ICD-10-AM FOURTH EDITION FORECAST

Through the update process, the ICD-10-AM Fourth Edition has been improved with a number of important changes.

Diagnoses

As we go to press (November) there is still some fine-tuning to do before ICD-10-AM Fourth Edition is finished, so the following list gives nearest approximations to the final count:

New disease codes – 137

Modified disease codes – 59

Deleted disease codes – 9

Diabetes

Following the ICD-10-AM Third Edition education sessions and subsequent queries received by the NCCH, minor changes have been made to the classification of diabetes mellitus. A few enhancements have also been made in line with recent progress in certain clinical aspect of diabetes and its relationship with other medical conditions.

Review of mental health codes

A number of fifth character codes have been created for existing ICD-10-AM mental health codes (Chapter V, *Mental and Behavioural Disorders*). This will increase the specificity of the codes and create consistency with *ICD-10 Classification of Mental and Behavioural Disorders – Clinical descriptions and diagnostic guidelines* (WHO).

Review of Chapter XIII, Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue

A review of the ICD-10-AM Chapter XIII *Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue* has resulted in the deletion of a number of clinically illogical fifth character codes. New fifth character codes have been created to increase the specificity of present ICD-10-AM codes.

Birth defects

A public submission was received from the NSW Birth Defects Register (BDR) suggesting an increase in the specificity of a number of codes classifiable to Chapter XVII *Congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities.* The work undertaken in ICD-10-AM Third Edition has continued with further modifications being made to ICD-10-AM Fourth Edition following the changes implemented from The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (formerly The British Paediatric Association) into the parent classification, ICD-10 (WHO).

Venom immunotherapy

A public submission suggested introducing new codes to identify specific types of allergen sensitivity.

Z51.6 Desensitisation to allergen has been expanded to the fifth character to allow specification of the type of allergen to which the patient is being desensitised.

X23.2 Contact with wasps has been expanded to the fifth character to allow specification of wasp species.

Procedures

New procedure codes – 307

Deleted procedure codes – 177

Modified procedure codes – 333

New block codes – 1

Deleted blocks – 6

Modified block titles – 31

Inclusion of the Australian Schedule of Dental Services and Glossary, Seventh Edition

The Australian Schedule of Dental Services and Glossary, Seventh Edition was released in 2002. It contains a number of amended, reinstated, renumbered, deleted and new items. Relevant changes have been incorporated into ICD-10-AM Fourth Edition.

Anaesthesia

Major changes to the classification of anaesthesia were introduced in ICD-10-AM Third Edition in July 2002. ICD-10-AM Third Edition education activities and coding queries have highlighted a number of areas that require further refinement. This work has been completed for Fourth Edition.

Pain management

It was noted at the Classification Update Forum (CUF) on Anaesthesia that a review of the procedure codes for pain management would need to be undertaken. It was suggested that this should be done with the assistance of clinicians specialising in pain management rather than anaesthetists.

A public submission and a number of queries regarding pain management procedures were also received. Consequently, a review of pain management procedures has been performed for ICD-10-AM Fourth Edition with the creation of a number of new codes, the modification or deletion of others and improvements to the alphabetic idex of procedures.

Standardisation of 'tumour' and 'lesion' in block and code titles

It had been noted that there was inconsistent use of terminology in the Australian Classification of Health Interventions (ACHI) in relation to tumours and lesions. In order to standardise the terminology, a number of block and code titles have been amended or deleted to substitute, where applicable, the more general term 'lesion' for the more specific term 'tumour'.

Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS)

ICD-10-AM Fourth Edition will include modifications to ACHI based on MBS changes from November 2001, May 2002 and November 2002.

Drug administration

A review of all codes in ACHI related to drug administration (excluding those for anaesthesia, perfusion and pain management procedures) has been undertaken for Fourth Edition. A new block, *Pharmacotherapy*, has been added to the classification with new procedure codes that have a split on route of administration and drug type.

Australian Coding Standards (ACS)

New Australian Coding Standards – 2

Deleted Australian Coding Standards – 3

Modified Australian Coding Standards – 56

A review of all ACS was performed in conjunction with the amendments to the Tabular List of Diseases and Tabular List of Procedures. This has resulted in the addition of new standards, deletion of irrelevant standards and modification of a number of other standards to reflect the changes for Fourth Edition.

Publication information

ICD-10-AM Fourth Edition will be published in February 2004, for implementation from 1 July 2004. ICD-10-AM will be available as

■ Five volumes in hard copy, with optional slipcases

■ eBook, the electronic version, which can be networked for designated numbers of users, or as stand alone options. The eBook's features include global notes, which allows an administrator to create or edit notes that can be seen by all users, and a personal notes field. Links make looking up Australian Coding Standards and the latest published information from 10-AM Commandments easy and fast

■ electronic code list – an ASCII comma delimited file

Ordering information is enclosed with this edition of *Coding Matters* and can be obtained from **www.fhs.usyd.edu.au/ncch**

Fourth Edition Education

The model for delivery for Fourth Edition education will be similar to that used for Third Edition education. This will include on-line education via the web, CD-ROM for those without access to the Internet and optional face-to-face workshops. Details will be available early in 2004.