

Department of Health Information Management
Master of Health Information Management

2012 Bridging Course in Health Classification (Clinical Coding)

What is the aim of this Bridging Course?

Incoming Graduate-entry Master of Health Information Management students are required to undertake this short Bridging Course to gain a basic understanding of the structure and function of the diagnosis and operative procedure classification system (ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS). The ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS comprehensively provides for the classification ('coding') of all diagnoses, operative procedures and health and treatment interventions. The codes allocated are used in the health care industry throughout Australia and in several other countries for health data collection, hospital and health service funding, health service planning, and epidemiological research.

The Bridging Course is only for students entering directly into the Master degree. It is not for combined degree students (BHSc & MHIM) or single degree (BHIM [International] students; these students learn this material in the undergraduate curriculum.

The Bridging Course offers fundamental training to underpin the clinical coding knowledge and skills that students will subsequently develop in their *Health Classification & Clinical Coding subjects* during the Master degree. Students ultimately develop skills for applying the codes and standards to interpret and extract information from patients' acute care hospital records, definition of principal diagnosis, additional diagnosis, and procedures.

Who should enrol in the Bridging Coding course?

All incoming MHIM students are expected to complete the Bridging Course.

If you have completed a sub-tertiary clinical coding course and work as a Clinical Coder, please contact Dr Diana Cheng in the first instance so that she can assess your status for the Bridging Course.

Signing-up

Please email confirmation of your intention to attend, so that we can finalise teaching materials:

- Dr Diana Cheng
- Email: D.Cheng@latrobe.edu.au
- By 6th February.

Any students who receive a late offer of a place in the MHIM, or International students who arrive later than this date, should simply send a late email to Diana Cheng who will give advice.

Course Dates and Class Time

Monday, 13th February to Wednesday, 15th February 2012, inclusive.

Intensive block mode: 3 days x 6 hours per day. Delivery mode: face-to-face classroom delivery.

9:30-12:30; 1:30- 4:30 (1 hour lunch break).

Estimated time to complete the course: 18 hours. These hours include the in-class time, workshops for discussion and practice, and feedback/formative exercises and tests to guide progress.

Health Sciences

Venue

Health Sciences Building 1

Ground Floor (Level 1)

Room 120 (**HS1 120**), located off the end of the corridor (opposite end of the building to Science Drive).

Required Study Materials

• **ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS 7th edition.** You need to order and purchase this set of 5 books. The student discounted purchase price is approximately \$330.

To order:

- Go to the National Casemix & Classification Centre (NCCC) website: <https://nccc.internetrix.net/>
- Or send the attached order form.

You also need to **download the three Erratas** from the NCCC web page:

<http://nccc.uow.edu.au/productservices/icd10am/index.html>

Use the Errata documents to update/correct your books before you come to the class. It is very important that you do this; otherwise, you may end up assigning erroneous codes.

These are specialised books and are available only from the NCCC. Do not try to obtain them through any other source as this is the legitimate supplier and you will only receive the discounted price by ordering directly from NCCC. You **MUST** purchase the edition listed, i.e. 7th edition. **DO NOT** purchase books in an older edition, as they will be useless.

Delivery usually takes 3-4 weeks so please order as soon as you have received your offer of a place in the MHIM to ensure you have your books ready before the Bridging Course starts.

The coding books are the only high-cost item in the course. You will use same set of books for your first two Health Classification & Clinical Coding subjects **HIM4CCB and HIM5CCC** where they are studied in 2012.

• **The Australian Dictionary of Clinical Abbreviation, Acronyms and Symbols.** Purchase this from the Health Information Management Association of Australia (HIMAA). You need to apply for Student Membership of HIMAA (free) to obtain a membership ID login number. Please complete the attached application form and return it to Diana Cheng at enrolment, or separately; your application will be endorsed by academic staff. Student membership will qualify you for a student discount price (approx \$61.20). For general information: HIMAA website: <http://www.himaa2.org.au>

• A Medical Dictionary (eg the one that you use in the Anatomy & Physiology Bridging Course).

Course Fee

There is no fee for this Bridging Course.

Further Information Contact

Diana Cheng

Health Classification academic co-ordinator

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