

Improving cause of death data :experiences from Fiji

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Identify two achievements relevant to the topic

- Policy changes have been made to update the medical certificate of death to ensure consistency with the ICD.
 - Training of medical doctors on medical certification of death certificates (MCDC) by internal trainers
- Use of automated coding tool IRIS
 - IRIS is an interactive coding system
 - Codes causes of death automatically and
 - Selects the underlying cause of death automatically
 - Improvement in the overall IRIS tool automated coding from 40% to 60%.



Death Data Coding in IRIS flow diagram

Death data extracted from PATIS and uploaded into IRIS

Death data

entered into

PATIS from

MCDC

Causes of death are coded and underlying cause of death is assigned Rejects are coded manually and IRIS dictionary updated Causes of Death and Underlying Cause of Death is uploaded Back into PATIS Describe two major challenges and how they can be addressed?

- Enforcement of legislation (BDM Act) and Review of Health Medical records policy (inclusion of physical storage, archival, EMR, social media concerns).
- Lack of adequate medical recorders and clinical coders that require training for coders on ICD10 and ICD10AM

Highlight a couple of recommendations that could be given to other countries based on this experience.

- Leadership and Governance
- Get technical support and assistance from experts
- Documentation of processes
- Sustainability options
- Investment into appropriate resources



Discuss the potential roles of regional support in further progress

- Support the trainings for coders on ICD10 and ICD10AM
- Establishment of a regional coding or training centre
- Establishment of a team of experts that provides roving support to countries on IRIS implementation
- Establish mechanisms that enable south-south collaboration between countries with adequate funding resources.
- Assist countries to write up and jointly publish success stories (IRIS, Information Systems, Outreach, National Committee) that can be shared through common medium (GetinthePicture website, social media, accredited journals etc.)