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THE UPDATING OF THE ICD-10 CODES IN LINE WITH THE WHO

1. Background

South Africa has proceeded with updating its own ICD10 Master Industry Table (MIT). South Africa is ahead with the ICD-10 updates as compared with the WHO, the changes in the MIT do not match the current published books, for example, in the books ICD-10 O60 is a valid code and in the current ICD-10 MIT code O60.- is valid at a 4th character level.

2. Detail

At this stage there are no more ICD-10 books available (2005 version) and the WHO will not be printing any new 2005 version books at all. The WHO is in the process of printing the new 2008 version; these have now been released and are available. These versions will include changes up to and including 2008. It has therefore been agreed to stop with the updating of the South African ICD-10 MIT planned for 2010 in order to enable South Africa to align with the WHO electronic and printed versions.

The date for the next update as well as the process to be followed after the release of the latest version of the ICD-10 Volumes 1, 2 and 3 will be reviewed before the first meeting of the ICD10 National Task Team in February 2010.

The industry should therefore take cognisance of the fact that there is a postponement to the ICD-10 MIT update, as this will not be completed by the first quarter 2010. It is also vitally important that the industry takes note of the fact that there will therefore be a discrepancy with the following codes amongst others:

A statutory body established in terms of the
Medical Schemes Act, 1998 (Act 131 of 1998)

Chairperson: Prof. W Pick Registrar & CE: Dr M Gantsho



Code	Description
O60	Preterm delivery
K85	Acute pancreatitis
X59	Exposure to unspecified factor
R50	Fever of unknown origin

3. Conclusion and recommendation

The ICD10 task team will endeavour to compile and distribute a follow up circular shortly that will highlight the discrepancies between the new books and the Master Industry Table (MIT). Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the Council for Medical Schemes at support@medicalschemes.com.

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