd* HIM Consultant
 Nicole Schmidt Database & LAN Administrator
 Emily Ridgway (to April 2000) Database Administrator

Quality Division

Dianne Williamson, GradDip (Erg) *Lincoln*, BAppSc (MRA) *Lincoln* Manager
 Irene Kearsey, MA (Archives & Records) *Monash*, BAppSc (MRA) *Lincoln*, Grad.Dip (Health Admin) *Lincoln* Senior Quality Officer
 Gay Lysenko, AssocDip (MRA) *Cumb* PICQ Manager

STAFF

Professional Relativities Study

Lauren Jones, BAppSc (MRA) *Cumb* (to May 2000) Project Manager
 Richard Juckes, BA (Hons) *TAS* (from May 2000) Project Manager
On secondment from the Medicare Schedule Review Task Force
 Patricia Saad, BAppSc (HIM) (Hons) *Syd* Classification Officer
 Margie Luke (to May 2000) Project Officer
 Imelda Noti Administrative Assistant

BRISBANE

Sue Walker, BAppSc (MRA) *Cumb* Associate Director
 Tahnee Maker, BBus (HIM) *QUT* Senior Classification Officer
 Peng Bi, MB BS *Anhui*, MMedSc *Anhui*, PhD *UQ* Research Associate
 Tung Wah (Sunny) Chan MBA, MPublic Admin, BSoc Sc (Hons) (*Hong Kong*) PhD Student
 Caroline Stahl Intern, University of Ulm, Germany
 Erich Schulz, MB BS *UQ* (to December 1999) Research Fellow



*Peng Bi, Tahnee Maker and Sue Walker
of NCCCH Brisbane*



NCCCH (Sydney) Team

NCCH (BRISBANE)

NCCH Brisbane has continued to develop and prosper despite an unsettled first half-year because of staff changes and recruiting challenges.

Staff

Work with Brisbane's funding partners – the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and Queensland University of Technology (QUT) – was strengthened with the appointments of Tahnee Maker and Dr Peng Bi in September and October 1999 respectively.

Tahnee is a QUT graduate with experience as a health information manager and clinical coder at several Brisbane hospitals. Her role is predominantly in education-related projects with both the ABS and NCCH Education Services. Tahnee was elected to the Board of Directors of the Health Information Management Association of Australia Ltd in October 1999 and her involvement has ensured that NCCH is kept abreast of developments in the health information management area.

Peng completed a PhD in infectious disease epidemiology at the University of Queensland in 1999. NCCH successfully applied to sponsor Peng for permanent residency prior to his full-time appointment. Peng's expertise is in analysis and research.

Dr Erich Schulz resigned in December 1999 after three years with NCCH Brisbane. The School of Public Health at QUT has designated Erich as an Honorary Research Fellow, so some continuing contact will be maintained through the School.

Research scholarship

In recent years several successful consultancy projects have been conducted. As a result, NCCH Brisbane determined to offer a three-year research scholarship to extend consultancy expertise. Tung Wah (Sunny) Chan is the scholarship recipient. Sunny is conducting an international survey of the management and statistical methods employed in changeovers from ICD-9 to ICD-10. Part of this work is complementary to a concordance project under way at the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

Internship

NCCH Brisbane was pleased to accept an application from Caroline Stahl from the University of Ulm in Germany to undertake a six-month internship. Caroline is studying for an equivalent award to Australia's baccalaureate degrees in health information management. Caroline's internship projects include an analysis of Australian Bureau of Statistics' multiple cause data and a comparison of Australian and German approaches to the electronic maintenance of ICD-10. A paper on the Australian – German comparative study has been co-authored by DIMDI (the German Institute for Medical Documentation and Information) and NCCH Brisbane and Sydney.

Education and training programs

NCCH Brisbane has continued its involvement in ICD-10 coder training. A series of workshops and training courses for the World Health Organization were conducted including a mortality workshop in Myanmar, ICD-10 courses in Sri Lanka and Myanmar and an assessment of teaching quality by local ICD-10 teachers in Sri Lanka. Staff of Sri Lanka's National Institute of Health Sciences in Kalutara conducted a course in basic medical record practice and health information management, followed by an ICD-10 course for assessment of their teaching quality. Both courses were conducted using materials developed by the NCCH. The assessors recommendation was that the National Institute of Health Sciences should be designated as the training centre for future courses of these types in the WHO/SEARO (World Health Organization South East Asia Regional Office).

When NCCH began teaching in south-east Asia, the aim was not only to provide instruction but to also develop self-sustaining training courses. It is gratifying that this objective has been achieved.

At the end of the 1999/2000 financial year, Candy Longmire and Dr Miroslav Wysocki from the WHO/SEARO, retired from their respective roles as Technical Officer and Regional Adviser in Health Information Management. NCCH Brisbane's continued presence as an international training organisation in the south-east Asia region was consolidated over the past five years largely thanks to their efforts. NCCH Brisbane is grateful for their support to improve health information systems and processes in the region.

Tahnee Maker, in collaboration with Karen Peasley (NCCH Education Manager), has been involved in the development of training materials and conduct of ICD-10-AM Second Edition workshops during the second half of the financial year.

NCCH (BRISBANE)

Tahnee also contributed to development of a web-based training package for medical officers which conveys ABS requirements for completing death certificates.

Other training courses conducted include an introduction to International Classification of Diseases-Oncology, Second Edition, for the NSW Central Cancer Registry and Abbreviated Injury Scale (AIS) training programs for the Queensland Trauma Registry.

The International Federation of Health Records Organizations (IFHRO) has requested NCCH Brisbane to update the ICD Coding Module of their Learning Package which is used extensively to teach coding in developing countries.

Consultancies

As part of a successful joint bid with QUT's School of Public Health, NCCH Brisbane has secured contracts with Singapore's Ministry of Health and Parkway Health Care Group, to conduct a distance education course for hospital coders. Two subjects, Medical Terminology and Clinical Classification, have been subcontracted to the Health Information Management Association of Australia Ltd. A third subject, Advanced Clinical Classification, is in development. Negotiation to provide three more subjects – Introduction to Casemix, Casemix for Managers and Health Sector Management – is under way. Successful completion of six subjects will lead to the award of a graduate certificate from QUT.

NCCH Brisbane provided expertise to the Queensland Motor Accident Insurance Commission (MAIC) in their development of a quality assurance program for the medical data received from health insurers in relation to the compulsory third party insurance scheme.

Research

Dr Peng Bi has submitted funding proposals to the NHMRC (National Health & Medical Research Council) (with the ABS), the Queensland Cancer Fund (with the ABS and the Queensland Cancer Registry) and the National Heart Foundation (with the ABS) to conduct mortality data studies. The outcomes of these proposals have yet to be announced.

Peng is also working with the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) Disease Registers Unit on a joint research project relating to long term mortality trends in various diseases.

Peng's analysis of ABS multiple cause data has led to several research papers and conference presentations. Much of the data analysis relates to the work of the WHO Mortality Reference Group (MRG). (NCCH Brisbane Associate Director, Sue Walker, represents the Australian Collaborating Centre on the MRG). Peng's analysis has provided Australian insights into the Group's work to modify the WHO coding rules for mortality data.

Sue Walker is negotiating with the International Federation of Health Records Organizations (IFHRO) regarding a WHO Heads of Centres recommendation that a suitable international organisation be identified to affiliate mortality coders. Advent of automated coding systems has caused a scarcity of experienced mortality coders. It is felt that a support network will help retain that core of expertise.

Sue is an associate supervisor for a QUT School of Public Health PhD student, Ian England. Ian's research interest is implementation and use of information technology in health care.

NCCH Brisbane has also welcomed several third year QUT health information management students for short placements.

Mapping projects

Tahnee Maker and Dr Peng Bi have assisted in NCCH Sydney's Unified Medical Language System (UMLS) mapping project.

NCCH Brisbane also mapped the ABS' new Australian Standard of Concern to the ICD-10-AM Second Edition. The mapping will be made available as part of the classification.

Field trials

In late 1999 NCCH Brisbane participated in two field trials. The National Injury Surveillance Unit managed the International Classification of External Causes of Injury (ICECI) trial. The International Classification of Diseases – Oncology, Third Edition, trial was conducted by the International Agency for Research in Cancer (IARC).

NCCH Brisbane participated in a workshop which included a formal trial of ICF-2 (the International Classification of Functioning and Disability Second Edition). Trial participants at workshops conducted all over the globe coded a series of vignettes developed by the WHO in Geneva. The results are yet to be published.

NCCH (SYDNEY)

CLASSIFICATION SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

The Classification Support and Development Division (CSDD) is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of the content of ICD-10-AM and associated classifications and the Australian Coding Standards (ACS). In 1999/2000 Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania and Western Australia introduced ICD-10-AM, so that it is now used nationally. The availability of the queries database on the NCCH website was an enormous asset in dealing with the anticipated surge in coding queries.

ICD-10-AM Queries

The Classification Support and Development Division accepted queries directly from clinical coders in the four states implementing ICD-10-AM. Queries were submitted to the NCCH via e-mail, the internet, fax or mail. From 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000, 240 queries were received and answered by the NCCH. From 1 July 1999 the four states and territories that had implemented ICD-10-AM from 1 July 1998 reverted to the previous coding query process. This process involved clinical coders seeking advice from their peers then sending any unresolved queries to their state coding committees. Queries remaining unresolved by the state coding committees are sent to the NCCH. We answer queries and make responses to the relevant state coding committee.

ICD-10-AM, Third Edition

CSDD is working on improvements for the third edition of ICD-10-AM due for implementation in July 2002. Publication deadline for this edition is August 2001 to allow NCCH to comply with the National Health Information Management Group (NHIMG) decision on update of ICD-10-AM on a biennial basis. Refinements are in response to official World Health Organization changes to ICD-10, updates to the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS), public submissions and queries from clinicians, coders and data users.

Public submissions

NCCH is persevering with its attempt to elicit suggestions for improving the currency of the classification from a wide range of sources. To this end, it seeks submissions through relevant media, organisations and groups associated with NCCH.

In February 2000, 22 public submissions were received covering areas such as:

- transplants and implants
- cardiac surgery
- familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP) and hereditary non-polyposis colon cancer (HNPCC)
- gender re-assignment procedures
- limb lengthening procedures
- paediatric urology codes.

The next public submission period is 1 February–28 February 2001.

Classification Update Forums (CUFs)

The NCCH has received additional funding from the Department of Health and Aged Care to conduct a series of forums to discuss classification issues. The areas to be covered in these two day workshops include: neonatology and paediatrics, oncology, diabetes, mental health, adverse events, anaesthetics, cardiovascular and injury.

Neonatology and paediatrics and oncology CUFs were held in the second half of the financial year.

Anaesthetic Guidelines

As part of the implementation of the Second Edition of ICD-10-AM in July 2000 the NCCH has included guidelines on the coding of anaesthetics which have traditionally been omitted from morbidity data collections. This new coding standard will improve the national statistics on frequency of anaesthetic administration, the type of anaesthetic administered and to some degree, provide information about the procedure for which the anaesthetic was given. The NCCH has written to learned colleges and other key stakeholders to raise awareness of this important development.

NCCH (SYDNEY)

Coding Standards Advisory Committee (CSAC)

CSAC has met quarterly during 1999/2000. Many issues pertinent to classification have been discussed and resolved.

World Health Organization (WHO), Update Reference Committee

Associate Professor Rosemary Roberts was elected chair of the WHO Update Reference Committee (URC) at the October 1999 meeting of the WHO Heads of Collaborating Centres for Classification of Diseases.

The URC terms of reference are to:

- determine policy on updating of ICD-10 (frequency, tabular, index, rules)
- establish criteria for updates to ICD-10
- review and comment on ICD-10 update proposals from Mortality Reference Group, Collaborating Centres and the secretariat
- submit recommendations for ICD-10 updates for ratification by Centre Heads meeting
- evaluate update mechanism (structure, process, outcome).

Work for this committee is of vital importance in managing the update and implementation of ICD-10 internationally. Kerry Innes and Michelle Bramley have provided major input to the Australian representation on this committee in the form of communication with heads of centres and members of this committee and management of proposals and endorsement of change to the classification. NCCH has developed a mechanism to provide a structure for recommendations from centre heads and this will provide a vehicle for annual proposals to the heads of centre meeting for ICD-10 update. The 2000 meeting is due to be held in Rio de Janeiro in October. This work for WHO is performed by NCCH staff on behalf of the Australian WHO Collaborating Centre, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare and funded by the Department of Health and Aged Care.

Mappings

Classification Support & Development Division (CSDD) staff assisted the AIHW in refining the mappings between ICD-9-CM and ICD-10-AM. These mappings will assist the AIHW in data analysis over the years of transition between ICD-9-CM and ICD-10-AM (1998–1999).

Staff Secondment

Staff from Classification Support and Development have been seconded to work with Essential Software on preparation of the ICD-10-AM database and the Professional Relativities Study.

General Practice

In December 1999, NCCH prepared a proposal to the GP Coding Jury concerning use of ICD-10-AM and related terms as the Australian Standard for general practice. A presentation was made to the jury in April 2000.



Classification, Support and Development Division staff

L–R: Allison Lawer, Francine Brownlow, Merrilyn Morris, Michelle Bramley, Megan Cumerlato, Kerry Innes, Patricia Saad

Absent: Linda Best, Monica Komaravalli, Tiffany Chan, Judith Hooper

NCCH (SYDNEY)

PUBLICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

The Publications and Technology Division is responsible for the creation and maintenance of NCCH printed and electronic publications. The Division also provides marketing and promotional support, and is responsible for NCCH's corporate identity.

ICD-10-AM database

The Publications and Technology Division worked closely with the Classification Support and Development Division and a software contractor to develop the ICD-10-AM database. As well as being used for the print-production of ICD-10-AM Second Edition, the database is a platform for a number of related products and projects including: an ASCII version of ICD-10-AM Second Edition, a browser, errata lists, addenda, mappings and in the Unified Medical Language System (UMLS) project.

The Division continues to refine and develop the database.

ICD-10-AM Second Edition

ICD-10-AM Second Edition was produced directly from the new database. In-house layout and desktop publishing enabled greater control of the publication process, leading to improved accuracy. Production deadlines were met and ICD-10-AM Second Edition was published on schedule.

ICD-10-AM Second Edition ASCII files

ICD-10-AM Second Edition ASCII list is a full historical list of ICD-10-AM codes, descriptors and Commonwealth age and sex edits. It includes a complex listing of changes which occurred between First and Second Editions. The ASCII list is predominantly used in software product development.

ICD-10-AM Browser

The Browser is a compact, electronic version of the classification. The product is designed as a unified and searchable publication accessible to licence holders through their local area networks. Errata will be e-mailed to licence holders, for electronic integration and immediate upgrades.

Coding Matters

Coding Matters is a valuable asset to promote the NCCH and to deliver relevant and useful information to clinical coders and others involved in health classification issues. There is growing demand for e-mail versions to be sent directly to subscribers. *Coding Matters* is also available from the NCCH website <http://www.cchs.usyd.edu.au/ncch/>

Casemix, DRGs and Clinical Coding specialty book series

The Australian Casemix Clinical Committee (ACCC) has funded publication of a series of books related to clinical specialties. The series is written and produced in-house with valued input from members of relevant Clinical Coding and Classification Groups (CCCGs). Titles published in 1999/2000 are:

- Casemix, DRGs and Clinical Coding: Gastroenterology and Hepatobiliary
- Casemix, DRGs and Clinical Coding: Mental Health, Drugs and Alcohol
- Casemix, DRGs and Clinical Coding: Neurology and Neurosciences

The series will be expanded in the next financial year.

NCCH website

The website delivers news, information, products and services to a wide audience. During 1999/2000 over 16,000 visitors accessed the NCCH website, more than doubling the number of visits recorded during 1998/1999.

Recent website enhancements include:

- Coding Queries – which is now a searchable database
- public submission details for ICD-10-AM modifications
- the NCCH Strategic Plan; annual reports, mappings and out-of-print publications are available as downloadable PDF files.

NCCH (SYDNEY)**Code-L: Electronic listserver**

Code-L is an unmoderated list server which continues to be a valuable resource for clinical coders. Code-L provides a forum for discussion and information on a range of topics including education and employment opportunities and spirited discussion about difficult-to-code concepts.

Annual Report

The Division produces NCCH's annual reports. This document is available at our website <http://www.cchs.usyd.edu.au/ncch>

Promotion

The Division has produced a diverse range of materials to deliver the NCCH corporate and product messages including brochures for the Australian Coding Benchmark Audit (ACBA) and Performance Indicators for Coding Quality (PICQ) projects, ICD-10-AM Second Edition, and the NCCH.



Publications & Technology Division Staff

L–R: *Rodney Bernard, Chantel Garrett, Ann Jones, Catherine Stanhope and Elizabeth Azel*

NCCH (SYDNEY)

EDUCATION SERVICES DIVISION

Annual Conference

The Sixth Annual NCCH Conference held in conjunction with the Clinical Coders' Society of Australia (CCSA) was conducted in Hobart 22–24 September 1999. Approximately 150 clinical coders and health information managers from all states and territories, and a large contingent from New Zealand, attended the Conference.

Dr Shekar Saxena from the World Health Organization in Geneva presented the keynote address on disease management and developments of the International Classification of Functioning and Disability (ICIDH-2).

Other highlights included:

- a practical coding workshop presented by the CCSA
- a welcome reception at the Antarctic Exhibition which was an appropriate prelude to Dr Peter Sullivan's presentation on the Australian National Antarctic Research Expeditions (ANARE) Health Register
- clinical and coding updates on colorectal surgery and cardiovascular medicine
- the now-famous Innes coding quiz.

A variety of factors, not least of which is production of two-yearly ICD-10-AM editions, has lead to a decision to conduct biennial conferences. Since there is a cluster of conferences in the second half of the year, NCCH has planned its Seventh Conference for April 2001, in Sydney.

Singapore

At the invitation of the Singapore Ministry of Health, Education Manager Karen Peasley and NCCH Director Associate Professor Rosemary Roberts, visited Singapore in September 1999. A variety of activities were undertaken, including:

- a seminar covering
 - clinical classification systems
 - documentation
 - terminology
 - clinical coders' roles in the development of classification systems
 - clinical coders' career and professional development
 - coding standards
 - quality assurance
 - audit strategies
- two practical workshops presenting the Australian Coding Benchmark Audit (ACBA) product
- visits to hospitals which included providing practical advice on current coding and health information management systems.

Student placements

NCCH Sydney hosted two students from the School of Health Information Management at the University of Sydney for two-week professional placements. Kim Dowling, a student in the post-graduate program, assisted Classification Support and Development Division in query linkages and worked on the Unified Medical Language System (UMLS) project. Natalie Tawfik, a third-year student from the undergraduate program assisted in the development of educational workshop material and with the specialty books project.

NCCH (SYDNEY)

Coding Educators Network (CEN)

The Coding Educators Network was established in 1994 to fulfil two major tasks – to conduct coding education workshops and to act as liaisons for coding education issues. The CEN includes representatives from all Australian states and territories and New Zealand.

A periodic review of the Coding Educators Network was conducted in February 2000. The membership was reviewed, and a process of assessment of coding knowledge, research and presentation skills undertaken. As a result, CEN membership was expanded to include 26 expert coder-educators.

Train-the-trainer workshop

A train-the-trainer workshop was conducted for CEN members, representatives from La Trobe University and New Zealand in February 2000. The workshop prepared CEN members, NCCH staff and academics to conduct ICD-10-AM Second Edition workshops.

ICD-10-AM Second Edition Workshops

Between March and June 2000, 40 workshops to familiarise clinical coders and health information managers with Second Edition enhancements were conducted in all State and Territory capitals and major regional centres. 1,277 registrants attended the workshops. The practical workshops were conducted over two days and covered all major changes to the classification and Australian Coding Standards from the First and Second Editions of ICD-10-AM.

Second Edition Workshop video

A workshop video has been produced and will be available in the new financial year. The package includes a three-hour video, workbook, and answers. It has been planned for use by rural, isolated and other coders who were unable to attend workshops.

Diabetes video

Diabetes Update – a Video Presentation was produced from a workshop by Dr Gordon Senator and Kerry Innes. The video provides detailed clinical information to support the classification changes to diabetes in ICD-10-AM Second Edition. The video has generated positive feedback from clinicians and clinical coders. It is proving to be very popular, selling 150 copies March–June 2000.



Megan Cumerlato teaching at an ICD-10-AM Second Edition workshop.



Workshop participants.

NCCH (SYDNEY)

QUALITY DIVISION

The NCCH Quality Division's role is to ensure quality of coded data. The Division develops tools to measure coding quality at the points of code input and output.

The Quality Division has been supported during the financial year by the Victorian Department of Human Services' half-time secondment of Irene Kearsey. La Trobe University has provided office and infrastructure support.

Performance Indicators for Coding Quality (PICQ)

The PICQ software product prototype was launched in February 2000. Demonstrations of PICQ have been made at various conferences and meetings.

Fourteen hospitals and data collectors participated in PICQ trials during early 2000. Their valuable feedback has informed the definition and specification of enhancements to PICQ. These enhancements will produce greater flexibility in report formatting, allowing users to analyse and present PICQ results to meet their needs.

PICQ is being designed to:

- identify data problem areas
- measure data accuracy against an indicator or combination of indicators
- identify specific records for correction.

The first commercial release of PICQ 2000 is planned for October 2000.

Australian Coding Benchmark Audit (ACBA)

ACBA is being revised. The existing ACBA methodology is widely used in coding audits and some auditors have submitted their results to NCCH to assist with the benchmarking process. Though these submissions are appreciated, they are not in sufficient quantity to provide rigorous or meaningful benchmarks, and so the benchmarking aspect of ACBA has not been entirely achieved.

NCCH receives many questions about performing ACBA audits. In order to make ACBA easier to use, and to assist with the benchmarking of coding quality, NCCH has commenced automating ACBA. The new automated version will be a software product, and like PICQ, will be distributed as a Microsoft Access database.

ACBA 2000 will present the data coded by Coder A, and input screens will be available for the auditor (Coder B). A separate validation screen will be included should an arbitrator (Coder C) be required to clarify a coding discrepancy.

The error categories have been simplified and clarified, making the assignment of coding discrepancies much clearer. Results are compared by the ACBA program and reported by error category. The results may also be presented graphically.

As the product is electronic, NCCH will be able to receive audit results via e-mail before the aggregation of the results. Having a secure report site and a result aggregation system will ensure that submitted information remains confidential. Only the aggregate results (de-identified) will be used for benchmarking purposes, and a process of peer-grouping will allow these benchmarks to be used appropriately by auditors.

ACBA 2000 will also be available as a print document.

Release of ACBA 2000 and PICQ 2000 will coincide.

NCCH (SYDNEY)

RESEARCH

The NCCH Research Officer, Donna Truran, together with other staff, has had ongoing involvement in:

- preparing proposals for further classification development work (Clinical Update Forums (CUFs), Mental Health Subset, Early Parenting classification enhancement)
- preparing proposals for NCCH Education services
- preparing responses to tender for quality audits and assisting with the preparation of the NCCH Strategic Plan
- preparing papers and presentations for conferences.

Donna has also been co-supervising Hai Wei Chen, a PhD student with Sydney University's School of HIM.

A major project involves collaborative work with the National Library of Medicine (NLM) (Unified Medical Language System – UMLS). The NCCH was funded to work with NLM to have ICD-10-AM included in the UMLS and to assess the relationships between terms contained in ICD-10-AM (Tabular) with those terms matched to Concept Unique Identifiers (CUIs) in the UMLS. This work has progressed and we are now reviewing the inclusion of ICD-10-AM terms and relationships to UMLS and other classifications. ICD-10-AM is expected to be released in the UMLS Metathesaurus Spring release later this year. An extension of this project will involve the inclusion of ICD-10-AM Index terms, facilitated by the ICD-10-AM relational database. This will substantially increase the richness of ICD-10-AM terms included in the UMLS.

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) has been most generous in sharing their knowledge of concept identification. NCCH is most appreciative of the collegial relationship developed with NLM staff during the course of this most important project which for the first time will see the index of an ICD publication included in the metathesaurus. We look forward to similar collaborative work with the SNOMED-CT or 'New Work' which combines terms from SNOMED and NHS clinical terms.

A corollary to this project is the involvement of the Family Medicine Research Centre. Dr Helena Britt and her team have similarly been funded to work with the NLM on including ICPC2+ in UMLS.

Professional Relativities Study Team

L–R: *Imelda Noti, Rosemary Roberts, Richard Juckes and Patricia Saad*



PROFESSIONAL RELATIVITIES STUDY

The Professional Relativities Study for the Medicare Schedule Review Board, part of the Australian Relative Value Study, is continuing into 2000 with expected completion later this year. Lauren Jones, Project Manager, and Margie Luke, Project Officer, worked with the project until the beginning of May 2000. Following a change in method for the study, Richard Juckes has been seconded by the Medicare Schedule Review Task Force to act as PRS co-ordinator between NCCH, the Task Force, the Australian Medical Association (AMA), the Department of Health and Aged Care and NCCH subcontractors OR Systems, Melbourne. NCCH deliverables for the project are a final report and draft relativities for professional work involved in items in categories 1–3 of the Medicare Benefits Schedule.

CONSULTANCIES

Sydney

Professional Relativities Study (PRS) – Medicare Schedule Review Board, Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care. Feasibility Study (1996–97) and Project (1997–2000)

Brisbane

ICD-10 Training – Yangon, Myanmar, World Health Organization South East Asia Regional Office (WHO/SEARO), 20 September–1 October 1999

This consultancy involved the teaching of ICD-10 to students from countries in south east Asia. The work was carried out under contract to the South East Asia Regional Office of WHO.

ICD-10 Training – Kalutara, Sri Lanka, World Health Organization South East Asia Regional Office, 29 June–9 July 1999

This consultancy involved the teaching of ICD-10 to students from countries in south east Asia. The work was carried out under contract to the South East Asia Regional Office of WHO.

ICD-10 Training – Kalutara, Sri Lanka, World Health Organization South East Asia Regional Office, 8 November–3 December 1999

This consultancy involved the teaching of ICD-10 to students from countries in South East Asia. The work was carried out under contract to the South East Asia Regional Office of WHO.

ICD-10 Assessment – Kalutara, Sri Lanka, World Health Organization South East Asia Regional Office, 6–17 December 1999

This consultancy involved an assessment of the teaching skills of staff of the National Institute of Health Science, Kalutara, Sri Lanka.



Candy Longmire (left) from WHO/SEARO and Sue Walker with a ceremonial oil-burning lamp at the opening ceremony of the ICD-10 course.

TEACHING

Each NCH site is located within or in close proximity to formal teaching programs in health information management (HIM). This provides opportunity for the exchange of ideas relating to clinical classification and collaboration in teaching and research projects. NCH Brisbane staff teach undergraduates and postgraduates in HIM at the School of Public Health, Queensland University of Technology. The Centre also provides clinical placements for HIM students. Staff are involved in supervising and marking postgraduate theses.

Placements – Sydney

1999, Kim Dowling, GradDip of Health Information Management, University of Sydney.

2000, Natalie Tawfik, Bachelor of Health Information Management, University of Sydney (3rd year).

Placements – Brisbane

1999, Ava Wong, Bachelor of Health Sciences (HIM), Queensland University of Technology (3rd year).

2000, Belinda Wan, Bachelor of Health Sciences (HIM), Queensland University of Technology (3rd year).

Workshops and Training Courses

26 July 1999, Walker S. *Introduction to ICD-O-2* (conducted on behalf of the NSW Central Cancer Registry).

8 September 1999, Roberts R & Peasley K. *Clinical coding seminar*, Singapore.

9–10 September 1999, Peasley K. *Audit workshop*, Singapore.

20–22 February 2000, Peasley K & Maker T. *Train-the trainer for the Coding Educators Network*, Melbourne.

20 March–20 June 2000, Peasley K & Maker T. *ICD-10-AM Second Edition Education Workshops* (40 2-day workshops). Conducted nationally.

Undergraduate and Postgraduate Teaching**Courses**

1999

Sue Walker. *Health Management I*, Bachelor of Health Sciences, School of Public Health, Queensland University of Technology

2000

Tahnee Maker. *Clinical classification I*, Bachelor of Health Sciences, School of Public Health, Queensland University of Technology

Students

1999–2000

Ian England. PhD candidate, School of Public Health, Queensland University of Technology. Thesis: *Innovation in health management: A Study of the adoption of information technology*. Sue Walker, associate supervisor

Amanda Diepeveen. Honours candidate, School of Health Information Management, The University of Sydney. Treatise: *Veterinary classification for race horse incidents*. Michelle Bramley, project adviser

Hai Wei Chen. PhD candidate, School of Health Information Management, The University of Sydney. Thesis: *The quality of stroke severity issues*. Donna Truran, project adviser

2000

Tung Wah (Sunny) Chan. PhD candidate, School of Public Health, Queensland University of Technology. Thesis: *From change management to statistical impact: Adaptation of hospitals and health agencies to ICD-10 classification change*. Sue Walker, associate supervisor



Karen Peasley (right) with students at the Audit Workshop in Singapore.

NCCH COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

Membership (meetings attended / number of meetings held during tenure)

Dr Margaret Dean (Chair), Public Health Division, Department of Health and Aged Care (4/6)

Prof Brian Oldenburg, Queensland University of Technology (5/6)

Peter Broadhead, Acute and Co-ordinated Care Branch, Department of Health and Aged Care (6/6)

Brian Doyle, Australian Bureau of Statistics (6/6)

Dr Richard Madden, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (6/6)

Prof Beth Reid, University of Sydney (4/4)

Assoc Prof Rosemary Roberts, Director, National Centre for Classification in Health (6/6)

Peter Williams, National Health Information Management Group (6/6)

Kerry Innes, Associate Director, National Centre for Classification in Health (6/6)

Sue Walker, Associate Director, National Centre for Classification in Health (6/6)

Johanna Westbrook, University of Sydney (3/3)

Terms of Reference

- To oversee the function of the NCCH
- To report to and from represented organisations, including seeking agreement and implementation where appropriate
- To receive and approve the budget on an annual basis
- To receive twice yearly reports from the director on the financial status of the centre
- To receive and approve the work plan on an annual basis
- To receive progress reports from the director on the work of the centre in relation to the agreed work plan
- To guide the centre in achieving its goals as set out in the agreed work plan
- To establish policies for the centre
- To review and advise on submissions from the centre for funding
- To approve changes to scope of the centre

Advisory Committee

Membership

Dr Margaret Dean (Chair), Public Health Division, Department of Health and Aged Care

Peter Broadhead, Acute and Coordinated Care Branch, Department of Health and Aged Care

Janine Cassidy, Territory Health Services

Carmel Cheney, Health Information Management Association of Australia Ltd

Assoc Prof Michael Cleary, Australian Casemix Clinical Committee

Ron Coghill, Health Insurance Restricted Membership Association of Australia

Sue Cornes, Queensland Health

Brian Doyle, Australian Bureau of Statistics

Mark Gill, Victorian Department of Human Services

Kerry Innes, Associate Director, National Centre for Classification in Health

Virginia Kalma, Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services

Peter Khan, Medibank Private Ltd

Dr Richard Madden, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Peter McDonald, Australian Health Insurance Association

Prof Brian Oldenburg, Queensland University of Technology

Dr Andrew Parkes, Health Insurance Commission

Assoc Prof Rosemary Roberts, National Centre for Classification in Health

Michael Roff, Australian Private Hospitals Association

Mohan Singh, ACT Department of Health and Community Care

Dr Merran Smith, Health Department of Western Australia

Lorraine Van Gemert, Department of Human Services, South Australia

Sue Walker, Associate Director, National Centre for Classification in Health

Peter Williams, National Health Information Management Group, NSW Health

Terms of Reference

- To report to and from represented organisations
- To advise and contribute to the NCCH work plan on an annual basis
- To receive progress reports from the director on the work of NCCH in relation to the agreed work plan
- To advise and contribute to policies of NCCH

NCCH COMMITTEES

Coding Standards Advisory Committee

Membership

Kay Bonello, Private Sector

Jill Burgoyne, Northern Territory

Carmel Cheney, Health Information Management Association of Australia Ltd

Joanne Chicco, New South Wales

Andrea Groom, Clinical Coders' Society of Australia

Audrey Grozef, New Zealand

Jenny Hargreaves, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Karen Hinton, Tasmania

Kerry Innes, Associate Director, National Centre for Classification in Health

Irene Kearsey, Victoria

Jenny Kok, Australian Capital Territory

Dr Lynette Lee, Australian Casemix Clinical Committee

Stuart McAlister, Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care

Rhonda Pfeiffer, South Australia

Assoc Prof Rosemary Roberts, Director, National Centre for Classification in Health

Meegan Snell, Queensland

Sue Stevens, Western Australia

Sue Walker, Associate Director, National Centre for Classification in Health

Terms of Reference

- Authorise the implementation and publication of new and amended ICD-10-AM codes and Australian Coding Standards.
- Ensure that standards of definition and convention are maintained when ratifying changes to ICD-10-AM and the Australian Coding Standards.
- Receive feedback from users of coded data on the impact of standards and codes on current data collections.
- Ratify coding advice from the NCCH prior to publication in *Coding Matters*.
- Recommend to the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care future changes to the Australian Refined Diagnosis Related Groups (AR-DRG) classification system as they relate to coding.
- Recommend to Australian Casemix Clinical Committee changes to the international ICD-10 classification for inclusion in World Health Organization ICD-10 updates.
- Provide input to relevant authorities on morbidity and mortality coding related issues such as data edits, coding quality measurement, design of data collection systems.
- Provide coding advice to the National Health Data Committee on definitions relating to relevant classification items in the National Health Data Dictionary.
- Provide advice to NCCH and the Australian Bureau of Statistics on the relationship between Australian Coding Standards for morbidity coding and rules for cause of death coding.
- Provide advice on other relevant health classification systems.
- Act as a channel of communication between NCCH and organisations represented on the Coding Standards Advisory Committee.

REPRESENTATION

AIHW, Australian Management Group, ICD-ICIDH Relationship

Australian Casemix Clinical Committee (ACCC)

ACCC Acute Care Subcommittee

Clinical Coders' Society of Australia

Health Informatics Association of NSW

Health Information Management Association of Australia (HIMAA) Ltd

Health Information Management, Journal of HIMAA, Editorial Board

HIMAA (NSW Branch) Mentor Program

HIMAA (NSW Branch) MRD Benchmarking Working Party

HIMAA (QLD Branch) Executive Committee

International Federation of Health Records Organizations (IFHRO),
Education Committee

IFHRO, Executive Committee

IFHRO, Grand Council

International Organization for Standardization TC215 WG3

National Health Data Committee

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, Australian Safety and Efficacy Register of
New Interventional Procedures

Standards Australia IT/14 Subcommittee 2 – Vocabulary and Semantics

University of Sydney, School of Health Information Management External Advisory
Committee

World Health Organization (WHO) Mortality Reference Group

WHO Update Reference Committee

CODING EDUCATORS NETWORK (CEN)

New South Wales

Linda Best
 Megan Cumerlato
 Sandra Fletcher
 Marlene Garriock
 Filippa Pretty
 Julie Rust
 Nerida Stevens

Australian Capital Territory

Vicki Bennett

Northern Territory

Jillian Burgoyne

Victoria

Pauline Basilio
 Andrea Groom
 Kylie Holcombe
 Nicolle Parrent
 Catherine Perry
 Jennie Shephard

Tasmania

Gayle Smith

South Australia

Christopher Robey
 Lesley Ward

Western Australia

Julie Christensen
 Sheree Gray
 Joan Knights

Queensland

Debbie Abbott
 Kerri Chalmers
 Sharon Wiseman

New Zealand

Barbara Arundell
 Sallyanne Wissmann

INTERNATIONAL CEN

Debbie Abbott
 Barbara Arundell
 Kathryn Baxter
 Linda Best
 Alison Bidie
 Rosemary Cartmill
 Julie Christensen
 Anna Coote
 Megan Cumerlato
 Andrea Groom

Karen Kemp
 Joan Knights
 Gay Lysenko
 Tun Lwin Marla
 Corrie Martin
 Jenny Nicol
 Nicolle Parrent
 Filippa Pretty
 Wendel Tolete
 Sharon Wiseman



Coding Educators Network members.

INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS AND VISITS

Meetings

World Health Organization (WHO) Heads of Collaborating Centres for Classification of Diseases Meetings

- Cardiff 1999

Technical Committee on Health Informatics of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO/TC 215)

- Tokyo 1999

Seminar

Clinical Coding Seminar

- Singapore 1999

INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

Dr Olafr Steinum, Department of Infectious Diseases, Uddevalla Hospital, Sweden

Dr Theodore Wee, Casemix Project Office, Singapore Ministry of Health

Dr Yadollah Mehrabi, Department of Health and Community Medicine, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Iran

Donette Speth, 3M, Salt Lake City

Prof Donna Diers, Yale University School of Nursing



Rosemary Roberts and Karen Peasley with the Singapore Ministry of Health delegation during the Clinical Coding Seminar.



Olafr Steinum of Uddevalla Hospital, Sweden with Kerry Innes and Rosemary Roberts.



*L-R
Candy Longmire (WHO/SEARO), Dr Richard Madden (AIHW),
Dr & Mrs Y.C. Chang (WHO/WPRO), Sue Walker (NCCH)
and Dr Miroslav Wysocki (WHO/SEARO)
at dinner during WHO meeting at Cardiff.*



*Dr Theodore Wee of the Casemix Project Office, Singapore
Ministry of Health with NCCH Staff Rosemary Roberts,
Donna Truran and Karen Peasley.*

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Bi P, Tong S, Donald K, Parton K & Hobbs J. (1999) 'Climate variability and its impact on viral encephalitis' *Environmental Health Review – Australia* 28(3):37–42.
- Innes K, Peasley K & Roberts R. (2000), 'Ten down under: Implementing ICD-10-AM in Australia' *Journal of the American Health Information Management Association*, 71(1), :52–56, January.
- Roberts R, Hirsch N, Innes K & Truran D. (1999) 'Casemix classification issues and change from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-AM coding'. *Casemix* 1(2):16–26.

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND ABSTRACTS

- Bi P, Tong S, Donald K, Parton K & Hobbs J. (1999), 'Climate variability: the driving force behind the dengue outbreak in Townsville, 1992–93'. *11th Conference of International Society for Environmental Epidemiology, Athens*.
- Eyers A & Bramley M. (1999), 'Colorectal cancer – clinical update' *6th Annual Conference of the National Centre for Classification in Health*, Hobart, in *Coding Matters*, 6(3):18–20 & 6(4):19–23.
- Hooper J, Innes K, Roberts R & Garrett C. (1999), 'Development of a database for ICD-10-AM' *6th Annual Conference of the National Centre for Classification in Health*, Hobart, pp 72–80.
- Innes K. (1999), 'Classification and coding in the allied health sector' *Proceedings of the 11th Casemix Conference in Australia*.
- Innes K. (1999), 'The second time around – A summary of the Second Edition of ICD-10-AM' *6th Annual Conference of the National Centre for Classification in Health*, Hobart, pp 92–99.
- Roberts R. (1999), 'And the sky did not fall in: Progress report on ICD-10-AM implementation' *Proceedings of the 11th Casemix Conference in Australia*, pp 184–188.
- Truran D, Groom A & Roberts R. (1999), 'Building the benchmarks' *6th Annual Conference of the National Centre for Classification in Health*, Hobart, pp 62–71.
- Tong S, Bi P, Hayes J & Donald K. (1999), 'Geographic expansion of Ross River virus disease and climate variability in Queensland, Australia'. *11th Conference of International Society for Environmental Epidemiology, Athens*.
- Tong S, Hayes J, Parton K, Bi P & Donald K. (1999), 'Geographic expansion of Ross River virus disease and climate variability in Queensland, Australia'. *11th Annual Conference of the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology, Athens*.
- Walker S. (1999), 'Tuvalu or not Tuvalu: Coding support for the Western Pacific Region'. *6th Annual Conference of the National Centre for Classification in Health, Hobart*, pp 100–105.

PRESENTATIONS

Bi P, Tong S, Donald K, Parton K & Hobbs J. (1999), 'Climate variability: the driving force behind the dengue fever outbreak in Townsville 1992–93', 11th Conference of the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology, *Athens*.

Bi P, Tong S, Hayes J & Donald K. (1999), 'Geographic expansion of Ross River virus disease and climate variability in Queensland, Australia', 11th Conference of the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology, *Athens*.

Bi P, Tong S, Hayes J, Parton K, & Donald K. (1999), 'Geographic expansion of Ross River virus disease and climate variability in Queensland, Australia', 11th Conference of the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology, *Athens*.

Hooper J, Erratt C, Garrett C, Roberts R & Innes K. (1999), 'Development of the ICD-10-AM database' *HIC, Hobart*, August.

Innes K, Rust J & Roberts R. (1999), 'Coding of post-procedural complications in ICD-10-AM' *World Health Organization, Cardiff, Wales*, October.

Innes K & Roberts R. (1999), 'Development and implementation of ICD-10-AM' *World Health Organization: Heads of WHO Collaborating Centres for the Classification of Diseases, Cardiff, Wales*, October.

Peasley K. (1999), 'Role of clinical coders in development of health classification systems and related policies' *Clinical Coding Seminar, Singapore Ministry of Health*, September.

Peasley K. (1999), 'Career and professional development of clinical coders' *Clinical Coding Seminar, Singapore Ministry of Health*, September.

Roberts R. (1999), 'Coding standards, quality assurance and audit strategies' *Clinical Coding Seminar, Singapore Ministry of Health*, September.

Roberts R. (1999), 'Overview of clinical classification systems, documentation, terminology and recent developments' *Clinical Coding Seminar, Singapore Ministry of Health*, September.

Roberts R. (1999), 'Clinical coding in the private sector' *Clinical Coding Seminar, Singapore Ministry of Health*, September.

Roberts R. (1999), 'Why have a coding system' *42nd Annual Scientific Convention and Annual General Meeting of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, Adelaide*, October.

Runciman W, Roberts R & Madden R. (1999), 'An iatrogenic injury classification' *World Health Organization: Heads of WHO Collaborating Centres for the Classification of Diseases, Cardiff, Wales*, October.

NCCH CODING PRIZE

The NCCH Coding Prize is awarded for high achievement in clinical coding to highlight the importance of studies in this area and encourage the aim for excellence.

Natasha Jodko

School of Health Information Management, University of Sydney (Bachelor of Applied Science, Health Information Management)

Steven Ivanhoe

School of Public Health, Queensland University of Technology (Bachelor of Health Science, Health Information Management)

Susan Trezise

School of Public Health, Curtin University of Technology (Bachelor of Science, Health Information Management)

Sandra Grace

School of Public Health, La Trobe University (Bachelor of Health Information Management)

Judith Burgess

Health Information Management Association of Australia Ltd (HIMAA Distance Education Program)

Kerrie McLennan

Open Training and Education Network, NSW Technical and Further Education (Correspondence Course for Medical Records)

PRODUCTS AND PUBLICATIONS

ICD-10-AM

Forward & Backward Mapping Tables ICD-10-AM First Edition and Second Edition

ICD-10-AM Second Edition 5 Volumes

ICD-10-AM Second Edition Errata 1, 2000

ICD-10-AM Second Edition ASCII Code List, Full & Abbreviated Text Descriptors

ICD-10-AM Coding Queries online

Diabetes Video

ICD-10-AM Second Edition Video

Coding Matters

Volume 6 No. 3

Volume 6 No. 4

Volume 7 No. 1

Casemix, DRGs and Clinical Coding

Gastroenterology and Hepatobiliary

Mental Health, Drugs and Alcohol

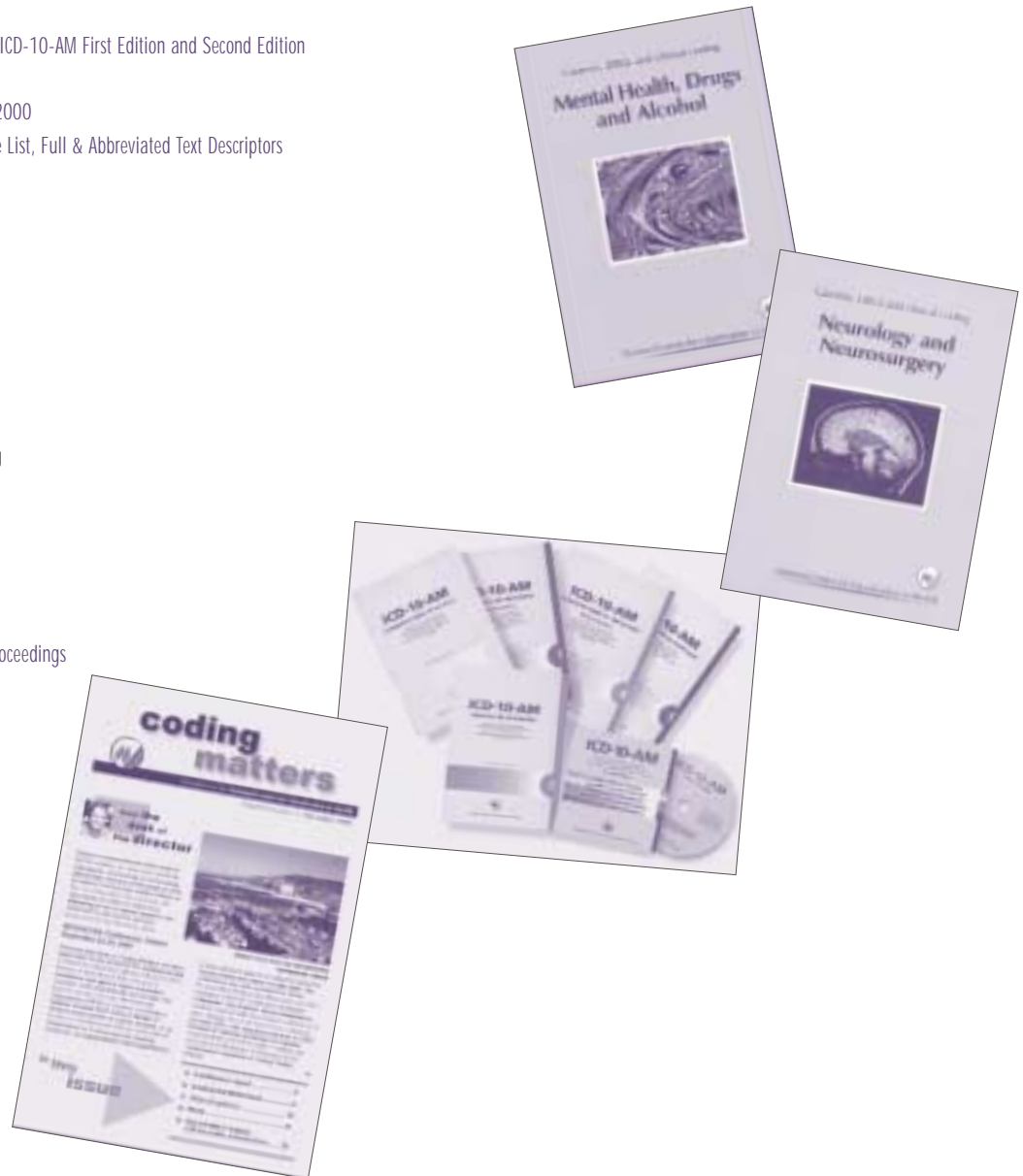
Neurology and Neurosciences

Conference Publications

1999 NCCH 6th Annual Conference Proceedings

Promotional Merchandise

ICD-10-AM Second Edition Slipcase



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SYDNEY INCOME	1998/99 \$	1999/2000 \$
Commonwealth Government grants	1,607,462.00	1,144,645.00
State Government grants	2,000.00	(2,000.00)
Sale of Publications	452,766.00	657,085.00
Other Sales	8,040.00	6,440.00
Seminars & Workshops incl. ICD-10-AM education	85,734.00	187,637.00
Interest	21,369.00	42,700.00
Other incl. Consultancies	551,447.00	1,108,224.00
Total Income	2,728,818.00	3,144,730.00
EXPENDITURE		
Salaries	742,916.00	1,101,988.00
Oncosts	151,901.00	210,581.00
Total Salaries	894,817.00	1,312,569.00
Stores/Consumables	18,931.00	25,482.00
Equipment	39,451.00	48,145.00
Communications	38,904.00	49,288.00
Travel	106,971.00	117,254.00
Consultants	517,607.00	867,550.00
Contractors	174,454.00	31,080.00
Advertising	18,070.00	2,457.00
Printing-ICD	16,288.00	199,585.00
Printing	262,732.00	85,753.00
Education/Training	43,176.00	91,953.00
NCCH Coding Prize	600.00	600.00
Library	3,527.00	5,610.00
Other Expenses	83,836.00	41,675.00
Administration Fee	317,325.00	281,790.00
Total Non Salaries	1,641,872.00	1,848,222.00
Total Expenditure	2,536,689.00	3,160,791.00
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	192,129.00	(16,061.00)
COMMITMENTS		
Professional Relativities Study		211,530.00
Development of PICO		75,047.00
Development of Mental Health Subset		101,744.00
Provision for Redundancy Payment		180,000.00
Total Commitments		568,321.00
Accumulations C/F from 98/99		1,735,744.00
ACCUMULATIONS B/F		1,151,362.00

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

BRISBANE	1998/99	1999/2000
INCOME	\$	\$
QUT	65,000.00	40,000.00
Department of Health and Aged Care	78,534.75	52,356.50
Australian Bureau of Statistics	45,000.00	45,000.00
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	62,500.00	62,900.00
Other Income	20,034.84	1,000.00
World Health Organization	133,846.34	20,223.26
Interest – QUT	0.00	1,187.11
Total Income	404,915.93	222,666.87
EXPENDITURE		
Overhead Recovery	67,809.55	30,603.12
Advertising - Staff Recruitment	0.00	6,467.13
Services provided by Australian Bureau of Statistics	0.00	18,550.00
External Consultants	2,200.00	0.00
General Supplies and Services	13,271.84	2,417.24
Hospitality	425.62	230.00
Internet Volume Charging	56.32	119.08
Postage /Freight	733.35	212.94
Printing and Photocopying	3,379.32	1,117.60
Subscriptions	185.00	120.00
Telephone	1,726.53	1,482.40
Maintenance and Equipment incl. Computers	418.34	7,824.29
Hire of Services and Facilities	2,501.00	0.00
Travel – International and Domestic	23,334.62	29,844.47
Salaries and Oncosts	156,865.49	167,281.39
Scholarships	0.00	8,787.35
Total Expenditure	272,906.98	275,057.01
BALANCE @ 30 June	132,008.95	(52,390.14)
COMMITMENTS		
Travel		15,194.34
Balance Brought Forward		181,019.67
FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR FURTHER COMMITMENT		113,435.19

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics	ICD-10-AM	International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision, Australian Modification
ACBA	Australian Coding Benchmark Audit	ICIDH-2	International Classification of Functioning and Disability
ACCC	Australian Casemix Clinical Committee	ICPC2+	International Classification of Primary Care Plus
ACS	Australian Coding Standards	IFHRO	International Federation of Health Records Organizations
AIHW	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	ISO	International Organization for Standardization
AIS	Abbreviated Injury Scale	ISO/TC 215	Technical Committee on Health Informatics of the International Organization for Standardization
AMA	Australian Medical Association	MAIC	Motor Accident Insurance Commission
ANARE	Australian National Antarctic Research Expeditions	MBS	Medicare Benefits Schedule
AN-DRG	Australian National Diagnosis Related Group	MRG	World Health Organization Mortality Reference Group
AR-DRG	Australian Refined Diagnosis Related Groups	MSRB	Medicare Schedule Review Board
ASCII	American Standard Code for Information Interchange	NCCH	National Centre for Classification in Health
CCCGs	Clinical Coding and Classification Groups	NHIMG	National Health Information Management Group
CCSA	Clinical Coders' Society of Australia	NHS	National Health Service
CEN	Coding Educators Network	NHMRC	National Health & Medical Research Council
CPT	American Medical Association Current Procedural Terminology	NLM	National Library of Medicine
CSAC	Coding Standards Advisory Committee	PICO	Performance Indicators of Coding Quality
CSDD	Classification Support and Development Division	PRS	Professional Relativities Study
CUFs	Classification Update Forums	QUT	Queensland University of Technology
CUIs	Concept Unique Identifiers	SNOMED	Systematized Nomenclature of Human & Veterinary Medicine
DHAC	Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care	SNOMED-CT	Systematized Nomenclature of Human & Veterinary Medicine Clinical Terms
FAP	familial adenomatous polyposis	UMLS	Unified Medical Language System
HIM	Health Information Management	URC	WHO Update Reference Committee
HIMAA	Health Information Management Association of Australia Ltd	WHO	World Health Organization
HNPPC	hereditary non-polyposis colon cancer	WHO/SEARO	World Health Organization South East Asia Regional Office
ICECI	International Classification of External Causes of Injury	WHO/WPRO	World Health Organization Western Pacific Regional Office
ICD-9-CM	International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification		
ICD-10	International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision		