

*European Perspectives for Procedure Classification & Coding Systems
Workshop on Semantic Mining Summer School II, Tuesday, 28. June 2005*

High-quality, reliable and significant data are a crucial basis for decision making processes in health care and other sectors. Whereas information and statistics about diagnoses are quite well standardised via ICD codes, there is no common classification or coding system available for treatments, interventions and other medical procedures in Europe or worldwide. There are also some countries which do not use any kind of procedure classification. Hence, comparison of medical interventions across different countries is difficult or impossible. The ICPM (WHO 1978) has not become an international standard, though a number of local adaptations are in use; WHO stopped supporting ICPM years ago. Currently, WHO considers the Australian ICHI¹ as a common procedure classification for worldwide use and alternatively, the Basic Coding System of CCAM².

The aims of this workshop are:

- An overview of medical procedure coding systems currently in use or under development in Europe and worldwide.*
- An introduction of the CCAM Basic Coding System and its capacity to improve supraregional health statistics of procedure data.*
- The presentation of the European SANCO-programme aiming at the improvement of public health, health information as one focus.*
- Founding an interest group on “European Perspectives for Procedure Classification Systems”.*

- Schedule -

14:30-16:00

- 1. The need of comparable information on medical procedures**
Introduction
- 2. Overview on European procedure classification and coding systems**
In cooperation with the workshop participants, we outline the characteristics of the procedure coding systems used in the participants' countries (architecture, scope etc.). Information about procedure classifications of missing EU countries and interesting new developments (Canada, Australia) is added. (30-40 min)
- 3. Required characteristics of procedure classification and coding systems:**
 - for statistical purposes
 - for other users (physicians, administration, reimbursement)Mind map and discussion (15 min)
- 4. Feasibility Study for a new German Procedure Classification (2002)**
Short report of objectives, methods and results, focused on a) the explanation of MPS/CCAM Basic Coding System as a plain, well structured framework for classifying medical interventions, b) the description of mapping problems and c) suggested modifications on the CCAM coding system (10 min)

¹ International Classification of Health Interventions, Australia 2002; <http://www.who.int/classifications/ichi/en/>

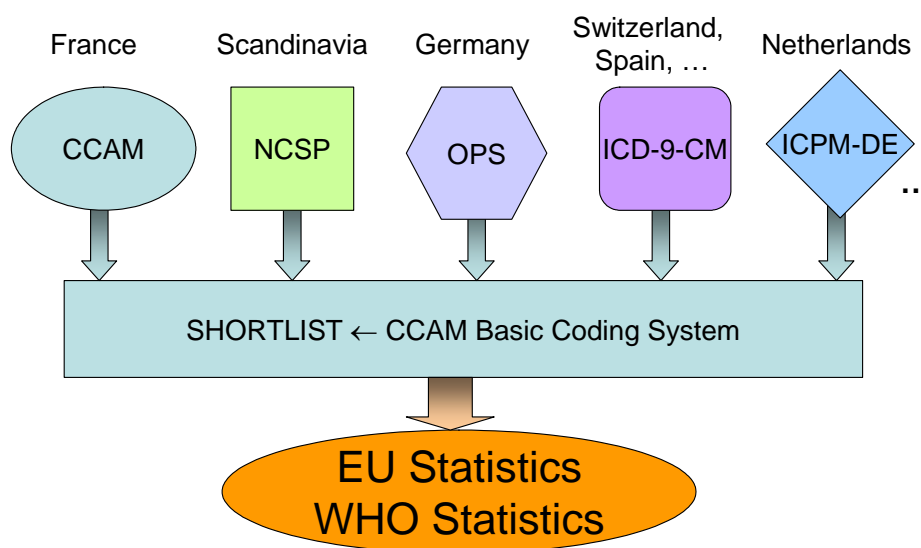
² Classification Commune des Actes Médicaux, France 2001 ; <http://www.ameli.fr/77/RUB/77/omb.html>

5. **Introduction of EU SANCO Programme of Community Action in the Field of Public Health 2003-2008³** (aims, exemplary projects, HDP) (10 min)

16:00-16:30 Coffee Break

16:30-18:00

6. **Practice:** Participants map examples of their procedure coding systems to CCAM Basic Coding System and report their experiences (30 – 40 min)
7. **SANCO proposal:** “Interoperability of Health Care Data - Tools for European Statistics of Procedures in Medicine” – a procedure shortlist based on a modified CCAM Basic Coding System as a layer above local classification and coding systems to support supraregional intervention statistics and collection of comparable health information. (20 min)



8. **Perspectives for a European Procedure Classification System**
Discussion of further developments: towards a common European procedure classification. (20 min)
9. **Discussion and conclusions** (20 min)

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³ SANCO: http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_programme/programme_en.htm