Morbidity coding in Australia

Sue Walker
Morbidity coding in Australia

- Performed in all hospitals and day surgery centres for inpatients only
- No outpatient and emergency department coding is performed routinely … yet!
- All separations are coded using the full medical record as the source document for abstraction
- Coding is done using the ICD-10-AM (currently Fifth edition, Sixth to be implemented in July 2008)
Morbidity coding education in Australia

For new coders:

Face to face:
• HIM programs in four universities
• Short courses run by health departments

Distance education:
• Health Information Management Association of Australia (HIMAA)
• Open Training and Education Network (OTEN)
Morbidity coding education in Australia

For existing coders and users of ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS in Australia and internationally:

NCCH offers:
• Update education for each ICD-10-AM/ACHI-ACS edition
• Annual coding workshops
• Biannual coding conference

For new ICD-10 users, NCCH offers short and customised coding courses face to face
HIMAA’s role

HIMAA Education Services offers

• comprehensive medical terminology
• introductory, intermediate and advanced coding
• customised educational programs
• Clinical Coder Certification
Clinical Coder Certification (CCC)

- minimum of 4 year's clinical coding experience in a hospital environment with a varied, complex casemix

- Part 1 - completion of six coding assignments - 60% of assessment (Note: successful completion of the Advanced coding course is equivalent to Part 1 of CCC)

- Part 2 - two-hour examination paper consisting of handwritten medical records - 40% of assessment

- Pass mark for CCC is an aggregate of 80%. Must pass part 1 to be eligible for Part 2.