

# **Terms of Reference for WHO Revision Steering Group for the ICD Revision**

## **Purpose of RSG**

A Revision Steering Group will serve as the planning and steering authority in the update and revision process.

## **Method of Work of TAG HIM**

The Revision Steering Group will focus on the following issues:

1. Oversee the revision process and give advice for coordination of workgroups: RSG will review the content of the revision process and will aim to ensure adequate coverage of all chapters and codes to ascertain the input from existing clinical modifications of the ICD and other WHO-FIC members, and maintain continuity between 10th and 11th editions.
2. In addition it will see to whether the full scope of health care diseases and related health conditions (such as traditional medicine entries) are congruent with the overall structure. RSG will also make suggestions about the overall progress of the revision process, and synthesis of different inputs including field trials as well as participation from various regions, countries, languages and multiple stakeholders including NGOs.
3. Identify uses of the classification and ensure that the revision process addresses the needs of users: RSG will ensure that the main uses of ICD for mortality and morbidity are maintained, and oversee proposals for other uses the classification; and preserve coherence and consistency of the description of entities between the interlinked versions of ICD for Primary Care, Clinical care and Research
4. Identify basic taxonomic and ontological principles: RSG will observe the consistency and coherence of basic taxonomic and ontological principles across the overall revision process including:
  - Key definitions: disease, disorder, syndrome, sign, symptom, trauma, external cause...
  - Separation of disability and joint use with ICF
  - Attributes: etiology, pathophysiology, intervention response, genetic base...
  - Linkages to other classifications and ontologies
5. Generate suggestions to resolve problems and ways to field test options as necessary: RSG will make suggestions to solve problems or conflicts arising across different proposals, and may make suggestions for field trials to gather empirical data for their solution. This area of function may include comorbidity coding, inference of causality in coding rules, and indexing.

- Develop plans and tools for transition from ICD-10 to ICD-11: Identify requirements for users to adopt ICD-11 including coding guidelines, cross walks, electronic tools, and educational materials.

### Composition and Membership

The Revision Steering Group will communicate on an ongoing basis by email, have monthly telephone conference calls, and will convene at least twice annually for an in-person meeting. The composition of the Revision Steering Group will be as follows:

- The chairs of the Topic Advisory Groups in the Revision Process
- Representatives of the WHO-FIC Network (chairs of the Update and Revision; Family Development Committee, and Planning Committees)
- Other invited terminology, classification and public health experts
- Responsible WHO officers

The Revision Steering Group may invite consultants and other members of the Topic Advisory Groups and related workgroups as necessary to take part in their meetings.

Membership should reflect geographical distribution, represent a variety of settings and have relevant expertise and experience.

The group will be chaired by one person appointed by WHO.

The life span of the group is limited to the ICD-11 development process at present 2015.

## ICD Revision Organizational Structure

