



WHO-FIC SA 2013

WHO-FIC in South Africa report

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Abstract A wide range of projects related to the development and implementation of the WHO-FIC continues to be undertaken by stakeholders. Working groups on ICF and ICD-10 hospital mortality statistics have met under the auspices of WHO-FIC SA, and there is active participation in ICD-11 and ICHI development. A virtual network of WHO-FIC SA stakeholders is being set up on the African Health Observatory platform with the support of WHO/AFRO.

Overview

The WHO-FIC collaborating centre in South Africa (WHO-FIC SA) based at the South African Medical Research Council (MRC) is now in its second year of designation. Activities related to the WHO-FIC continue to be carried out by a wide range of WHO-FIC SA stakeholders, mainly in South Africa and Mozambique, but also in other countries in the region.

Networking between stakeholders

Networking between stakeholders is a key component of WHO-FIC SA activities. Multiple initiatives are being undertaken:

- WHO-FIC SA newsletter distributed to stakeholders
- **The establishment of a virtual network of WHO-FIC SA stakeholders on the platform provided by the African Health Observatory of WHO/AFRO** reflects the benefit of collaboration between collaborating centres and WHO regional offices.
- Establishment of a Dropbox site to disseminate information on the ICF to those in South Africa and the rest of Africa who have expressed interest.
- Initial contacts in Namibia.

New members of the WHO-FIC

ICD-11

- Participation in MTAG, MbTAG, and multiple vertical TAGs: MRC and other South African organisations

ICHI

- WHO-FIC SA participation in ICHI management group and ICHI Technical Working Group.

ICD-10

ICD-10 morbidity

- In South Africa, implementation of ICD-10 as the national standard for diagnosis coding is driven by the National ICD-10 Task Team of the national Department of Health.
- The Task Team has established multiple subcommittees including:
 - Morbidity technical
 - Training
 - Privacy and security
 - Communication and compliance.

ICD-10 (cont)

ICD-10 mortality

- The national Department of Health (especially through the National ICD-10 Task Team) Statistics South Africa, the Department of Home Affairs and the MRC are significant stakeholders in the development and implementation of ICD-10 for recording mortality in South Africa.
- The MRC undertook training of doctors in medical certification of death on contract to Statistics South Africa.
 - Training resources have been developed
 - Approximately 370 doctors were trained using a train-the-trainer model.
- WHO-FIC SA has sponsored membership of the IRIS Institute for one year to enable access to support on the use of IRIS for Statistics South Africa and the Western Cape Department of Health in particular.

ICF

Activities related to the ICF:

- Training: Short training sessions run in Kigali and Harare for approximately 60 people in total, mostly rehabilitation personnel: University of Cape Town (UCT);
- Research: Use of WHODAS2 in large scale community survey, and recruitment of PhD student to investigate use of ICF within hospital record system in Kigali (UCT);
- Contribution to ICF Practical Guidelines: UCT and University of Stellenbosch (US);
- Contributions to ICF development through the ICF update platform (UCT);
- Ongoing evaluation of the use of the ICF framework in health professional training (US);
- **WHO-FIC SA convened a working group in February 2013 to discuss use of ICF for routine data collection**
 - There are ongoing activities related to this initiative.
- Presentations related to WHO-FIC and ICF at the UCT Rehabilitation Research Conference in September 2013: WHO-FIC SA and US.

WHO-FIC in Mozambique

- *The collaboration between WHO-FIC SA and Mozambique in the field of mortality and vital statistics facilitated the exposure of the Mozambique situation to the international community and obtain significant attention and support. Specific activities facilitated through WHO-FIC SA and/or MRC included the following:*
- Mozambique participation at the UNECA meeting in Addis Ababa and other UN meetings related to the WHO-FIC and vital registration
- Formulation of the Mozambican MOVE-IT project
- Presentation of a comprehensive proposal on vital statistics assessment for Mozambique that eventually was approved by WHO, UNECA, UNICEF and the local authorities in Mozambique. This assessment is on going and will open the door to the national reform of Mozambican vital statistics.
- **Collaboration between WHO-FIC SA and Mozambique in a working meeting on vital statistics at facility level convened by WHO-FIC SA in Cape Town in May 2013** provided the Mozambican Ministry of Health the opportunity to explain to South African colleagues
 - the successes achieved with facility-based registration of deaths, and
 - the methodology used to ensure sustainability and data quality.

Next steps for WHO-FIC SA

- Strengthen contacts and activities beyond South Africa & Mozambique.
- Identify resources for new projects, including potential field testing of ICD-11 and ICHI.
- Increase participation by individuals and organisations in WHO-FIC SA and WHO-FIC Network activities.

