ICHI
The new interventions classification for every health system

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International Classification of Health Interventions

World Health Organization
ICHI is the World Health Organization’s new classification for reporting and analyzing health interventions.

ICHI is the companion classification to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) and the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF).

The classification provides Member States, service providers, managers, and researchers with a common tool for reporting and analyzing health interventions for statistical, quality and reimbursement purposes.

ICHI is designed for use at all levels of health systems. As an international standard it enables comparison of data between countries and services.

ICHI can be used directly for data collection or as a base for developing national classifications. ICHI provides a common structure to which codes in national classifications can be mapped to compile international data.

**Comprehensive content**

ICHI is a classification describing what health systems do. ICHI uses three axes to describe interventions: Target, Action and Means. It is profession and setting neutral.

**ICHI describes the health system**

ICHI includes medical, surgical, primary care, community health, rehabilitation, allied health, mental health, nursing and public health interventions. ICHI contains more than 7,000 interventions. Further detail such as medical or assistive products can be added using extension codes.

Intervention codes may be used to describe interventions and packages of interventions delivered to individuals, groups, or populations.
A RANGE
OF USES

Countries with no classification of health interventions
ICHICan be used directly as a tool for collecting information on what is being provided at the various levels of a country’s health system.

Countries currently using ICD-9-CM Volume 3
The U.S. interventions classification ICD-9-CM Volume 3 has been used by many countries. It will not be maintained in the future. A subset of ICHI is available to replace ICD-9-CM Volume 3.

Adding ICHI material to national classifications
Countries may extend their national classifications by incorporating ICHI’s broader range of interventions.

Countries with existing national classifications
Mapping to ICHI codes will enable comparison of data between countries and services.

Countries wishing to develop their national classification
As opportunities arise, ICHI provides a common base for national classification redevelopment.

A health interventions classification is essential health information infrastructure to support the running of a health system

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The United Nations General Assembly adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015.

As an international standard, ICHI can be used to track progress towards achievement of health-related SDGs.
Universal Health Coverage

Universal Health Coverage (UHC) is a major WHO priority. ICHI can be used to describe essential health interventions that must be available to all people, such as ante-natal care, measles vaccination, and hypertension treatment.

Patient safety and quality

The three WHO classifications ICD, ICF and ICHI can be used together to capture data on patient safety and quality. ICHI codes are available to describe both interventions implicated in adverse events and interventions delivered to remedy adverse outcomes.

Health system performance

ICHI can be used to report on performance parameters such as:
- surgery waiting times
- frequency of specific interventions
- clinical pathways.

Public health

ICHI will provide a basis for collecting, reporting and analysing data on population-level health promotion and disease prevention efforts.

NOW AVAILABLE

The latest ICHI version is now available and free to view online:

https://mitel.dimi.uniud.it/ichi/

Comments on the classification are welcome through the online platform. (To provide comments, click ‘Sign in’ and create a free registered user account.)