

Ref.: C.L.2.2017

The World Health Organization (WHO) presents its compliments to Member States and Associate Members and has the honour to inform them that this year presents a major milestone towards the finalization of the 11th Revision of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11) as WHO seeks comments on the 2016 version of the ICD-11.

Hundreds of individuals and institutions have greatly contributed to the revision process over several years, web platforms have been created to seek broad inputs from around the world, and numerous technical committees have been intensively working to find the best solutions for complex problems. Financial resources from core and voluntary contributions of Member States and special organizations, particularly the Japan Hospital Association, made it possible to make steady progress.

In July 2016, WHO informed Member States and Associate Members of the Conference on the 11th Revision of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11) and requested comments regarding key statistical requirements on the revised ICD-11 in order to guide WHO in the final stages of the development.

The focus for ICD-11 development has been to deliver health information for the 21st century, reflect advances in medical and scientific knowledge, make improvements to design and function of the classification, and to make full use of modern information technology. In the new information era, ICD must be functional across a range of health system and programmes.

WHO is seeking this feedback from Member States on the ICD-11 release. Users can browse the ICD-11 2016 content here: <http://apps.who.int/classifications/icd11/release>.

There are three key areas where WHO is seeking Member State feedback:

1. ICD-11 Advances: Member State feedback is requested on

- **Chapter Updates** – including new approaches for cancer, diabetes, hypertension, maternal conditions, dementia, injuries, accidents, and infectious diseases.
- **New Data Options** – including the additional coding options for anatomy, histopathology, causal agents, laterality and severity stage; as well as the new chapter for traditional medicine diagnosis.

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- **Improved Breadth and Depth of Information** – including the use of extension codes or through clustering entities to provide more detail as well as the possibilities for production of different versions that present the diseases from the perspective of a single specialty.
 - **ICD-11 Multilingual Features** – including the new translation platform.
- 2. ICD Implementation Needs:** WHO is seeking comment on country implementation needs, recognizing that better data will be delivered in a modern electronic environment.
- 3. Data Priorities:** Finally, as noted in the recent WHO World Health Statistics report and at the Tokyo ICD-11 Revision Conference, there is even stronger demand for quality country mortality and morbidity statistics at national level. In relation to ICD-11 finalization, WHO is seeking comments on future data priorities from Member States.

Member States can provide their comments in these three areas via email to the following address: icd@who.int on or before 30 June 2017. Responses must include the following Member State contact information:

- Name
- Email
- Position Title
- Department/Office/Agency within the Ministry of Health or appropriately designated government agency
- Country

The World Health Organization takes this opportunity to renew to the Member States and Associate Members the assurance of its highest consideration.

GENEVA, 23 January 2017