



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

August 19, 2024

Naomi Michaelis
Acting Chair, National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Health Statistics
3311 Toledo Road, Room 2402
Hyattsville, MD 20782

Dear Naomi Michaelis:

Thank you for the letter regarding the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics' (NCVHS) recommendations regarding a central coordinating entity for planning and adopting International Classification of Diseases, Version 11 (ICD-11) in the United States. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) appreciates the Committee's work and recommendations over the past several years regarding ICD-11. We recognize the value of coordination in efforts where multiple governmental entities are involved. I appreciate hearing from you about this important issue.

The Committee recommends that HHS designate one office or agency to be responsible for overall coordination of ICD-11 morbidity coding in the United States and while in the process of organizing a coordinating office or agency, appoint a federal representative to the World Health Organization as it considers comprehensive coordination of morbidity coding. Given the significant implications for updating the ICD-10 code set, HHS will review these recommendations and consider them at the appropriate time and then work with other agencies regarding a transition to ICD-11 to determine the best path forward.

We appreciate these recommendations and thank you for your service as Acting Chair of NCVHS. HHS values the insights and recommendations from the Committee and affirms our continued commitment to engaging with NCVHS.

Sincerely,

Xavier Becerra