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# The ICD instruction manual (2019) and implications for the scripts and extraction

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# State of the Art

- International Classification of Diseases 11<sup>th</sup> Revision (ICD-11) was adopted by the 72nd World Health Assembly in 2019 and came into effect on 1st January 2022
- Most countries are using ICD-10, prepare for implementation of ICD-11
- EMCDDA standard protocol to collect data and report figures for the key indicator drug-related deaths (DRD-Standard, version 3.2) contains protocols for ICD-10 and ICD-9 General and Special mortality registries.
- There were several updates to ICD-10 affecting drug-related mortality coding
- The last ICD-10 instruction manual is available from the WHO website:

[https://icd.who.int/browse10/Content/statichtml/ICD10Volume2\\_en\\_2019.pdf](https://icd.who.int/browse10/Content/statichtml/ICD10Volume2_en_2019.pdf)

# Selection B for general mortality registries

Underlying cause of death	Selected ICD-10 code(s)
Disorders	F11–F12, F14–F16, and F19
Accidental poisoning	X42 <sup>(1)</sup> , X41 <sup>(2)</sup>
Intentional poisoning	X62 <sup>(1)</sup> , X61 <sup>(2)</sup>
Poisoning, undetermined intent	Y12 <sup>(1)</sup> , Y11 <sup>(2)</sup>
Exposure to other and unspecified drugs	X44 <sup>(3)</sup> , X64 <sup>(3)</sup> , Y14 <sup>(3)</sup>

<sup>(1)</sup> In combination with T-codes: T40.0–40.9.

<sup>(2)</sup> In combination with T-code: T43.6.

<sup>(3)</sup> In combination with T codes: T40.0-T40.9 or T43.6.

# ICD-10 Instruction Manual: Special instructions on linkages and other provisions (Step M1)

F10–F19 Mental and behavioural disorders due to psychoactive substance use  
*with mention of:*

X40–X49 (Accidental poisoning by and exposure to noxious substances), code X40–X49

X60–X69 (Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to noxious substances), code X60–X69

X85–X90 (Assault by noxious substances), code X85–X90

Y10–Y19 (Poisoning by and exposure to drugs, chemicals and noxious substances), code Y10–Y19

F10–F19 Fourth character .0 (Acute intoxication), code X40–X49, X60–X69, X85–X90 or Y10–Y19

# ICD-10 Instruction Manual: Special instructions on poisoning by drugs, medicaments and biological substances (Step M4)

## A. Underlying cause

If the underlying cause you selected by applying Steps SP1 to SP8 and M1 to M3 is poisoning, there is more than one drug reported on the certificate and the drugs do not have the same external cause code, select a code for the underlying cause as follows:

- a) If one of the drugs is specified as the most important substance in bringing about the death, code the external cause code for that drug as the underlying cause of death.
- b) If none of the drugs is specified as the most important substance in bringing about the death, first try to get further information from the certifier. If no clarification can be obtained, code:
  - combinations of alcohol with a drug to the drug;
  - other multidrug deaths to the appropriate category for 'Other'.

# ICD-10 Instruction Manual: Special instructions on poisoning by drugs, medicaments and biological substances (Step M4)

## B. Main injury

### 1. Opioid agonists and partial agonists and other and unspecified narcotics (T40.0–T40.4, T40.6)

Deaths that include multiple opioids classifiable to more than one fourth-character subcategory in T40.0–T40.4, T40.6, should be prioritized as:

1a. Heroin (T40.1) 1b. Methadone (T40.3) 1c. Opium (T40.0) 1d. Other opioids (T40.2) 1e. Other synthetic narcotics (T40.4) 1f. Other and unspecified narcotics (T40.6)

### 2. Inhaled and intravenous anaesthetic agents (T41.0–T41.2, T41.4) Includes: Propofol

### 3. Tricyclic and tetracyclic antidepressants (T43.0)

### 4. Barbiturates (T42.3)

### 5. 4-Aminophenol-derivatives (T39.1)

Includes: APAP, acetaminophen, paracetamol



# ICD-10 Instruction Manual: Special instructions on poisoning by drugs, medicaments and biological substances (Step M4)

B. Main injury (continued)

6. Antipsychotics and neuroleptics (T43.3–T43.5)

Includes: Phenothiazine antipsychotics and neuroleptics, Butyrophenone and thioxanthene neuroleptics, Other and unspecified antipsychotics and neuroleptics

7. Antiepileptic drugs, antiparkinsonism drugs and unspecified sedatives (T42.0–T42.2, T42.5–T42.8)

8. Cocaine (T40.5)

9. Psychostimulants with abuse potential (T43.6) Includes: Amphetamines and derivatives

10. Monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAO) antidepressants and other and unspecified antidepressants (T43.1, T43.2) Includes: Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), venlafaxine

11. Benzodiazepines (T42.4)

12. Drugs and substances not listed above

# Indirect drug-related deaths

- Include accidents and suicides with toxic level of drugs
- In ICD-10 an accident or suicide other than poisoning is considered an independent chain of events leading to death
- May be of interest for policy planning



# The way forward

- ICD-11 is meant to be clinical, not statistical classification, which means including all possible clinical terms
- Lists of substances, medical devices, places of accident are merged to it.
- Hopefully, it will solve many of our problems..