

## Iris training

Are you interested in an Iris training? We can coordinate a training program for you. You might choose for example:

- › ICD training for coders and other staff
- › Selecting the underlying cause for coders and other staff
- › Advanced Iris features training for coders, IT-people and other staff
- › Standardization with Regular Expression for coders, IT-people and other staff
- › Dictionary training for coders, IT-people and other staff
- › Workshops for coders, IT-people and other staff

## Iris meeting

Each year the Iris Institute organizes an Iris User Group meeting. At the meeting the participants report about their experience and plans with Iris. The participants have the opportunity to share their experiences at the meeting and they can also gain new insights into processes in other countries.

## Support

Iris is maintained by the Iris Core Group in the realm of the Iris Institute. The maintenance supported by the member countries of the Iris Core Group can only be limited and restricted to the basic updates necessary and will not cover the implementation in other countries.

In order to give users the opportunity to contribute to the maintenance and update of the Iris system and thereby guarantee the long term availability of the Iris software a support model was put in place. Contributing to the Iris development by agreeing to support Iris will give you two advantages:

- › Support Iris: You will help to guarantee availability and up-to-date software that is adapted to ICD updates and software evolvments.
- › Receive support: Additional benefits for your country will help you to implement and use Iris

All financial support received by the Iris Institute will be used to maintain, update and further evolve the Iris software.

## Contact

For more information and questions about the Iris Institute, Iris software, events or trainings please contact the secretary of the Institute at DIMDI.



## Iris – Automatic Coding System for Causes of Death

### Coding for

- › multiple causes of death
- › the selection of the underlying cause of death

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# Iris – Automatic Coding System for Causes of Death

## About Iris

Iris is an automatic system for coding multiple causes of death and for the selection of the underlying cause of death. It can be used in batch or interactively.

The aim of Iris is twofold:

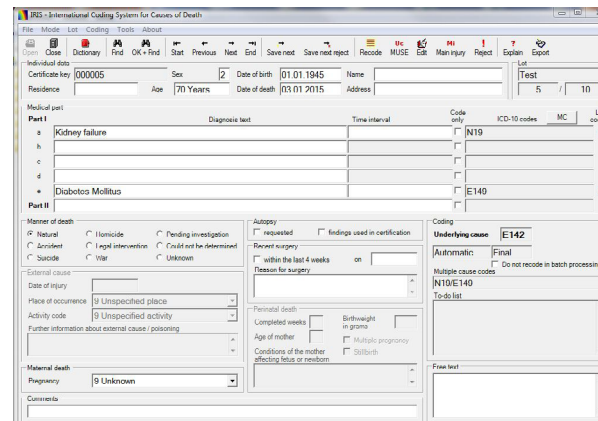
1. To provide a system in which the language-dependent aspects are separated from the software itself. Moreover, the language-dependent parts are stored in database tables and can easily be modified.
2. To improve international comparability. Iris is based on the international death certificate form provided by WHO (World Health Organization) in Volume 2 of ICD-10 and the causes of death are coded according to the ICD-10 rules. Updates to ICD-10 are included according to the WHO-timelines.

Through version 4 the Iris software uses components of the Mortality Medical Data System (MMDS) of the U.S. National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS).

Since version 5 the Iris software uses the Multicausal and Unicausal Selection Engine (MUSE). MUSE operates based on internationally agreed decision tables which are based on the most recent version of ICD-10.

Iris can be used in two modes. In the code entry mode, the user enters ICD-10 codes corresponding to the conditions reported on the death certificates. Iris then selects the underlying cause. In this mode Iris is ready for use as soon as it is installed. In the text entry mode, the

user enters the causes of death in free text, as they are reported on the death certificate. For text entry coding, you need a dictionary that translates text into ICD-10 codes. The advantage of including a dictionary is that once a decision has been made on which ICD-10 code to use for a specific diagnostic expression, the expression will be coded in the same way each time it occurs on a death certificate. Iris also provides means for language standardization, which very much reduce the size of the dictionary.

The screenshot shows the Iris software interface. At the top, there's a menu bar with options like File, Mode, List, Coding, Tools, and About. Below the menu, there's a toolbar with icons for various functions. The main area is divided into several sections: 'Personal data' with fields for Certificate key, Sex, Age, Date of birth, Date of death, Name, Address, and Test; 'Medical part' with a table for diagnoses (e.g., Kidney failure, Diabetes Mellitus) and their corresponding ICD-10 codes; 'Manner of death' with radio buttons for Natural, Homicide, Accidental, Suicide, Legal intervention, and War; 'Autopsy' with checkboxes for requested, findings used in certification, and prevent surgery; 'Coding' with options for Underlying cause, Automatic, and Final; and 'Comments' at the bottom.

The Iris Interface

## Your benefits

Using the Iris software provides the following benefits:

- ▶ Free download at the Iris Downloadcenter
- ▶ Consistent application of coding rules
- ▶ International comparability of the death statistic

- ▶ Basis for the medical and epidemiological research
- ▶ Experts with many years of experience in the background

## Iris Institute

The Iris Institute emerged from an international cooperation for the deployment, maintenance and development of the Iris software, an electronic system for automated coding of causes of death. The increasing international interest in the Iris software has made it necessary to provide an institutional foundation to secure the supply and support of the Iris software.

Currently the following institutions have joined the cooperation:

- ▶ *Centre d'épidémiologie sur les causes médicales de décès* (Inserm-CépiDc), France
- ▶ *German Institute of Medical Documentation and Information* (DIMDI) and *Federal Statistical Office* (Destatis), Germany
- ▶ *Hungarian Central Statistical Office* (KSH), Hungary
- ▶ *Italian National Institute of Statistics* (Istat), Italy
- ▶ *National Board of Health and Welfare* (Socialstyrelsen), Sweden
- ▶ *National Center for Health Statistics* (NCHS), USA

The secretariat of the Iris Institute is hosted by DIMDI.