

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002



National Centre for Classification in Health

Australia

The major sources of funding for the National Centre for Classification in Health are:



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Australian Institute of Health and Welfare



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National Centre for
Classification in Health

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CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD



Peter Williams
Chairman
NCCH Executive Committee

I am pleased to present this annual report of activities and achievements of the National Centre for Classification in Health. The period 2001–2002 has been one of substantial achievements for the Centre. Major accomplishments include:

- publication of ICD-10-AM Third Edition in hard copy and electronic formats and provision of an education program and support for implementation in all Australian hospitals and health services from 1 July 2002
- the successful negotiation to establish in-principle agreement for the Centre's third site at Melbourne's La Trobe University from July 2003 – NCCH Melbourne
- the development and delivery of complementary and supportive products and services for ICD-10-AM's key users and stakeholders, particularly the *ICD-10-AM Mental Health Manual* and the *ICD-10-AM Early Parenting Manual*
- the preparation and publication of the draft *Australian Classification of Health Interventions–Amended for International Use (ACHI-I)*. *ACHI-I* has been developed to provide countries not already using procedure classifications with a basic system. The pilot version has been sent to users in over 40 countries for evaluation
- a pilot study to develop strategies to model ICD-10-AM classification rules in a computer-readable format
- being awarded a contract to provide custodianship of the Australian Community-Based Health Services Codeset (ACBHSC) and commencement of work in this important project
- continuation of efforts to investigate and develop strategies to create a general practice terminology
- participation in the international evaluation of SNOMED-CT
- involvement in the World Health Organization Australian Collaborating Centre for the Family of International Health Classifications

CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

- providing support, including the Chair (the Centre's Director-Associate Professor Rosemary Roberts) and secretariat services (Nosologist-Michelle Bramley) of the World Health Organization's Update Reference Committee (for ICD-10)
- the continued growth of the Centre has been maintained and several new positions have been established, notably Business Director and ACBHSC Project Manager.

The Centre continued to work towards achieving its aims and goals as set down in its Strategic Plan 2000-2005. In early 2002, the Strategic Plan was reviewed, and its relevance validated, by the Centre's management team. The Strategic Plan continues to provide the blueprint for the Centre's activities.

This annual report is structured upon the Strategic Plan's initiatives:

Purpose
Participate
Produce and provide
Promote
People
Progress.

It is clear to me and the executive committee that the Director and staff of the National Centre for Classification in Health have been highly successful in achieving the objectives of the Strategic Plan to date. We have every confidence that efforts will continue apace.

After participating as a member of the NCCH management and executive committees since the inaugural meeting in 1994, I resigned as Chair of the executive committee in May 2002. At the time of writing a new Chair has yet to be appointed, but I wish to convey my good wishes for continuing success to the appointee and to the past and present committee members. I also commend the Centre's Director, Rosemary Roberts, and NCCH staff who have worked to ensure the Centre's success.



Peter Williams
Chairman
NCCH Executive Committee

DIRECTOR'S REPORT



*Associate Professor
Rosemary Roberts
Director
NCCH*

The first financial year of the new century has been a planning year for NCCH. It represents a landmark too with the completion of the first ten years of NCCH history¹. The expansion of the Centre and its functions in that time has been noticeable, reflecting the need in Australia and internationally for expertise in this area of health classification and concept representation.

To keep meeting the needs of health professionals and health services, NCCH has focussed its attention on planning for the future. While the NCCH Strategic Plan is still current (2000–2005), it required updating to reflect changes in direction and emphasis, particularly in relation to terminology and electronic health record development. In this regard,

NCCH has concentrated its activities on presenting the Third Edition of ICD-10-AM as an electronic book (eBook) as well as a hard copy five-volume set of books in the traditional manner. Education and training are also provided electronically to supplement face-to-face workshops and electronic tools are used increasingly within NCCH to create, hold, maintain and produce the classifications for which we are responsible.

1. National Reference Centre for Classification in Health in 1992, National Coding Centre in 1994, National Centre for Classification in Health 1997

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A staff Planning Day was held in February 2002 followed by development of an amended work plan, business plan and marketing plan. These are living documents within the Centre, used by NCCH managers and staff to reflect, monitor and control the work of the Centre. They were informed as well by input from our customers through advisory committees and other networks. Another catalyst in this planning exercise has been preparation for negotiations with NCCH funding organisations for support post our current contractual period at the end of June 2003.

The year has also seen an in-principle recognition by NCCH Executive of the Quality and Education Division at La Trobe University as NCCH Melbourne. Plans are under way with La Trobe University and its School of Public Health for the changes necessary to make this a reality, with the appointment of a third Associate Director in Melbourne expected for mid 2003.

The creation of a third site of NCCH has only been contemplated because of existing harmonious management arrangements between NCCH Sydney and Brisbane, and in recent years the Quality and Education Division at La Trobe University.

This is due in large part to the NCCH Associate Directors, Kerry Innes in Sydney and Sue Walker in Brisbane, and I wish to pay tribute to their contribution to the smooth running of their respective sites and support of the national character of the Centre.

I mentioned that the planning process has involved all NCCH staff. Our achievements in this past year as well as in the past ten years have been because of the dedication, skill and perseverance of those who work at NCCH. I wish to recognise the major part they and our support network have played in bringing NCCH activities into the twenty-first century.

In closing, I would also like to acknowledge the input to NCCH from Peter Williams, who resigned from his position as member and chair of the NCCH Executive in May 2002. Peter has been a continuing presence on NCCH Committees since 1994, and his support and encouragement during our early and adolescent years have been much appreciated.



Associate Professor Rosemary Roberts AM
Director

1. PROGRESS

Explore innovative ways of applying health classifications to clinical knowledge and vice versa; and to progress development of products that achieve this

Progress the use of health classifications and related products to measure and improve levels of health care and health status

Use technology in innovative and efficient ways in construction, application and use of health classifications

Increase the nexus between health information, medical and clinical vocabularies and classification

NCCH Strategic Plan 2000-2005

Ambulatory classification developments

Increasing health information needs in the ambulatory sector have prompted the development and enhancement of existing classification sets to meet these needs. The NCCH is committed to the development of proposals to create new health classifications for clinical areas that require standardised sets of values to capture relevant clinical data.

The NCCH Classification Development Unit is working to create electronic clinical terminologies to support the use of ICD-10-AM for the ambulatory sector.

Australian Community-Based Health Services Codeset

The Australian Community-Based Health Services Codeset ('the codeset')

is the culmination of a project designed to produce classification tools that capture the activities and support the information management requirements of all types of health services delivered in community-based settings. The Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing is promoting the introduction of the codeset into all community-based health centres to create a system of standardised data collection and reporting.

The codeset is a comprehensive suite of classifications designed for use in the Australian community-based health environment.

The NCCH is the national custodian of the codeset and will provide continuing management and maintenance on behalf of all stakeholders. This will help to ensure the codeset's consistency as

further developments and enhancements are implemented. The custodianship contract from the Department of Health and Ageing is for 2003-2004. This has been made possible by input from Commonwealth, state and territory jurisdictions through the National Health Information Management Group (NHIMG).

Emergency department classification

The NCCH was approached by some states during 2002 to assist those users of the Emergency Department Information System (EDIS) to standardise the 'hybrid' ICD coding currently being used in the various EDIS sites. This request came at a time when the Department of Health and Ageing was finalising a proposal for a national minimum dataset for emergency departments. We are working towards satisfying the state EDIS requirements in concert with the national agenda. NCCH looks forward to being able to make a contribution to the development of a national emergency department classification in the not too distant future.

ICD-10-AM modelling

The Classification Development Unit of the NCCH has been working on the development of an electronic conceptual model of ICD-10-AM including computer-processable rules and conventions. The expression of classification rules in a computer-processable format is the only way that accurate translation of clinical concepts

to code can be achieved reliably in an electronic environment. A feasibility study has been completed with good results. Further work will be dependent on available funding.

IT in classification development

Cyber+LE (Health Language Inc) is a multi-tiered, knowledge modelling application that is being investigated to determine its suitability to provide a concept model of ICD-10-AM terms. This model has integrated index and tabular volume terms. The scope of content is limited to one chapter from the diseases and procedures volumes.

The current MS Access database that contains the classification is being upgraded from MS Access 97 to MS Access 2000. With ICD-10-AM Third Edition completion in early 2002, efforts to gain efficiencies through enhanced procedures and application modifications have become the focus of a post-production review.

A project to use the current database structure and programming code to contain and modify the ICD-10 classification is under way. Efforts are being undertaken to minimise duplication of the program code to support both ICD-10-AM and ICD-10. Future work for the application will investigate how the database will accommodate discrete subsets of ICD-10-AM.

Safety and quality in health care

The Australian Council for Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC) is responsible for developing a national approach to monitor, report and improve the safety and quality of health care. The NCCH continues to provide input to this work via the Data and Information Working Group, whose main priority is to develop nationally standardised and consistent definitions of key terms.

A key recommendation from the Classification Update Forum on Adverse Events (November 2000) was the need for a 'flag' data element within the morbidity database to indicate when a condition arises within the hospital stay. As a result of a proposal to the National Health Data Committee (NHDC), two new data elements, diagnosis onset type and date of procedure have been approved for inclusion in the National Health Data Dictionary, version 11, 2002.

The NCCH is working on the development of a business case relating to the capture of these details, in order to migrate the data items into the National Minimum Data Set for Admitted Patient Care.

Two new data elements, *diagnosis onset type* and *date of procedure* have been approved by the National Health Data Committee for inclusion in the National Health Data Dictionary, version 11, 2002.

The NCCH is working on the development of a business case relating to the capture of these details, in order to migrate the data items into the National Minimum Data Set for Admitted Patient Care.

ICD-10-AM Mental Health Manual

A subset of ICD-10-AM designed specifically for community-based mental health services was produced in early 2002 with support from the Mental Health Branch of the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing.

The *ICD-10-AM Mental Health Manual* includes diagnostic guidelines, various World Health Organization (WHO) diagnostic tools and ICD-10-AM codes for diagnosis and intervention.

The *ICD-10-AM Mental Health Manual* was published in early 2002 for implementation 1 July 2002.



Early parenting classification

Development of the *ICD-10-AM Early Parenting Manual*, which aims to provide guidance on the use of the ICD-10-AM health classification in early parenting centres, continued through 2002. The *Manual* will be released in July 2002.

The *Manual* will provide guidance for early parenting centres about assigning ICD-10-AM codes consistently. Most importantly, the *Manual* provides an improved index of terms including many of the clinical concepts that present at early parenting centres but are not currently included in ICD-10-AM.

The NCCH anticipates that the improved index terms of the *ICD-10-AM Early Parenting Manual*, and possibly new codes where appropriate, will be included in future editions of ICD-10-AM.

Casemix education for clinicians

At its February 2002 meeting, the Clinical Casemix Committee of Australia (CCCA) recommended that the series of specialty books on coding and casemix produced by the NCCH should be updated and redeveloped as an electronic product to meet the needs for continuing clinician education in casemix.

The NCCH submitted a funding proposal for this project and anticipates commencing work in late 2002 so that an Internet-based product can be released in line with ICD-10-AM Fourth Edition in late 2003.



Australian Classification of Health Interventions – Adapted for International Use (ACHI-I)

In 2001 the NCCH produced an abridged version of the *Australian Classification of Health Interventions* as a prototype international classification, specifically aimed at fulfilling the needs of those countries that require a simple classification of interventions.

The pilot version of the *Australian Classification of Health Interventions – Adapted for International Use (ACHI-I)* has been circulated for comment to users in over 40 countries. Comments will be tabled at the WHO Heads of Collaborating Centres for the Family of International Health Classifications meeting in Brisbane in October 2002.

A proposal was made to the Publications Division of the WHO that ACHI-I be published under the WHO imprimatur as part of the WHO Family of Health Classifications. The proposal has the support of the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing that holds ACHI-I copyright.

2. PURPOSE

Provide users with scientifically robust, public domain health classifications in easily accessible format

Respond in a timely manner to demands from users of health classifications

NCCH Strategic Plan 2000–2005

ICD-10-AM Third Edition

The Centre's core activity is creating and maintaining the *International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision, Australian Modification (ICD-10-AM)* which is revised biennially.

In late 2001, work was completed on to ICD-10-AM Third Edition. Updates and refinements to the classification are a result of official World Health Organization (WHO) changes to ICD-10, public submissions and queries from clinicians, coders and other data users and taxonomic review by NCCH staff.

ICD-10-AM Third Edition was again produced directly from the NCCH ICD-10-AM database. In-house layout, desktop publishing and proofing helped to achieve close control and an accurate final product. Production deadlines were met and ICD-10-AM Third Edition was published on schedule.

ICD-10-AM is available in both hardcopy (five-volume book set) and electronic (browser and ASCII list) formats. For the first time, the electronic version of the classification – the ICD-10-AM Browser – was included with all book sets.

The NCCH aims to increase awareness of the electronic version of the books, and to encourage users to develop familiarity with the application. The electronic version was first developed and released with ICD-10-AM Second Edition in 2000.

In response to user feedback about the electronic versions, work commenced in the second quarter of 2002 to create an enhanced electronic version of the books, which will be called the *ICD-10-AM eBook*. The eBook's features will include a notes field so the application can be personalised, published errata can be imported electronically and electronic links to 10-AM Commandments (a regular information update feature of the Centre's quarterly newsletter, *Coding Matters*) and Australian Coding Standards. eBook is planned for release in September 2002.

ICD-10-AM Third Edition will be implemented by all Australian state and territory health services from 1 July 2002. This fulfils the key objective of the Centre's contracted obligations under its core funding agreement with the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing.

An education program to inform ICD-10-AM users about Third Edition was developed and delivered. For the first time, the education program was offered on-line via the Internet and on CD-ROM, as well as face-to-face workshops.

ICD-10-AM Third Edition vital statistics

Number of valid codes in ICD-10-AM Third Edition:	21 853
Number of valid disease codes:	15 927
Number of <i>new</i> disease codes:	869
Number of morphology codes:	2 403
Number of procedure codes:	5 926
Number of <i>new</i> procedure codes:	382
Number of <i>new</i> codes introduced in Third Edition:	1 251
Production:	4 000 sets 20 000 volumes 1 000 slip cases 2 000 browsers



ICD-10 to ICD-10-AM mappings

The NCCH has developed mappings from ICD-10 to each of the three editions (1998, 2000 and 2002) of ICD-10-AM.

These mappings include the updates to ICD-10 ratified by the WHO Update Reference Committee each year since 1997. These mappings provide a means of understanding what changes have been made to ICD-10 to create

ICD-10-AM and also act as a reference source to the codes and code titles of ICD-10. These mappings are freely available from the NCCH web site www.usyd.edu.au/ncch and will be companion resources to the *ICD-10-AM Chronicle*.

	NSW	ACT	QLD	VIC	NT	SA	WA	TAS	ALL
July 2001	4		2	6				1	13
Aug 2001	12					1	3		16
Sep 2001			7					2	9
Oct 2001			4	4				2	10
Nov 2001			7				3		10
Dec 2001			4		1		2		7
Jan 2002	5								5
Feb 2002			1	3		1	2	1	8
Mar 2002	6		2	3			2		13
Apr 2002		3					2		5
May 2002			1	1					2
June 2002				3			2		5
TOTAL	27	3	28	20	1	2	16	6	103

Coding queries received July 2001–June 2002

Coding queries

The NCCH responded to ICD-10-AM coding queries from state and territory coding committees and a number of overseas colleagues during 2001–2002. Queries that are of interest to coders nationally form the basis of the 10-AM Commandments section of the NCCH newsletter, *Coding Matters*.

Coding queries and responses are available in the coding queries database from the NCCH website www.fhs.usyd.edu.au/ncch

Public submissions

In October 2001, the NCCH opened its public submission process whereby users of ICD-10-AM can suggest changes for the next edition. The NCCH received 33 public submissions by the closing date (28 February 2002). Processing of these submissions for inclusion in ICD-10-AM Fourth Edition has begun.

The Coding Standards Advisory Committee (CSAC) has recently endorsed a proposal from the NCCH to change the public submission process to a biennial cycle, providing users of ICD-10-AM with a more realistic time frame for review of the current edition.

ICD-10-AM development cycle and production plan 2002–2004

2002	ICD-10-AM	2003	ICD-10-AM	2004	ICD-10-AM
January	Third Edition hard copy release	January	Fourth Edition preparation	January	Fourth Edition hard copy release
February	Fourth Edition public submission Fourth Edition preparation starts	February	Fourth Edition preparation	February	Fifth Edition preparation starts
March	Fourth Edition preparation	March	Fourth Edition preparation Post implementation education workshop	March	Fifth Edition public submissions advertised
April	Third Edition education	April	Fourth Edition preparation	April	Fourth Edition education
May	Third Edition education	May	Fourth Edition preparation	May	Fourth Edition education Fifth Edition public submissions open
June	Third Edition education	June	Fourth Edition preparation finishes Fourth Edition close content	June	Fourth Edition education Fifth Edition Public Submissions close
July	Third Edition implementation	July	Fourth Edition copy check	July	Fourth Edition Implementation
August	Fourth Edition preparation	August	Fourth Edition copy check	August	Fifth Edition preparation
September	Fourth Edition preparation	September	Fourth Edition final map to Third Edition available Fourth Edition final code list available	September	Fifth Edition preparation
October	Fourth Edition preparation	October	Fourth Edition typeset	October	Fifth Edition preparation
November	Fourth Edition preparation	November	Fourth Edition typeset	November	Fifth Edition preparation
December	Fourth Edition preparation	December	Fourth Edition printed	December	Fifth Edition preparation

ICD-10-AM Chronicle

The NCCH is developing a record of all the significant changes made to the three editions of ICD-10-AM, both in terms of code changes and changes to Australian Coding Standards, which will be called the *ICD-10-AM Chronicle*.

The *ICD-10-AM Chronicle* will be provided in an electronic format with hyperlinks between three core documents.

One document is a list of entry point codes that contains hyperlinks to a second document that provides the status of the codes. The codes in the second document contain hyperlinks to a third document that gives narrative information about the changes and why they were made. The *Chronicle* will be released in two stages with the First and Second editions planned for release in late 2002, followed by the Third and Fourth Editions in mid-to-late 2003.

Coding Matters

Coding Matters, now in its ninth year of publication, continues to provide news and information for clinical coders and others working in areas that use or create clinical codes, health classifications and terminologies.

During 2001–2002, *Coding Matters* explored themes including:

- the science of nosology
- health terminologies
- external cause categories in ICD-10-AM Third Edition, and
- anaesthesia and post-operative analgesia

and published 132 pages of text in four editions. *Coding Matters* is compiled, edited and typeset in-house by NCCH staff.

The scope of *Coding Matters* is tailored for clinical coders working in Australian hospitals, but has been broadened to introduce new technologies, other health classifications and terminologies, decision-making committees and their work, to provide a wide range of information and resources.

Coding Matters is provided free to Australian clinical coders, and is mailed quarterly to 1 350 subscribers. *Coding Matters* is also produced electronically and is e-mailed to 150 additional subscribers. The number of electronic version recipients is increasing steadily. An archive of all issues of the newsletter is maintained at the NCCH web site where it can be freely accessed.



3. PARTICIPATE

Play an active role in the formulation of cohesive national policies and practices in the collection, interpretation and use of health information

Participate in the development of Australia's evolving health information environment particularly in electronic innovations and other emerging technologies

NCCH Strategic Plan 2000–2005

World Health Organization (WHO) Update Reference Committee (URC)

The role of the URC is to recommend updates to ICD-10. ICD-10 is the principal health classification of the World Health Organization and provides a means for reporting health data throughout the world. In Australia, ICD-10 is used to report mortality data, and forms the base upon which ICD-10-AM is built.

The NCCH Classification Support and Development Division undertakes a large volume of work that assists the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) in its role as the Australian WHO Collaborating Centre for the Family of International Health Classifications.

NCCH Director, Associate Professor Rosemary Roberts, is the Chair of the WHO URC. NCCH Associate Directors Kerry Innes and Sue Walker are members of the committee and Michelle Bramley, Nosologist, provides secretariat support to the URC.

The update process culminates at the annual meeting of the WHO Heads of Collaborating Centres where final decisions for minor (annual) and major (three yearly) updates are made.

This year, a URC web page www.fhs.usyd.edu.au/ncch/who_urc.html was established and is hosted from the NCCH web site. The web page facilitates URC stakeholder communication.

The URC made decisions about 65% of submissions in the same year of receipt. Fifty-eight proposals were considered by the URC in 2001–2002.



*Delegates at the 2001 WHO HoCC meeting
back row l-r: Rosemary Roberts, Marjorie Greenberg, Richard Madden, Ching Choi
front row l-r: Jenny Hargreaves, Bedirhan Ustün, Catherine Sykes*

World Health Organization Heads of Collaborating Centers (WHO HoCC) Meetings

Bethesda 2001

The 2001 meeting of World Health Organization Heads of Collaborating Centres (HoCC) for Classification of Diseases was held in Bethesda Maryland from 21– 27 October. Staff from the North American host centre (incorporating the United States of America and Canada) welcomed 80 or so delegates from 18 countries and 12 collaborating centres. This was a particularly poignant time for the meeting to be held in North America given the events of September 11 and the pervading sense of loss experienced internationally as a result. However, it made participants appreciate even more the opportunity to meet face-to-face to discuss issues of mutual interest. It was a landmark meeting in that it saw the official launch of the *International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF)* as a new member of the WHO Family of International Health Classifications (FIC). ICF has been published in the six WHO official languages with hard copy, electronic and Internet versions.

The annual meeting of the HoCC is an extremely important event for NCCH, especially given the Australian use of ICD classifications as the basis for Australian standard inpatient classification (ICD-10-AM) or in their original format. Dr Richard Madden, Director of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, headed the Australian team of five, including Rosemary Roberts as representative of NCCH. Amongst the 100 or so papers tabled for discussion were 22 from Australia, including annual reports, scientific papers, policy, implementation and education issues. From NCCH, the most relevant topics were those relating to impact of classification change on mortality data, the Australian proposal for an international classification of health interventions, the development of a community mental health subset to ICD-10-AM and changes to ICD-10-AM for its Third Edition, particularly external cause and oncology.

An important committee for Australia is the Update Reference Committee (URC). Other committees include those relating to international implementation of ICD-10, training and credentialing, family of classifications development, mortality and electronic tools.

Sue Walker and Kerry Innes from NCCH contributed to these committees during the year but were unable to attend the Bethesda meeting.

As well as issues of currency of the classification, participants discussed the relationship between ICD and ICF, the *International Classification of Primary Care (ICPC)*, *Reason for Visit Classification, ICD-O-3*, the *International Classification of External Causes of Injury (ICECI)* and considered promoting development of electronic formats of classifications within the FIC. One evening session was set aside for a presentation from the College of American Pathologists (CAP) of SNOMED CT and issues of mapping to ICD-10 and ICD-9-CM. Representatives from the United Nations presented material on vital statistics and the importance of reliable information on basic information on births and deaths.

Papers from the meeting and the final report are available on the WHO web site www.who.int/whosis/icd10/

Brisbane 2002

Planning is well under way for the next meeting of heads of centres, which is to be held in Brisbane from October 13-19 2002.

International Organization for Standardization (ISO)

Michelle Bramley represented the NCCH and was the Australian representative on health concept representation committees for Standards Australia (IT-14-2) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO TC 215 Health Informatics/WG3), respectively.

IT-14-2 met in April and May 2002. ISO TC 215/WG3 met three times: the Technical Committee's plenary meeting in London in August 2001, which was attended by Michelle Bramley, and in Washington in November 2001 and Pretoria in April 2002, where Australian participation was by teleconference and the Internet.

WG3 is developing standards that will define the language used to describe terminological systems in health informatics and their components

(a metavocabulary) and will establish guidelines to assist terminology developers in construction of useful, maintainable terminological systems.

One technical specification has been produced by WG3 this year: *ISO 17117 – Health informatics – Controlled health vocabularies – Vocabulary structure and high-level indicators*.

Two work items have progressed to the committee draft stage: *ISO – Health Informatics – Integration of a reference terminology model for nursing* and *ISO – Health Informatics – Vocabulary of terminology (metavocabulary)*.

Expert Group on Health Classifications (EGHC)

The Expert Group on Health Classifications (EGHC) is a National Health Information Management Group initiative chaired by Dr David Evans (Medical Superintendent, Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Hospital, Brisbane).

Associate Professor Rosemary Roberts, Sue Walker and Kerry Innes represent the NCCH on the Expert Group.

In 2001–2002 the EGHC finalised the matrix of the Australian Family of Health Classifications which details those classifications most suitable for use in specific health domains.

The NCCH hosted the meeting of the EGHC in June 2002.

Clinical Classification and Coding Groups (CCCGs)

In 1995, 23 specialty clinical classification groups were established to advise the Department of Health and Ageing and the NCCH on DRG and coding issues. Although these specialist clinicians and clinical coders do not frequently meet face-to-face, they continue to provide valuable advice to NCCH on an *ad hoc* basis. Their continued support in maintaining the currency of ICD-10-AM is greatly appreciated. Through the work of the CCCGs the Department of Health and Ageing has been able to finalise the specifications for the latest version of AR-DRGs (AR-DRG v5.0) which will be released in late 2002.

A list of the CCCGs and their members is published in ICD-10-AM Third Edition, volume 5, pp 281-28.



Expert Group on Health Classification meeting, June 2002

NCCH Executive Committee

The NCCH executive committee guides the business operations of the NCCH.

Meetings conducted

Three meetings of the executive committee were held during 2001–2002:

11 September 2001, Sydney

5 February 2002, Melbourne

20 May 2002, Brisbane

Membership		
Peter Williams	Chair (June 2001-May 2002)	National Health Information Management Group
Peter Broadhead	Acute and Coordinated Care Branch	Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing (previously Department of Health and Aged Care)
Joanne Callen	Head, School of Health	The University of Sydney Information Management
Sue Cornes	(interim representative from May 2002)	National Health Information Management Group
Brian Doyle	Regional Director	Australian Bureau of Statistics
Dr Richard Madden	Director	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
Professor Brian Oldenburg	Head, School of Public Health	Queensland University of Technology
Associate Professor Rosemary Roberts	Director	NCCH
Kerry Innes	Associate Director	NCCH (Sydney)
Sue Walker	Associate Director	NCCH (Brisbane)

Terms of References

- To oversee the function of the National Centre for Classification in Health
- 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.

NCCH Advisory Committee Membership

Australian Bureau of Statistics	Brian Doyle
ACT Department of Health and Community Care	Mohan Singh
Australian Health Insurance Association	Peter McDonald
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	Dr Richard Madden
Australian Private Hospital Association	Michael Roff
Clinical Casemix Committee of Australia	Associate Professor Michael Cleary
Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing	Peter Broadhead
Department of Community and Health Services, Tasmania	Virginia Kalma
Department of Human Services, South Australia	Lorraine Van Gemert
Department of Human Services, Victoria	Mark Gill
Family Medicine Research Centre, The University of Sydney	Associate Professor Helena Britt
Health Department of Western Australia	Merran Smith
Health Information Management Association of Australia Ltd	Kavia Cheng
Health Insurance Commission	Steve Neilsen John Trabinger (from May 2002)
Health Insurance Restricted Membership Association of Australia (HIRMAA)	Ron Coghill
Medibank Private	Sam Kanaris
NCCH	Associate Professor Rosemary Roberts
NCCH (Sydney)	Kerry Innes
NCCH (Brisbane)	Sue Walker
National Health Information Management Group	Peter Williams (to May 2002) Sue Cornes (interim representative from May 2002)
NSW Department of Health	Joanne Chicco
Queensland Health	Sue Cornes
Queensland University of Technology	Professor Brian Oldenburg
School of Health Information Management The University of Sydney	Joanne Callen
Territory Health Services	David Ung Janine Wapper

Terms of reference

- To report to and from represented organisations.
- To advise on 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 on and contribute to policies of NCCH.

Meeting conducted

15 May 2002 at the Department of Human Services, South Australia

Coding Standards Advisory Committee (CSAC)

The Coding Standards Advisory Committee (CSAC) completed ratification of the proposed changes to ICD-10-AM Third Edition in late 2001. Since that time, the committee has concentrated on a number of issues including education workshops to prepare clinical coders for the implementation of ICD-10-AM Third Edition on 1 July 2002. The education workshops were conducted in May and June 2002.

In 2002 CSAC decided to create two new subcommittees—the Education Subcommittee and the Data Quality Subcommittee.

The Education Subcommittee will share information and provide advice on strategic directions for coder education in Australia. Members will represent all relevant education institutes in Australia.

The overall function of the Data Quality Subcommittee relates to the review of data quality for morbidity reporting. Members on the committee will represent the National Centre for Classification in Health (NCCH), Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), Department of Health and Ageing, Coding Auditors' Network (CAN) and Clinical Coders' Society of Australia (CCSA).

Both subcommittees will work closely with the NCCH Quality and Education Division.

The committee also ratified a change to the open comment period for public submissions on changes to ICD-10-AM.

Minutes of CSAC meetings are forwarded to the National Health Information Management Group and the National Health Data Committee to facilitate good communication between these important committees.

Coding Standards Advisory Committee (CSAC)

Membership

NCCH	Associate Professor Rosemary Roberts <i>Chair</i> Kerry Innes Sheree Gray Karen Peasley Sue Walker
Australian Capital Territory	Dianne Hoskings
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	Jenny Hargreaves
Clinical Casemix Committee of Australia	Dr Lynette Lee
Clinical Coders' Society of Australia	Andrea Groom
Department of Health and Ageing	Katrina Chisholm
Health Information Management Association of Australia Ltd	Toni Patterson
New South Wales	Katrina Gins
Northern Territory	Jillian Burgoyne
Private sector	Kay Bonello
Queensland	Meegan Snell
South Australia	Tanya Drake
Tasmania	Karen Hinton
Victoria	Irene Kearsey
Western Australia	Brian Stanley

Meetings conducted

CSAC met quarterly in 2001-2002:
16 July 2001, Sydney
26 November 2001, Melbourne
11 February 2002, Sydney
13 May 2002, Adelaide.

Terms of reference

- Advise the NCCH on the implementation and publication of new and amended ICD-10-AM codes and Australian Coding Standards.
- Advise the NCCH on activities and products relating to coding and coding quality measures.
- Report to and from organisations/jurisdictions represented on this committee.
- Ensure that standards of definition and convention are maintained when ratifying changes to ICD-10-AM and the Australian Coding Standards.
- Review public submissions for changes to ICD-10-AM.
- 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 Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing future changes to the Australian Refined-Diagnosis Related Groups classification system as they relate to coding.
- Recommend to National Health Information Management Group the national adoption of ICD-10-AM modifications on a biennial basis.
- 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.

CEN members and workshop presenters

New South Wales	Linda Best Kerri Chalmers Megan Cumerlato Sheree Gray Julie Rust
Northern Territory	Jillian Burgoyne
Queensland	Debbie Abbott Garry Waller
South Australia	Lesley Ward
Victoria	Andrea Groom Jennie Shephard Shannon Watts

Coding Educators Network (CEN)

Members of the Coding Educators Network (CEN) assist the NCCH to deliver educational and training programs.

CEN members also provide important links between the national level (NCCH) and local coding environments in Australia's states and territories.

Current CEN members assisted NCCH staff to conduct ICD-10-AM Third Edition education workshops during May and June 2002.



*ICD-10-AM Third Edition train-the-trainer workshop participants
March 2002*

Representations

NCCH provided representatives to a number of committees. NCCH staff are representatives on:

- Australian Council for Safety and Quality in Health Care Data and Information Working Group
- Australian Hospital Statistics Advisory Committee
- National Health Information Management Group Expert Group on Health Classification
- Clinical Casemix Committee of Australia
- Health Information Management Association of Australia Ltd
Health Information Management: the Journal of the HIMAA, Editorial Board
- International Organization for Standardization TC 215 WG3
- National Health Data Committee
- Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, Australian Safety and Efficacy Register of New Interventional Procedures–Surgical
- Standards Australia IT/14 Subcommittee 2 Health Concept Representation
- World Health Organization Mortality Reference Group
- World Health Organization Update Reference Committee



Delegation from Germany



l-r: Jenny Seems, Dean White and Kerry Innes

International meetings and visits

International visitors

NCCH welcomed several visitors to our three sites in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne in 2001–2002:

- Delegation from Germany representing the German Ministry of Health, German health insurance funds and senior clinicians, hospital managers and journalists
- Sukhdeo Pem *Medical Records Organiser* and Nasser Jeeanody *Acting Senior Medical Statistician*, Ministry of Health, Mauritius
- All Japan Hospital Association (AJHA) delegation
- Delegation representing Chulalongkorn University, Thammasat University, the Thai Ministry of Health and the ICD-10 Centre, Thailand
- German Hospital Federation (DKG) delegation
- Dean White, *Information Products Delivery Manager*, National Health Service Information Authority, Winchester, UK
- Caroline Stahl, *Student intern*, Technical University of Ulm, Germany
- Kerstin Fenkl, *Intern*, University of Applied Science, Neu Ulm, Germany
- Vladimir Stevanovic, *Clinical Advisor and Team Leader*, New Zealand Health Information Service, Ministry of Health, New Zealand.



Japanese delegation with NCCH Sydney staff Rosemary Roberts, Kerry Innes and Ann Jones

Meetings at which NCCH was represented

ISO TC 215 WG3 Health Concept Representation,
London, UK, August 2001

- Michelle Bramley

World Health Organization (WHO) Heads of Collaborating Centers for Classification of Diseases Meeting,
Bethesda MD, USA, October 2001

- Associate Professor
Rosemary Roberts

SNOMED CT Editorial Board Meeting,
Cardiff, Wales, October 2001

- Associate Professor
Rosemary Roberts

SNOMED CT Alpha Test Open Dialog Meeting, London, UK,
October 2001

- Associate Professor
Rosemary Roberts

Meeting with NHS Information Authority,
Birmingham, UK, October 2001

- Associate Professor
Rosemary Roberts

Conferences

Singapore Casemix Conference,
Singapore, August 2001

- Shannon Watts
and Linda Best

Medinfo, London, UK, September 2001

- Michelle Bramley

Patient Classification Systems, Europe (PCS/E), Brugge, Belgium, October 2001

- Associate Professor
Rosemary Roberts

NCCH workshops and consultancies

NCCH staff and consultants prepared and presented workshops in Australia and internationally in 2001–2002:

ACBA training course, Yangon, Myanmar, July 2001

- Andrea Groom (NCCH Consultant)

ICD-10 in Seychelles: Mission for WHO AFRO, July 2001

- Associate Professor Rosemary Roberts

HIC, Canberra, July 2001

Performance Indicators for Coding Quality (PICQ) pre-conference workshop

- Shannon Watts

ICD-10 workshops, Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, August 2001

- Presented by Sue Walker

Singapore Casemix Conference, *Series of five workshops on coding, casemix and coding audit*, Singapore, August 2001

- Shannon Watts, Linda Best and Andrea Groom (Consultant)

ICD-10 train-the trainer, Bucharest Romania, January 2002

- Associate Professor Rosemary Roberts

Workshop for Australian Institute of Health and Welfare staff, *ICD-10-AM and clinical coding*, Canberra, April 2002

- Kerry Innes and Sue Walker

ICD-10 mortality coding practices, Nuku'alofa, Kingdom of Tonga, April 2002

- Garry Waller

ICD-10 train-the-trainer and clinical coder education, Bucharest and Sibiu, Romania, May-June 2002

- Sue Walker and Shannon Watts



Conference presentations

NCCH staff presented papers at several conferences during 2000–2002:

Health Informatics Conference (HIC), Canberra, July 2001

Comparison of results between a recoding audit and analysis by PICQ

- Kearsley I.

Health Informatics Conference (HIC), Canberra, July 2001

Raising the flag: coding for safety and quality in healthcare

- Innes K, Roberts R, Rust J.

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners Annual Scientific Convention, Sydney, September 2001

Coding in general practice: a primer on SNOMED

- Roberts R.

World Health Organization Heads of Collaborating Centers Meeting,

Bethesda MD, October 2001

Updating ICD-10

- Roberts R, Bramley M, Walker S, Rosenberg H.

World Health Organization Heads of Collaborating Centers Meeting,

Bethesda MD, October 2001

Annual Report of the WHO Update Reference Committee 2001

- Roberts R, Innes K, Bramley M.

World Health Organization Heads of Collaborating Centers Meeting,

Bethesda MD, October 2001

The International Classification of Health Interventions (ICHI)

- Innes K, Roberts R.

World Health Organization Heads of Collaborating Centers Meeting,

Bethesda MD, October 2001

ICD-10-AM Community Mental Health Manual

- Roberts R, Innes K, Bramley M.

World Health Organization Heads of Collaborating Centers Meeting,

Bethesda MD, October 2001

Inclusion of ICD-O-3 in ICD-10

- Innes K, Walker S, Roberts R.

World Health Organization Heads of Collaborating Centers Meeting,

Bethesda MD, October 2001

Potential impact of changes in disease classifications and mappings on long-term mortality trends

- Tong S, Walker S, McKenzie K.

World Health Organization Heads of Collaborating Centers Meeting,

Bethesda MD, October 2001

External cause of injury – classification update forum: modification of ICD-10-AM chapter XX, External Causes of Morbidity and Mortality

- Waller G, Walker S, Innes K, Roberts R.

World Health Organization Heads of Collaborating Centers Meeting,

Bethesda MD, October 2001

Examining the impact on mortality data of the change from ICD-9 manual coding to ICD-10 automated coding

- McKenzie K, Casey R, Walker S, Burke P, Tong S.

Health Informatics Association of NSW (HIANSW) Annual Conference, Pokolbin, February 2002

Implementing health classification: mind the gap!

- Roberts R, Innes K.

Public Health Australia Conference, Sydney, September 2001

Potential impact of changes in disease classifications on long-term mortality trends

- Tong S, McKenzie K, Walker S, Oldenburg B.



NCCH Brisbane Project Officer,
Dr Peter Scott



NCCH Monograph series

In 2002, a new monograph series of publications was created. The monograph series will initially present the work of NCCH staff and collaborators, but investigations are being made to broaden the scope of contributors.

NCCH Brisbane Project Officer, Dr Peter Scott, wrote the first title in the NCCH monograph series. Peter is a general practitioner who has a keen interest in GP terminology, and is leading NCCH projects to investigate and capture the language of general practitioners.

Scott PR (2002) *An introduction to health terminologies*. NCCH Monograph series, Sydney.

The NCCH plans to publish two new monographs annually.

Published papers

Bramley M. (2001) The NSW Medical record department benchmarking: a work in progress, *Health Information Management 30(1)* March.

Chalmers K, Burtenshaw K. (2001) Using PICQ software for clinical indicator reporting, *Healthcare in Perspective 2001: Proceedings of the 13th Casemix Conference*.

Innes K, Roberts R, Rust J. (2001) Raising the flag: Coding for safety and quality in health, *HIC 2001 Conference Proceedings*.

Roberts R. (2002) Implementing health classification: Mind the gap! *HIANSW 2002 Annual Conference*.

Scott PR. (2001) Incorporation of ICD-10-AM into the UMLS. *Proceedings of the 11th RACGP Computer Conference*.

McKenzie K, Walker S, Tong S. (2001) Assessment of the impacts of the change from manual to automated coding on mortality statistics. *Health Information Management 30(3)*:1-13.

Roberts R, Robinson K, Williamson D. Health Information Policy. Part 1, Chapter 4, in *Health Policy in Australia* (Second Edition) Gardner, H and Barraclough, S (eds) 2002. Oxford University Press, South Melbourne.

PRODUCE AND 4. PROVIDE

Create, and adapt classifications that support the planning and operation of Australian health services, provide information for consumers and inform the funding of health service provision and its quality

Maintain and support existing classifications and users; provision of updates, education and new editions

Produce health classifications that can be integrated into health information systems and electronic health records

Provide expert classification services and products to customers; to be responsive to the needs of users of health classifications

Provide professional managerial and administrative services to customers, stakeholders, funders and NCCH to support the effective and efficient organisational performance in terms of contract management, IT support and development, personnel and financial management

NCCH Strategic Plan 2000–2005

Education

ICD-10-AM Third Edition education program

The ICD-10-AM Third Edition education program conducted in 2002 was planned to provide clinical coders and other classification users with information about revisions to ICD-10-AM Third Edition before its implementation in Australian health care facilities from 1 July 2002.

The education program was developed as an interactive, self-paced learning tool that was available from the Internet and on CD-ROM. The program provided learners with a flexible approach to access information and education about the classification's changes. The program's curriculum was planned to allow learners to self-assess their knowledge before deciding about participating at face-to-face workshops.

The education program was provided electronically in response to participants' survey feedback at education activities provided in 2000 prior to the implementation of ICD-10-AM Second Edition.

ICD-10-AM Third Edition education activities were provided for:

- 800+ Internet users
- 600+ CD-ROM users
- 892 workshop participants.

NCCH staff and members of the Coding Educators Network (CEN) conducted 27 one-day workshops in all states and territories during May and June 2002. The workshops addressed the complex and difficult areas of change in ICD-10-AM Third Edition. Practical exercises were conducted to help apply and comprehend changes.

The ICD-10-AM Third Edition education program is now available from the NCCH website www.usyd.edu.au/ccch



The ICD -10-AM Mental Health Manual train-the-trainer workshop was conducted in Sydney in May 2002.

l-r: Professor Aleksandar Janca, Associate Professor Rosemary Roberts, Kay Bonello and Danny Rock presented the workshop

ICD-10-AM Mental Health Manual education

The release of the *ICD-10-AM Mental Health Manual* in March 2002 was supported with a train-the-trainer education program for community-based mental health professionals. Both the *Manual* and the training were conceived to enable community-based mental health clinicians to make more accurate and complete diagnoses.

The *ICD-10-AM Mental Health Manual* train-the-trainer program was planned to provide education and instruction about the application of the *Manual's* diagnostic criteria and tools and the process of clinical coding for community-based mental health professionals.

The train-the-trainer event was presented by Professor Aleksandar Janca (University of Western Australia), Danny Rock (Centre for Clinical Research in Neuropsychiatry, Western Australia) and Kay Bonello (HIM Consultant, Victoria) and was conducted in Sydney 15 May 2002.

The workshop was attended by 34 mental health clinicians and state and territory health authority representatives.

The session was videotaped and the train-the-trainer material was translated into an interactive, self-paced learning

tool on CD-ROM which is available for continuing education purposes.

Following the train-the-trainer program, information and education was passed to colleagues with the aid of an interactive learning package and video resources.

Performance Indicators for Coding Quality (PICQ) and Australian Coding Benchmark Audit (ACBA) education and training

In April 2002, NCCF staff conducted a two-day training event for staff from the NSW Department of Health in Sydney. NSW Health purchased statewide licenses for both PICQ and ACBA, and the training provided practical and theoretical skills and information for NSW Health staff from health services throughout NSW.

Workshops for German health services professionals

In January 2002, NCCF Melbourne presented two brief training sessions about *Performance Indicators for Coding Quality (PICQ) and the Australian Coding Benchmark Audit (ACBA)* for a delegation of students from Germany. These students were part of a team that was undertaking an intensive Casemix and Classification training course being conducted at La Trobe University in Melbourne.



Garry Waller (centre)
with participants attending the education
program in Tonga

Workshops and presentations for Schools of Health Information Management and Public Health

NCCH Melbourne and Brisbane have presented lectures for students enrolled in health information management courses at La Trobe University in Melbourne and Queensland University of Technology. Presentations have been made to students about NCCH quality tools, especially *Performance Indicators for Coding Quality (PICQ)* and the *Australian Coding Benchmark Audit (ACBA)*.

NCCH Sydney staff presented part of the Health Classification Systems curriculum to students of the Master of Health Science, Health Informatics.

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare workshop

Sue Walker and Kerry Innes (Associate Directors, Brisbane and Sydney, respectively) conducted a one and a half-day workshop for staff of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare in April 2002.

The interactive workshop gave participants a broad overview of medical terminology and morbidity and mortality coding processes and included exercises on abstraction and coding to augment the oral presentations.

Feedback from the participants indicates that the workshop was extremely valuable. Negotiations are now under way for more specialised workshops for the various Institute collection staff, and examination of the possibility for reciprocal sessions at the NCCH.

Education program in Tonga

Garry Waller, Senior Classification Officer at NCCH Brisbane, presented education and training courses in Nuku'alofa in the Kingdom of Tonga over two weeks during April 2002, under a contract through TAFE Global (with funding from the AusAID in country training program).

A series of workshops were presented, including:

- death certification and ICD-10 mortality coding practices, conducted for approximately 40 medical and nursing staff and village health officers
- ICD-10 mortality rules for coders for four coding staff from the Ministry of Health
- advanced morbidity coding with four participants from the Ministry of Health
- auditing and quality assessment of coded data for the same four staff as the previous workshop.

Post workshop evaluations indicated that 67% of participants rated workshop content as either very good or excellent and course presentation was rated as very good or excellent by 69% of students.



*l-r: Dr Mounkaila Abdou
and Mr Danny Poiret
Ministry of Health, Seychelles*

ICD-10 education program in the Seychelles

Rosemary Roberts undertook a mission in Seychelles for the World Health Organization (WHO) African Regional Office in August 2001. It was part of a joined mission from WHO concerning the use of ICD-10 for morbidity and mortality reporting and promotion of a Burden of Disease Study in Seychelles. NCCH was most interested in the ICD-10 aspects of the short-term (one-week) consultancy. The presence of staff from the WHO Geneva and African Region Offices provided a useful context for local discussions about capture and use of morbidity and mortality data.

Much data is already reported at both hospital and community levels, with opportunities for rationalisation of hospital medical record systems and linkages with community health services using the National Identity Number. ICD-10 is already used for mortality reporting and the ICD-10 morbidity short list for coding diseases treated during episodes of inpatient care.

Recommendations covered issues such as the full use of ICD-10 for cause of death coding and for inpatient disease coding using the full record for inpatients and ambulatory attendances for conditions listed in the Seychelles Guidelines for Integrated Disease Surveillance. These conditions include both communicable and non-communicable diseases, and provide an important public health argument for linking the notification of diseases in hospitals and community health services. Further education and training in medical record and coding practices would be beneficial, and much could be shared with neighbouring countries such as Mauritius where similar systems are in place. Coding of procedures performed in hospitals would be made possible if a 'short form' procedure classification such as the Australian proposal for an International Classification of Health Interventions were used.

Seychelles' population of 80,000 represents a wonderful example of how ICD-10 can be applied in all health sectors to describe and monitor the health of its people.

Singapore casemix workshops

In August 2001 NCCH staff members presented a series of five workshops during the Singapore Casemix Conference, which were attended by 112 participants.

Workshops were presented on:

- clinical coding, DRG pathways and using casemix effectively
- coding audits and the quality cycle
- the development of coding standards.



Sue Walker and students in Hanoi



*l-r: Mr Jeeanody, Sue Walker and Mr Pem
The Ministry of Health Mauritius*

Education program in Vietnam

Sue Walker (Associate Director, NCCH Brisbane) spent four weeks in August 2001 conducting a WHO-funded consultancy in Vietnam.

Over 100 clinicians from major hospitals in north and south Vietnam attended two ICD-10 training courses conducted by Sue. Both courses were conducted in Vietnamese: workbooks and MS PowerPoint slides were translated and interpreters provided translations. Evaluations of the workshops indicated that participants rated the course content and presentations highly, with a majority indicating that they would use the material for their work.

As well as the courses, Sue investigated and reported on health information management and coding practices at several hospitals in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City and Vung Tau. She worked principally with representatives from the Ministry of Health and was able to assist them in developing new standard medical record forms.

During her stay in Hanoi, Sue was also able to visit the School of Public Health with which Queensland University of Technology (an NCCH collaborating partner) has recently signed a collaborative venture to assist in the development of a new undergraduate public health curriculum.

One of the units under development relates to health management information systems, and includes a module on coding with ICD-10. This work in Hanoi is likely to be continued by NCCH staff in late 2002.

Mauritius

During November–December 2001, NCCH Brisbane hosted a three-week visit from Mr Nasser Jeeanody and Mr Sukhdeo Pem from the Ministry of Health in Mauritius.

The purpose of the visit was to enable Mr Jeeanody and Mr Pem to obtain ICD-10 training and to learn more about the collection of health data in Australia. The WHO Regional Office for Africa sponsored the visit.

Mr Jeeanody and Mr Pem spent one week with the Causes of Death Unit at the Australian Bureau of Statistics, where education about mortality data capture and processing was provided. Visits to NCCH Sydney, hospitals in Brisbane and Sydney, Queensland Health, 3M and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, were also arranged for Mr Jeeanody and Mr Pem.



*l-r: Sue Walker and Shannon Watts
in Bucharest*



Bucharest

Education program in Romania

As part of a process of health reform in Romania, a decision was taken to implement casemix-based funding beginning with 23 hospitals involved in a pilot project of coding, reporting, casemix analysis and funding. As part of this project, the DRG (Diagnosis Related Groups) Implementation Team identified a need for ICD-10 coder education and support structures.

The NCCH was contracted to provide two consultancies during 2002 relating to this activity by USAID and World Learning Inc. In January 2002, NCCH Director, Rosemary Roberts, undertook a needs analysis and presented a coding workshop as the first stage of the project.

Subsequently, Sue Walker (Associate Director, NCCH Brisbane) and Shannon Watts (Quality and Education Coordinator, NCCH Melbourne) travelled to Romania for three weeks in May–June 2002, where they conducted two ICD-10 coding courses in the cities of Bucharest and Sibiu. Approximately 70 clinicians, who are responsible for coding at the time of patient discharge, attended the training.

The NCCH consultants also spent considerable time with members of the Romanian DRG Implementation Team,

advising on health information, casemix, quality and coding practices. Particular interest was shown in the Australian Classification of Health Interventions. AR-DRG version 4.2 is also being evaluated.

The Romanian health system has a long history of coding health data, with experienced staff from the Romanian National Centre for Health Statistics (NCHS) active in WHO classification activities in the past. However, the emphasis has previously been on coding for situation analysis and research, not for casemix management. The DRG Implementation Team has made significant progress towards standardising coding procedures in a very short time. The project team has broad representation from the major players in the Romanian health system: the Ministry of Health and Family through the NCHS and the Institute for Health Services Management (IHSM), National Health Insurance House, Ministry of Finance, College of Physicians and project funder USAID.

Romania faces a challenging path in its bid to extend casemix funding from the initial 23 pilot hospitals to the remainder of the country and NCCH looks forward to providing further assistance in this work.



I-r: Caroline Stahl and Kerstin Fenkl , student interns from Germany, undertook projects at NCCH Brisbane

German student placements

The staff of the NCCH was pleased to welcome two German students to the Centre in late 2001.

Caroline Stahl returned to NCCH Brisbane following a successful internship with NCCH in 2000. During her six months with NCCH in 2001, Caroline worked on the thesis required to complete her Medical Documentation and Computer Science degree from the University of Ulm. Caroline developed an automated process for down loading international mortality data from a database created by the WHO, and has analysed cancer data for Australia, Germany and the United States using SAS.

Kerstin Fenkl spent 12 weeks working in Brisbane under the auspices of the NCCH. Kerstin completed a degree in hospital management last year at the University of Applied Science in Neu-Ulm. She approached the NCCH with a request to gain some hands-on experience of the Australian healthcare system, particularly the use of AR-DRGs that will be implemented in Germany in 2003.

Kerstin's first experience was a placement with the Mater Misericordiae Hospitals Group, arranged through the Casemix and Clinical Benchmarking Service. A second hospital placement was arranged with the Royal Brisbane Hospital's Clinical Costing Unit, which is part of the Finance Department. Both placements enabled her to learn about the management of hospital services, including the use of casemix data.

Distance education program for the Singapore Ministry of Health

During 2001, NCCH Brisbane continued its collaboration with the Faculty of Health and the Health Information Management Association of Australia, to provide distance education in casemix-related subjects to the Ministry of Health in Singapore. Garry Waller was appointed as distance tutor for these students and also conducted two face to face workshops in Singapore in November and May as part of the education program. A ceremony to mark the completion of the studies of the first cohort of students was also organised at the time of the inaugural Singapore Casemix Conference.

Use of ICD-10-AM coded data in the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA)

During April 2002, NCCH staff Rosemary Roberts and Sheree Gray undertook a short consultancy for the Health Services Branch, Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA), Canberra, concerning the department's use of ICD-10-AM coded data, data quality, mapping and data matching. The specific catalyst was the DVA use of the Hospital Purchasing System, HOTSPUR, for receipt and validation of morbidity data from the public sector.

The department was particularly interested in systems of electronic version control to enable use of data from multiple editions of ICD-10-AM and multiple data sources. There was also the need to compare disability database information with data on current episodes of care for veterans. DVA was also keen to assess the relevance to DVA information systems of various data editing mechanisms and NCCH quality measurement products such as the *Performance Indicators for Coding Quality*. A full report and recommendations on these issues and other needs such as education for DVA staff who create and use coded material was provided to the Health Services Branch at the end of May 2002.

Monash University National Centre for Coronial Information (MUNCCI)

NCCH Melbourne staff member, Karen Peasley, completed a secondment as Quality Assurance Officer at the Monash University National Centre for Coronial Information (MUNCCI) in December 2001 to return to her full-time role of manager, Quality and Education Division. The NCCH has negotiated with MUNCCI to maintain the current agreement into the 2003 financial year. Sue Wood joined the NCCH Melbourne staff in December 2001 and has replaced Karen at MUNCCI.

MUNCCI manages the National Coronial Information System (NCIS) on behalf of the Australian Coroners' Society, including systems development and analysis, program installation, help desk support, training and education of state coronial staff, and quality assurance (QA) of the database. The NCIS is a database of national coronial information used by coroners, researchers and a range of public sector agencies as a valuable hazard identification system and research tool. Some of the NCIS data items are coded by state coronial clerks, whilst other data items record narrative text, such as police narratives, autopsies, toxicology reports, and coroners' findings.

Performance Indicators for Coding Quality (PICQ) developments

A revised version of the NCCH software product *Performance Indicators for Coding Quality (PICQ)* was released to all current license holders in December 2001.

Queensland Trauma Registry (QTR)

In early 2001, NCCH Brisbane signed an agreement with the Queensland Trauma Registry (QTR) relating to the employment of a Quality Assurance (QA) and Training Officer. Modelled on the existing arrangement that NCCH has with the Monash University National Centre for Coronial Information, the QA and Training Officer is funded by QTR to work four days per week with the Registry and one day with NCCH. The principal tasks are to develop and implement a quality assurance program for the QTR and to assist the Registry's data collectors in using the Abbreviated Injury Scale (AIS) classification through the provision of education, management of regular coding quality meetings and a coding advisory service. For the NCCH, exploring the potential for synergy between the ICD-10-AM and the AIS, and the conduct of mortality quality assurance research, are primary objectives.

Andrea Besenyei has held the position of Quality Assurance and Training Officer since October 2001.

The NCCH believes that its new affiliation with the QTR is an example of a successful working relationship with benefits to both parties. We are delighted with the opportunity to develop expertise in the use of the AIS and to use our classification knowledge to assist in the development of the Trauma Registry.

5. PROMOTE

Promote the importance of health classifications within the framework of the national health information strategy

Promote the NCCH as an intrinsic part of the national health information landscape

Promulgate and disseminate knowledge about classification development, maintenance and application.

Promote the involvement of health care providers in creation and use of health classifications

NCCH Strategic Plan 2000-2005

Promoting NCCH health classifications

The biennial publication of revisions to ICD-10-AM is the core activity of the Centre. Publication years are intense and extremely busy conducting the work of publication, distribution and education. Plans to promote awareness about the Centre's work, particularly major publications, are established as part of the work plan for each project.

In 2002, a concerted effort has been made to inform classification users about ICD-10-AM Third Edition (electronic and print versions), as well as the *ICD-10-AM Mental Health* and *Early Parenting Manuals*. A suite of new brochures and order forms has been created and disseminated widely. A series of press releases was produced for health sector print media in Australia, and selected international media outlets.

Electronic health record environment

The Centre is committed to the investigation and eventual implementation of the electronic health record. A significant part that will be played by the NCCH is provision of a scientifically and technically robust electronic version of the paper-based version of the classification. To advance this vision, the NCCH has provided copies of the electronic version ('the browser') of the classification with all Third Edition full book sets. Work to create an enhanced version of the browser has been undertaken in 2002 and promotion of this product, the *ICD-10-AM eBook*, will commence in earnest as the launch date approaches.

Spreading the word

A number of strategies have been used to disseminate information about the work, products and services of the Centre in 2001–2002. Some promotional activities in 2001-2002 have been:

- attendance at national and international high-profile meetings and conferences by the Centre's Director and other senior staff
- representation on key decision-making committees in the Australian health information sector
- affiliations with specialist colleges to help ensure that clinicians are informed about products, services and enhancements that relate to their clinical speciality are received
- promotional activities such as displays and product demonstrations at Australia's major health data, casemix and health classification conferences
- targeted press releases to the media
- close ties with closely aligned agencies, such as the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, the Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian universities, federal, state and territory departments of health and professional bodies have been created and strengthened through communication and collaborative projects

- provision of communication and information resources, such as the Centre's listserver, *Code-L*, and newsletter, *Coding Matters*, help to ensure that information can be provided quickly and accurately for the Centre's clients.

Getting others involved

The NCCH uses a team approach in the creation and maintenance of its products and services. The Centre is fortunate to have developed close working relationships with many clinicians, learned colleges, professional associations, universities and corporations.

NCCH Sydney, located in the School of Health Information Management, Faculty of Health Sciences, The University of Sydney, has also negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding with the University's School of Public Health, to collaborate on matters of mutual interest in service, education and research.

International collaboration and consultation

An increasingly important aspect of the Centre's work involves collaboration with organisations outside Australia to provide education, training and consultancies.

The NCCH is committed to improving the quality of health data, to enhance

its usefulness in health service planning, delivery and evaluation.

The Centre has been invited to provide education and training in the creation, management and use of ICD-10 and ICD-10-AM in a number of countries in 2001-2002, including:

- Mauritius
- Myanmar
- Romania
- Seychelles
- Singapore
- Tonga
- Vietnam.

In the past, such consultancies have lead to close affiliations with both individuals and organisations. Repeat consultancies to expand upon skills are frequently negotiated.

Countries requesting consultancies are often those that are developing or rebuilding health services following periods of natural or civil unrest. NCCH staff returning from consultancies always comment about the professional and personal kindnesses provided by their hosts and impressions of eagerness to learn and apply their skills from trainees. The NCCH looks forward to providing similar services in the future.

As well as conducting consultancies, the Centre's staff has also worked with clients and colleagues from Germany, Japan, Thailand, Ireland and New Zealand.



*Commemorating the NCCH/Chulalongkorn University MOU
l-r: A/Professor Rosemary Roberts,
Professor Hal Kendig, Dr Pornarong
Chotiwan and Dr Wansa Paoin*



*Sue Walker presents Rachel Watson,
a graduating student from Queensland
University of Technology, with the
NCCH prize for Clinical Coding*

Memorandum of Understanding with Thailand

In September 2001, the NCCH was delighted to welcome a delegation of representatives from the Ministry of Public Health, Thammasat University and Chulalongkorn University in Thailand. During the visit, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Chulalongkorn University, Queensland University of Technology and the University of Sydney, relating to the sharing of NCCH experience in coding and casemix with the proposed Thai Centre for Classification in Health.

The NCCH looks forward to assisting the Thai Centre for Classification in Health to build ICD-10-TM (Thai Modification).

NCCH Prize for Clinical Coding

Each year, the NCCH awards incentives for the attainment of the highest marks in final year clinical coding subjects to students who are completing studies in health information management and clinical coding.

The recipients of the 2001 NCCH Prize for Clinical Coding were:

- Sarah McEwan
La Trobe University (Melbourne)
- Rachel Watson
Queensland University of Technology
- Rosemarie Radici
Curtin University (Perth)
- Maria Nguyen
The University of Sydney
- Ben Rohrer
The University of Sydney
- Margaret Duncan
Health Information Management Association of Australia Ltd
- Rodney Holmes
Open Training and Education Network – Distance Education.

NCCH web site **www.fhs.usyd.edu.au/ncch**

The NCCH has had a presence on the World Wide Web since 1996, and there is ample evidence to indicate that the web site is a frequently used resource by NCCH clients, partners and collaborators. The web site is created and maintained by NCCH staff, and is hosted by the University of Sydney.

A review of the information needs of clients, staff and other stakeholders resulted in a project to revise and enhance the web site. A project team has worked to improve the web site to make it more efficient, easier to navigate and more flexible so it will meet the present and future needs of all stakeholders.

The web site will provide enhancements such as a search facility, an index for 10-AM Commandments (a regular feature of the NCCH newsletter *Coding Matters* that provides guidance for clinical coders about code assignment) and bulletins about new NCCH initiatives, products and services.

The revised web site is planned for launch in late 2002.

Promotional material

A suite of brochures about the Centre's ICD-10-AM publications has been produced. The brochure designs capitalise upon the cover design of ICD-10-AM Third Edition.

This information was disseminated to key stakeholders and users in Australian hospitals and health services through a mail marketing campaign in June 2002.

6. PEOPLE

Acknowledge and reward excellence and expertise amongst NCCH staff

Build on experience and reputation of NCCH staff and provide an opportunity for broadening staff skills and knowledge

NCCH Strategic Plan 2000–2005

In 2001–2002, NCCH reached a staffing level of 31 full time equivalent staff (FTE) and several new staff joined the organisation at all three sites: Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne.

New team members in 2001-2002

Andrea Besenyei

Andrea Besenyei joined NCCH Brisbane in October 2001 as Quality Assurance and Training Officer for the Queensland Trauma Registry (QTR). She is a health information manager, with special interest and skills in quality assurance (QA) and data management.

Andrea's current role involves providing support for the QTR coding staff, Manager and Data Manager. She has introduced the QTR *Coder's Quarterly* newsletter, revised all data collection documents and is currently busy with the production of a new data collection and coding manual.



Andrea has been involved in its development to ensure data collection is as effortless as possible and the maximum number of data items are either self-generating or restricted to appropriate data ranges.

Alex Canduci

Alex Canduci was appointed to NCCH Sydney as the project manager for the



Australian Community-Based Health Services Codeset (ACBHSC) in December 2001. Alex, a 1989 University of Sydney health information management graduate, has a background in diseases classification, community health services, and in his most recent position at NSW Health, the ACBHSC.

The development of the ACBHSC is a major step towards achieving the NCCH's vision of integrating the language of health across sectors.

Karyn Chen

During July and August 2001 Karyn completed a third year undergraduate student placement at NCCH, and was inspired to make the NCCH her first professional position. Karyn was the successful applicant for her present role as project officer in the classification support division.

Karyn has been a contributor to the *ICD-10-AM Early Parenting Manual*, which is planned for publication in mid 2002, as well as a number of other projects in the Classification Support and Development Division.

Kerstin Fenkl

Germany will implement Australian Refined Diagnosis Related Groups (AR-DRGs) from early 2003, and Kerstin Fenkl, a recent graduate in health services management from Ulm in Germany, determined she would benefit from an internship in Australian hospitals and health services to develop her knowledge of casemix data collection and clinical coding.

Kerstin negotiated an internship through NCCH Brisbane and worked for both the Mater Hospitals group in Brisbane and the Royal Women's Hospital in early 2002.



Jacqui Hunt

Jacqui Hunt was appointed as Publications Officer at NCCH Sydney in March 2002. Jacqui brings particular skills in graphic design, project management and multimedia development to complement the skills of her colleagues in the Publications Division. Jacqui has been busy since joining the NCCH in creating the design template for the NCCH Monograph series, working on the revised NCCH web site and has taken up responsibility for production of the Centre's quarterly newsletter, *Coding Matters*.

Lisa Langtree

Lisa Langtree joined the NCCH Melbourne team in January 2002 as Project Officer in the Quality and Education Division. Lisa was educated as a health information manager at Melbourne's La Trobe University, and has spent the last few years of her career working as the manager of a health information service.

Lisa has been involved in the development of the train-the-trainer education program that will support implementation of the *ICD-10-AM Mental Health Manual* in mid 2002.



Lisa Richmond

Lisa Richmond was appointed to NCCH in June 2002 as project officer in the Classification Support and Development Division in the Sydney office. Lisa's work is in projects that contribute to the development of *ICD-10-AM Fourth Edition* which will be published in early 2004. Lisa is a graduate of the University of Sydney's School of Health Information Management and has worked at major Sydney hospitals in medical record departments.

Caroline Stahl

After completing a requirement leading to the degree of health information management from the Technical University of Ulm in Germany through NCCH Brisbane in 2001, Caroline Stahl returned in 2001-2002 to write her final dissertation. Caroline's project was to develop a means of reading data from the World Health Organization database into a statistical application and to create a capability to analyse international mortality data.



Sue Wood

In December 2001, Sue Wood was appointed as Quality Assurance Officer at NCCH Melbourne and is seconded to the Monash University National Centre for Coronial Information (MUNCCI). Sue's role requires that she spend 4 days at MUNCCI and one day at NCCH Melbourne each week.



Gerard Viswasam

Gerard Viswasam joined the NCCH team in the Sydney office in November 2001 in the recently created position of Business Director.



He is a key member of the senior management team and has responsibility for budget preparation, contract negotiation, tender proposals, marketing and developing the NCCH business plan.

Gerard's strong background in senior management positions in the health sector is a valuable asset and his contribution has helped guide the Centre through a significant period of growth and consolidation.

Gerard is a PhD candidate (University of Western Sydney) and his thesis topic is in the area of professional management of health services.

Staff undertaking higher degrees

The Centre also supports and encourages its staff to undertake higher degrees. In 2001–2002, staff worked towards attaining:

Employees	Degree	Status
Tung Wah (Sunny) Chan	PhD	Candidate (withdrew September 2001)
Grace Kwaan	Master of Health Information Management	Completed 2002
Kirsten McKenzie	PhD	Thesis submitted 2002
Donna Truran	PhD	Candidate
Gerard Viswasam	PhD	Candidate
Sue Walker	Master of Health Science	Completed 2001

Sydney Team



Director
Rosemary Roberts



Associate Director and
CSDD Manager Kerry Innes



Business Director
Gerard Viswasam



Corporate Relations Officer
Ann Jones



Research Officer
Donna Truran



Classification Support and Development Division staff
l-r: (Project Officers) Lisa Richmond, Megan Cumerlato, Linda Best,
Christine Erratt, Karyn Chen and Julie Rust



Project Officer
Kerri Chalmers



Classification Support and Development Division
team members: Nosologist Michelle Bramley, Project
Manager Ambulatory Classification Development
Alex Canduci, Project Officer Patricia Saad



Classification
Support Coordinator
Sheree Gray



Administration team
l-r: Office Manager Tina Stanhope,
Sales and Distribution Coordinator Catherine Stanhope,
Administrative Assistants Dana Merrin, Imelda Noti

Brisbane Team



Associate Director
Sue Walker



Senior Research Fellow
Shilu Tong



Brisbane staff members
l-r: Senior Research Assistant Kirsten McKenzie,
Project Officer Peter Scott,
Senior Classification Officer Garry Waller

Sydney Team



IT Staff
Systems Manager Colin Spowart and
Systems Administrator Nicole Schmidt



Training and Quality
Assurance Officer
Andrea Beseyeni



Publications Division
Publications Officers Jacqui Hunt, Elizabeth Azel
and Publications Manager Rodney Bernard

Melbourne Team



Quality and Education Manager
Karen Peasley



Quality and Education
Co-ordinator Shannon Watts

STAFF

Director

Associate Professor Rosemary Roberts AM, BA *Syd*, MPH *Syd*, MBA *Monash*

Associate Director (Sydney) and Manager, Classification Support and Development Division

Kerry Innes, AssocDip (MRA) *Cumb*

Associate Director (Brisbane)

Sue Walker, BAppSc (MRA) *Cumb*, GradDip(Public Health) *QUT*, MHLthSc *QUT*

Sydney

Administrative Division

Ann Jones BAppSci (Info) <i>UTS AALIA</i>	Corporate Relations Officer
Dana Merrin	Administrative Assistant
Imelda Noti	Administrative Assistant
Nicole Schmidt AssocDegAppSci(Resource Tech) <i>SCU</i>	Systems Administrator
Colin Spowart BBus(Computing) <i>UCQ</i>	Systems Manager
Catherine Stanhope	Sales & Distribution Co-ordinator
Tina Stanhope	Office Manager
Donna Truran BA(Psych)(Hons) <i>Syd</i>	Research Officer
Gerard Viswasam (from November 2001) BSc <i>Lond</i> , MSc(Econ), MPP <i>Syd</i>	Business Director

Classification, Support and Development Division

Linda Best AssocDip(MRA) <i>Cumb</i>	Project Officer
Michelle Bramley BAppSci(HIM) <i>Syd</i>	Nosologist
Alex Canduci (from December 2001) BAppSci(MRA) <i>Syd</i>	Project Manager Ambulatory Classification Development
Kerri Chalmers BBus(HlthAdmin) <i>QUT</i>	Project Officer
Tiffany Chan (maternity leave Jan–June 2002) MOpsMgt <i>UWS</i> , BAppSci(HIM) <i>Syd</i>	Project Officer
Karyn Chen (from January 2002) BAppSci(HIM) <i>Syd</i>	Project Officer
Megan Cumerlato BAppSci(HIM) <i>Syd</i>	Project Officer
Christine Erratt BBus(A/g) <i>UTS</i> , AssocDip(MRA) <i>Cumb</i>	Project Officer
Sheree Gray BSc (HIM) <i>Curtin</i>	Classification Support Co-ordinator
Judith Hooper (maternity leave February–June 2002) BAppSci(MRA) <i>Syd</i>	Project Officer
Monica Komaravalli (to September 2001) BAppSci(HIM) <i>Syd</i>	Project Officer
Grace Kwaan (to December 2001) BAppSci(MRT) <i>Syd</i> GradDip(HIM) <i>Syd</i>	Project Officer
Patricia Saad BAppSci(HIM)(Hons) <i>Syd</i>	Project Officer
Lisa Richmond (from June 2002) BAppSci(HIM) <i>Syd</i>	Project Officer
Julie Rust BAppSci(HIM) <i>Syd</i>	Project Officer
Jenny Seems (to May 2002)	Project Officer

Publications Division

Elizabeth Azel DipComm <i>Natal</i>	Publications Officer
Rodney Bernard GradDip(DesStud) <i>UTS</i>	Publications Manager
Chantel Garrett (to January 2002)	Publications Officer
Jacqui Hunt (from March 2002)	Publications Officer

Brisbane

Andrea Besenyei (from October 2001) BBus(HIM) <i>QUT</i>	Training & Quality Assurance Officer
Tung Wah (Sunny) Chan (to September 2001) BSocSci(Hons), MBA, MPubAdmin <i>HK</i>	PhD Fellow
Peter Harkness (to October 2001) BHlthServMgmt <i>CSU</i>	Training & Quality Assurance Officer
Kirsten McKenzie (maternity leave December 2001-May 2002) BSocSc(Psych) (Hons)	Senior Research Assistant
Peter Scott MBBS <i>UQ</i> , BA (InfoMgmt) <i>UQ</i>	Project Officer
Shilu Tong BMed <i>AMU</i> , MMed <i>BMU</i> , PhD <i>Adel</i>	Senior Research Fellow
Garry Waller BBus(HIM) <i>QUT</i>	Senior Classification Officer

Melbourne

Quality and Education Division

Lisa Langtree (January-June 2002) BAppSci(HIM) <i>La Trobe</i>	Project Officer
Karen Peasley AssocDip(MRA) <i>Cumb</i>	Quality & Education Manager
Shannon Watts BAppSci(MRA) <i>La Trobe</i>	Quality & Education Co-ordinator
Susan Wood (from December 2001) BAppSci(HIM) <i>La Trobe</i>	Quality & Assurance Officer

NCCH staff training and development 2001-2002

The NCCH is committed to maintaining and enhancing the skills and expertise of the Centre's staff. In 2001–2002, 33 staff members attended more than 382 hours of training and development courses.

Course	Attended by	Duration
Authorware	Elizabeth Azel Andrea Besenyei Linda Best Shannon Watts	2 days
Designing Professional Web Pages	Tina Stanhope	4 hours
Dreamweaver	Elizabeth Azel Rodney Bernard Jacqui Hunt Dana Merrin Imelda Noti Catherine Stanhope Tina Stanhope	2 days
Data Mining - An introduction	Kirsten McKenzie	2 days
Introduction to Peoplesoft	Dana Merrin	4 hours
Introduction to Visual Basic programming	Sheree Gray	25 hours
Marketing	Ann Jones	2 days
Microsoft Access Module 1 (Introduction)	Christine Erratt Julie Rust	2 days
Microsoft Access Module 2 (Advanced)	Sheree Gray	2 days
Microsoft Access Intermediate	Sue Walker Garry Waller	2 days
Microsoft Project	Tina Stanhope	2 days
MYOB	Dana Merrin Imelda Noti Catherine Stanhope Tina Stanhope	1 day
Pagemaker Module 1 (Introduction)	Dana Merrin	2 days
PM&D Workshop for Supervisors/Reviewers	Rodney Bernard Kerry Innes Karen Peasley Tina Stanhope Rosemary Roberts	1 day
Writing Reports and Proposals	Colin Spowart	1 day

Other important people

The NCCH is assisted in its work by many that serve in the Centre's committees and provide their time and expertise in many ways. In 2001–2002, we have been especially grateful to receive support from:

Professor Bruce Armstrong, *Head*,
School of Public Health,
The University of Sydney

Dr Claire Baxter, *Director*,
Business Liaison Office,
The University of Sydney

Professor Justin Beilby, *Head*,
Department of General Practice,
Faculty of Medicine,
The University of Adelaide

Professor Ken Bowman, *Dean*,
Faculty of Health, Queensland
University of Technology

Peter Broadhead, *Assistant Secretary*,
Acute and Co-ordinated Care Branch,
Department of Health and Ageing

Joanne Callen, *Head*,
School of Health Information
Management, The University of Sydney

Dr Cynthia Cliff, *Special Projects
Manager*, Faculty of Health,
Queensland University of Technology

Clinical Classification and Coding Groups members

Professor Stephen Duckett, *Dean*,
Faculty of Health Sciences,
La Trobe University

Associate Professor Aleksandar Janca,
Professor of Psychiatry,
University of Western Australia

Dr Desley Kassulke, *Manager*,
Queensland Trauma Registry

Professor Hal Kendig, *Dean*,
Faculty of Health Sciences,
The University of Sydney

Professor Brian Oldenburg, *Head*,
School of Public Health, Queensland
University of Technology

Kerin Robinson, *Head*, School of
Health Information Management,
La Trobe University

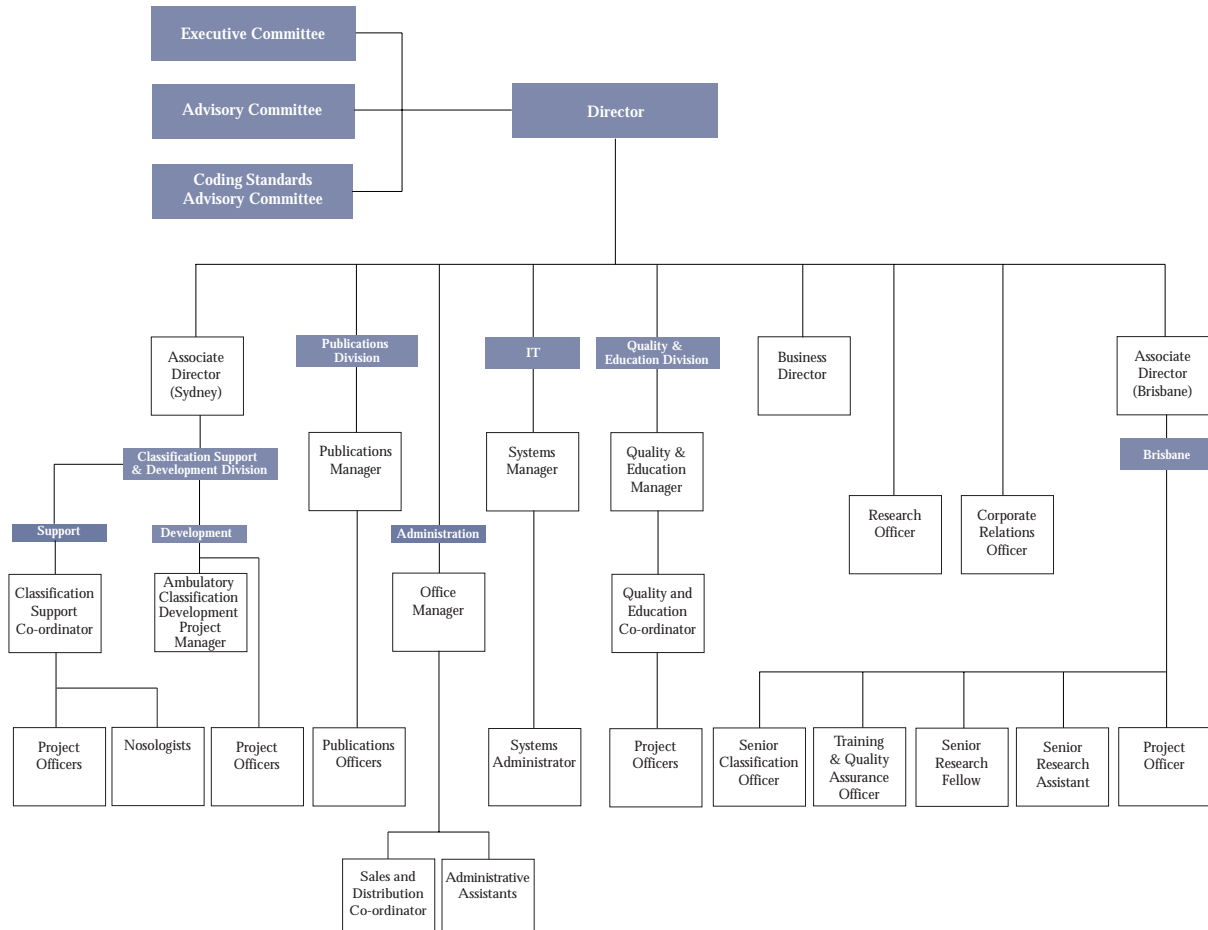
Danny Rock, *Deputy Director (Acting)*,
Centre for Clinical Research in
Neuropsychiatry

Rebecca Smith, *Project Manager*,
Monash University National Centre for
Coronial Information

Dr Don Walker, Faculty of Medicine,
The University of Adelaide

Peter Williams, *Chair*,
NCCH Executive Committee

ORGANISATIONAL CHART



PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Performance indicators

As well as specifying six major initiatives, the NCCH strategic plan sets out some qualitative and quantitative performance indicators that can measure our success.

Significant achievements have been made during 2001–2002:

2001–2002 NCCH at a glance

Indicator	Number	Number
	2001–2002	2000–2001
Number of employees (EFT)	43	41
Staff development courses attended (days)	48	9.5
Procedure codes in ICD-10-AM Third Edition	5 926	-
Procedure codes in ICD-10-AM Second Edition	-	5 945
Codes in ICD-10-AM Third Edition	21 853	-
Codes in ICD-10-AM Second Edition	-	20 104
New publications and products	20	24
Publications sold in 2001-2002	5 634	5 374
Contributions to journals and conferences	19	14
People who served on NCCH committees	54	35
Organisations on which NCCH is represented	17	20
Coding queries received	103	134
Subscribers to <i>Code-L</i> (30 June 2002)	693	662
International visitors to the NCCH	46	15

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SYDNEY

INCOME	2001/2002	2000/2001
Commonwealth government grants	1 448 611	1 476 157
State government grants		76 000
Conferences, seminars and workshops	120 230	182 719
Consultancies	131 986	276 702
Income – internal transfers	50 000	
Interest	45 809	45 279
Other income	64 283	(128 109)
Sales – ICD	674 290	201 902
Sales – other publications	(23 485)	558 275
Sales – PICQ and ACBA software	11 161	37 160
Total income	2 522 885	2 726 085
EXPENDITURE		
Salaries	1 466 641	1 098 557
Salary oncosts	375 815	293 163
<i>Sub-total salaries</i>	<i>1 842 456</i>	<i>1 391 720</i>
Administration fee	289 703	315 314
Advertising	14 933	3 498
Communications	36 040	51 339
Consultants	46 390	286 582
Contractors	116 227	75 848
Education and training	73 778	17 026
Equipment and maintenance	133 329	69 262
Library	1 770	1 585
NCCCH Coding Prize	700	1 000
Other expenses	152 495	127 912
Printing – ICD	200 135	28 699
Printing – other	82 727	110 595
Stores/consumables	18 811	25 437
Travel	94 647	109 975
<i>Sub-total non salaries</i>	<i>1 261 685</i>	<i>1 224 072</i>
Total expenditure	3 104 141	2 615 792
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	(581 256)	110 293
Accumulated surplus/deficit B/forward	1 830 077	1 719 784
Transfer to reserves	500 000	
Accumulated surplus/deficit C/forward	748 821	1 830 077

BRISBANE

INCOME	2001/2002	2000/2001
University of Sydney (DoHA funding)	112 116	93 266
Australian Bureau of Statistics	56 250	45 000
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	64 125	61 254
QUT Strategic Links Grant	165 000	20 000
QUT School of Public Health	10 000	10 000
QUT Faculty of Health	10 000	10 000
QUT- Interest	85	117
Queensland Health		1 417
Royal Brisbane Hospital (Qld Trauma Registry)	54 038	
Project income: World Health Organization	15 541	9 909
Project income: Singapore Ministry of Health	688	5 000
Project income: TAFE Global Pty Ltd	17 391	
Project income: Melbourne Enterprises International		43 412
Total income	505 233	299 375
EXPENDITURE		
Salaries	245 880	126 786
Salary oncosts	50 563	30 112
<i>Sub-total salaries</i>	<i>296 443</i>	<i>156 899</i>
Stores/consumables	2 626	9 419
Equipment and maintenance	5 666	2 375
Hire of facilities and services		1 652
Communications	1 578	2 479
Administration fees	47 289	41 005
Advertising	1 744	
Travel	29 717	39 808
Printing and photocopying	4 518	1 029
Scholarship	3 133	17 838
Other expenses	540	843
<i>Sub-total non salaries</i>	<i>96 812</i>	<i>116 448</i>
Total expenditure	393 255	273 347
SURPLUS/DEFICIT		
111 978	26 028	
Accumulated surplus/deficit B/forward	154 657	128 629
Accumulated surplus/deficit C/forward	266 635	154 657
Committments		
Income		
University of Sydney (Romania project)	24 000	
Accumulations after committments	290 635	



Annual Report 2001-2002

Editor: **Ann Jones**

Art Direction & Production: **Rodney Bernard**

Graphic Design & Layout: **Opi Nelson**

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National Centre for
Classification in Health