

ICPC-2 PLUS

INFORMATION FOR USERS

WHAT IS ICPC-2 PLUS?

The International Classification of Primary Care (ICPC-2) is a classification designed for primary care, developed by the World Organisation of Family Doctors (Wonca). It classifies information relating to why the patient has come for the consultation (the reasons for encounter), the problems managed during the encounter, procedures, referrals, imaging and pathology tests. ICPC-2 has been endorsed as the Australian standard for classification in general practice and patient self-reported data, and is distributed exclusively in Australia by the Classifications Node of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Strengthening Rehabilitation Capacity in Health Systems, University of Sydney.

ICPC-2 PLUS is an extended terminology based on ICPC-2. It has been designed specifically for use in electronic health records. It was developed using over one million encounter records and therefore uses terms that are common in Australian general practice. ICPC-2 PLUS can be used in software available from a number of software companies, including Communicare, Genie Solutions, Zedmed, Intrahealth Systems, Medtech Healthcare and Stat Health Systems. At present approximately 3,500 GPs in Australia use ICPC-2 PLUS, and it is also used in various research projects.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

ICPC-2 PLUS allows users to record information in electronic health records in a reliable and consistent way, by attaching a 'code' to the term you choose. Using keywords that are common in everyday general practice, ICPC-2 PLUS does all the work for you in the background. You won't even be aware that you are coding and classifying the information. All you have to do is type in the first part of a keyword and select the term you want to use – you don't have to type whole words or phrases. When you subscribe to ICPC-2 PLUS we give you a User Guide, which lists all the keywords available. ICPC-2 PLUS is updated regularly, and if there is a term you use that isn't included, we would love to hear from you!

Example

Mr Jones has come in for his regular diabetes check-up. In the reason for encounter section of your record (if your software provider allows for this) you type in 'CHECK' (part of the keyword 'CHECKUP'). You are then presented with a list of terms. One of these terms is Check up;diabetes, which you select. The software automatically assigns a code in the background, in this case T31 005, and stores the term you chose, and its code in the record.

Mr Jones has non-insulin dependent diabetes. In ICPC-2 PLUS, you can use any of the synonyms for this type of diabetes, such as Type 2 diabetes or adult onset diabetes. You can also use acronyms, such as NIDDM, as keywords. Simply enter a keyword, such as 'DIAB', and you will be offered a picklist of terms. You select your preferred term, non-insulin dependent diabetes, out of the picklist and again the term and its code are stored in the record.

WHY DO I NEED ICPC-2 PLUS?

When you record data in medical records using ICPC-2 PLUS, retrieving your data for auditing, quality assurance or continuity of care is easier and more reliable than manually counting patient records to find out how many patients in your practice are being treated for a particular condition. Using ICPC-2 PLUS, it doesn't matter if other doctors in the practice don't use the same terms as you, because each term is grouped with similar terms (i.e. the terms are *classified* according to ICPC-2). When you are ready to analyse your data, you can choose an output file, known as a grouper, which will extract information from your records at a level of specificity that you choose.

Example

If you want to find or count all patients in your practice with:

- Any type of diabetes - you select the 'Diabetes (all)' grouper
- All diabetes (except gestational) - you select the 'Diabetes (non-gestational)' grouper
- insulin dependent diabetes only - you select 'Diabetes, insulin dependent'
- non-insulin dependent diabetes only - you select 'Diabetes, non-insulin dependent'.

CAN I LOOK AT ICPC-2 PLUS BEFORE PURCHASING IT?

Yes! We have a downloadable demonstration package on our [website](#) that allows you to enter keywords and terms. You can also look at how you can analyse your data using ICPC-2 PLUS groupers. Not all features of ICPC-2 PLUS are available in every software package. Your software provider may be able to give you a demonstration of how ICPC-2 PLUS works in your system. Ask your contact person for more details.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Initial membership includes a once only payment (for the life-long use of ICPC-2) which is passed on in full to the World Organisation of Family Doctors (Wonca), and an annual site licence fee set by the Classifications Node of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Strengthening Rehabilitation Capacity in Health Systems, University of Sydney, for the ongoing development of ICPC-2 PLUS. In subsequent years, only the annual fee is payable.

INITIAL MEMBERSHIP YEAR 1 ONLY (Wonca + first year annual fee = total)		ANNUAL SITE LICENCE FEE FROM YEAR 2	
Single user site:	\$100 + \$150* = \$250	Single user site:	\$150*
2-4 user site:	\$150 + \$220* = \$370	2-4 user site:	\$220*
5-10 user site:	\$200 + \$300* = \$500	5-10 user site:	\$300*
11-15 user site:	\$200 + \$370* = \$570	11-15 user site:	\$370*
16-20 user site:	\$200 + \$450* = \$650	16-20 user site:	\$450*
21+ user site:	\$200 + \$600* = \$800	21+ user site:	\$600*

* 10% GST is calculated only on the annual site licence fee, and is included in this amount.

The number of users is calculated based on the number of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) clinical users of the system, where 1 day or 2 sessions equals 0.2 FTE. Practice managers and administrative staff should not be included in this calculation.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

- The [Classifications Node website](#) where you can look at:
 - the structure of ICPC-2 PLUS
 - the background of ICPC-2 PLUS
 - the ICPC-2 PLUS Demonstrator
- Phone: (02) 9351-9772
- Email: ncch@sydney.edu.au
- Or ask your software provider for more information.

HOW CAN I PURCHASE ICPC-2 PLUS?

1. Please complete this form and return to the Classifications Node
 - i. Email: ncch@sydney.edu.au
 - ii. Fax: (02) 9351-9603
 - iii. Post: Classifications Node c/o WHO Collaborating Centre for Strengthening Rehabilitation Capacity in Health Systems
University of Sydney
Sydney School of Health Sciences
PO Box 170
LIDCOMBE NSW 1825
2. On receipt of the form the Classifications Node will forward contracts for completion.
3. On receipt of the signed contracts access to ICPC-2 PLUS will be provided, and the Accounts section of the University of Sydney will invoice you for the amount owing. Please do **not** send a cheque with this form.

Name of software provider _____ Number of FTE clinical users _____

Contact name _____ Signature _____

Registered business name _____ ABN/ACN _____

Practice name _____ Tick if same as above

Registered business address _____

Practice postal address _____ Tick if same as above

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email address _____