



Factsheet – Statistical activity and published results

International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems

Description

The International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems 10th revision (ICD-10) is issued by the World Health Organization (WHO). In Switzerland, diagnoses are coded using the German Modification (GM). This is based on the WHO version and is produced by the German Federal Institute for Drugs and Medical Devices (BfArM). The systematic and alphabetical indexes of the ICD-10-GM are available in German on the BfArM website.
The FSO publishes the French and Italian versions of the ICD-10-GM, systematic and alphabetical index.

Methodology

Methodology used

The systematic index of the ICD-10-GM comprises 22 chapters, which are sub-divided into groups and sub-groups. Each group consists of a set of categories (3-digits). The categories are organised into sub-categories (4-digits) and 5-digits. The 4- or 5-digits can be pre- or post-combined. 3-, 4- and 5-digits can be terminal codes. 5-digits are always terminal. Codes marked by an exclamation mark or asterisk are secondary code numbers (they can only be used in combination with another code).

Variables used

The ICD-10-GM provides metadata for the following variable in the SpiGes variable list (dataset for the Healthcare Statistics): diagnose_kode

Survey date / period

Publication times of the French and Italian ICD-10-GM:

- ICD-10-GM systematic index: end of October including additional information in German for the Swiss context
- ICD-10-GM alphabetical index: mid-November

Periodicity of publication

The German version of the ICD-10-GM is updated every year. In Switzerland this is undertaken only every two years and comes into force with a one-year delay.

The French and Italian editions versions of the ICD-10-GM are published every two years.

Degree of regionalisation

Switzerland, language regions

Policy on revisions

Routine revision

The ICD-10-GM is updated via the application procedure at the BfArM. Switzerland is responsible for translating the approved German version of the systematic index into French and Italian. During translation, texts relating to German law, coding guidelines, additional charges, recommendations, etc. are removed or adapted to the Swiss context. The version of reference is the German-language publication of the systematic index of

	the ICD-10-GM. The document 'ICD-10-GM Systematisches Verzeichnis, deutsche Version: Zusatzinformationen für den schweizerischen Kontext' contains the ICD-10-GM excerpts that have been adapted to the Swiss context. To produce the alphabetical index in French and Italian, changes to the German version are first analysed and the additions relevant to the language versions are translated and incorporated into the respective versions. The publication files are produced using a permutation of selected texts from the systematic index and the additions. Non-scheduled revision Should the WHO or BfArM assign content to unassigned code numbers, Switzerland examines the urgency of adopting the new codes (e.g. in the context of a pandemic). In the event of an update during the year, an official communication will be sent to stakeholders and coders.
Legal bases	- Federal Statistics Act (FStatA) of 9 October 1992 - Federal Health Insurance Act (LAMal) of 18 March 1994 - Ordinance on the Conduct of Federal Statistical Surveys of 30 April 2025 (Statistical Surveys Ordinance)
Organisation	Federal Statistical Office (FSO) Health and Social Affairs Section Population Health Section (GESB) Medical Classification Group codeinfo@bfs.admin.ch
