

Case Study Discussion

Malaysia

Agenda

- Why ICD is important
 - What type of health information is needed, for what purpose
- Who is responsible for coding
- Strategies for advocacy and gaining commitment
- Education of medical doctors on ICD

Why do we use ICD

- Standardised system for
 - International comparison and surveillance of diseases
 - Local disease patterns for planning (eg prioritisation of services)
 - Reimbursement systems
 - Performance measurement

Who codes

Influenced by pay differential between doctors and coders

■ Korea

- Primary coding by doctors
- Formally trained (university level) coders for final coding

■ Laos

- Codes aggregate data not patient level data

■ Malaysia

- Medical record officer – need not have medical background, some formal training

■ Mongolia

- Mixed : inpatient – statistician (graduates who multitask), outpatient - doctor

■ Papua New Guinea

- Provincial health information officers (trained)
- Medical records officers – few are medically oriented

■ Singapore

- Professional coders (DRG)
- Medical record officers – trained on the job

Strategies for Advocacy and Gaining Commitment

- Importance of data quality increases when it is used
 - Researchers
 - Epidemiologist
 - Funder
 - Regulator
 - Policy maker

Example from Korea:

Cost effectiveness of national cancer screening programme

Strategies for Advocacy and Gaining Commitment

- Extending the scope of ICD to better meet “customer” requirements
 - Procedure classification system
- Need for quality assurance of diagnosis
 - Good coders or classification system is not useful if doctors are gaming system by making “false” diagnosis eg flu “diagnosed” as dengue

Strategies for Advocacy and Gaining Commitment

- Set realistic progressive goals

Eg if we require laboratory confirmation before codes can be assigned, resistance would be higher

Education of medical doctors on ICD

- Challenge
 - Little time within a tight medical undergraduate curriculum
- Alignment of incentives
 - reimbursement structure
- Book coding vs Computer assisted coding
 - Need to understand the logic behind code assignment

Implementation Issues

- Assessment of success of implementation should be consistent with level of development of the country
- Sustainability
 - Financial commitment must come internally
 - Technical expertise can come from outside