

Improvements in the Health Information System in Cape Verde

Vera Andrade (WHO Cape Verde) and Ivone Santos
(MOH Cape Verde)
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Abstract Description of the Primary Health Care Information System (SIS), covering public and private health institutions, their users, and their illnesses and health problems. Information is gathered in paper form, with electronic collection predicted for 2010. The tools used are ICD 10 and PESQCID. The results obtained have contributed to an improvement in the functioning of the SIS.

Introduction

SIS - Primary Health Care Information System (2008)

A set of computer modules which integrate various different programs, allowing the monitoring of the state of health of the population and improvement in the functioning of the institutions in the sector.

SIS computerized (2010)

Based on the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) and on the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICFH).

Overview of the Primary Health Care System

96% (181/189) of all health care visits made in primary care facilities.

Primary Care Settings/ Structures (2008)

Structures	NF	%
Community Services	112	59.3
Primary Care Practices	34	18.0
Ambulatory Centres	35	18.5
Hospitals	5	2.6
Other Practices	3	1.6
Total	189	100

Public and Private Sector share in overall health care and primary health care

	Public	Private
Overall Health Care	189	100
Primary Health Care	181	0

Information Sharing

Between primary care and secondary care in public sector.

Information Collection

- Mandated by government authorities

Legislation

- Mandatory information collection
- Mandatory coding (ICD) information

Use of Health Information in the following:

- Medical record keeping
- Facility activity monitoring
- Quality monitoring
- Patient safety
- Measurement and evaluation

Methods & Materials

Coding System used for diagnoses in primary care:

PESQCID (developed by Ministry of Health/DATASUS/Brazil)
- Program to facilitate the codification of diseases using the ICD 10, making it possible, on the basis of specifying several terms, to search for the codes which correspond to the stated criteria.
- Installation of the ICD 10 disease codification system and the PESQCID search program in the computers of the health facilities.

Information Capture and Coding is done by: (i) physicians; (ii) nurses; (iii) non-medical coders (health statistics technicians)

Information Aggregation from each primary care to the highest following level: (i) Village/ Neighborhood; (ii) District; (iii) Region (only one existing Region*); (iv) National

(* 27% of the overall population and 40 % of the rural population in Cape Verde.

Paper Based Materials consists of:

(i) individual health records (each individual has a record), (ii) household records (each household is listed by members living in it) and (iii) facility records (a log book of activities kept in a facility).

2010: Electronically collected materials will be available for all the health sectors. A health information system will be implemented with data about mortality and morbidity. This Electronic Sanitary Information System is part of the Cape Verde e-gov project developed by Operational Unit for the Information Society (NOSI).

Models, Routines and Standards:

(i) standardizing of the routine and design of the health monitoring system for the Santiago Norte area (pilot area); (ii) installation of the ICD 10 disease codification system in 1995 and the PESQCID search program in 2008; (iii) standardizing the data collection procedures and tools at the different medical attention levels.

Training of healthcare professionals:

(i) teaching of Coding System in Nursing Courses; (ii) ICD 10: codification of mortality and morbidity; (iii) Pesq ICD 10; (iv) Production of SIS kit (manuals and training materials) which is being tested for the Santiago Norte area.

Results

✓Records of causes of death:

- Improvement in the quality of recorded causes of death – reduction in unclassified causes.

- Development of an epidemiological analyses on causes of death 1995-2008, with geographic distribution of the main causes.

✓Qualification of the Health Information System:

- Gathering all indicators requested by the government and international organs.

- Organization of the national mortality data bank (1995-2008).

Conclusions

With improvements in the Health Information System after successive activities for mastering the utilization of ICD 10, Cape Verde is now capable of:

✓Analyzing the health situation since the local level to national level.

✓Maintaining regular and functional information on MDG and national health system indicators.

✓Providing the country with standardized healthcare information.

✓Integrating different information systems.

Challenges

✓To implement ICHI

✓To scale up the CID10 and ICHI training all over the country

✓To implement new tools such as SMS messenger, using ICD10 to report diseases in real time.

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