WHO-FIC - IFHRO
Joint Collaboration (JC)

International Underlying Cause of Death Classification Exam

A pilot test at Statistics Canada

May 9, 2007
Patricia Wood
A Pilot Test at Statistics Canada

- The process
- Results
- The candidates
- Problems and suggestions
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The Process

- Sought Statistics Canada support of administration of pilot test of International Underlying Cause of Death Classification Exam
- Invited two Statistics Canada underlying cause of death coders to challenge the exam
- Reviewed exam questions and answer key, discussing them with Cassia and Joon for clarification
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The Process - continued

- Had the two Statistics Canada candidates complete the self-assessment tool and submitted the completed documents to JC

- Held a brief (one day) refresher workshop on ICD-10 rules for selecting underlying cause of death

- Printed the exam and booked a room
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The Process - continued

◆ Administration of the exam
  - Wednesday, April 4 0800 – 1400 hours
  - One hour break for lunch
  - Thursday, April 5 0800 – 0900 hours
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Results

- Both Statistics Canada candidates were successful
  - 93% for one of them
  - 96% for the other
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The Candidates

- Both Statistics Canada candidates:
  - Trained on-the-job, using NCHS underlying cause of death classification training materials
  - Have approximately 2 years of underlying cause of death classification experience
  - Are also trained and experienced multiple causes (ACME) coders
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Problems and Suggestions

◆ Minor editorial problems (corrected)
  • Multiple cause codes included for Question 15
  • Duration missing from line c) for Question 57 (making it unlikely that the candidates would apply Rule F!!!)

◆ Questions with more than one answer for rules used to arrive at underlying cause
  • Questions with definite answers are required

◆ Difficulty in determining the marking scheme
  • Countless emails between me, Cassia and Joon
  • Eventually determined a manageable marking scheme