

Report from France for 2011-2012

Since 2008, regulations from the French National Authority for Health regarding EHR systems have been limited to the labelling of drug prescription databases. Until now, no classification system has been recommended for classifying consultation data in primary care. ICPC is available in around half of the 20 EHR systems used by French GPs (as compared to ICD in almost all EHR systems and to the French Dictionary of Consultation results in half of HER systems).

ICPC is now well recognized and supported by our largest scientific society, the French College of the teaching GPs (CNGE). This College is currently conducting the ECOGEN project, a large study based on ICPC-2 and involving 27 medical schools. The training of the investigators included the use of videotaped virtual consultations, recorded by Alain Mercier at the University of Rouen. The investigators used an ICPC-coding engine, developed by Philippe Ameline (computer scientist), based on several interface terminologies (Locas, 3BT, Sentinel thesaurus) and a lexicon.

Christian Simon (computer scientist and PhD student) has developed an ICPC e-learning system based on multiple-choice questions.

David Darmon (registrar in general practice at the University of Nice) is building an university registration network, to collect routine data on health problems, and occasionally reasons for encounter and processes of care.

The 2011 annual meeting of the CISP-Club was held in Cerniébaud, North-Eastern France, in October 2011, with as conducting theme: “managing health data”. The 2012 annual meeting, entitled “aches and words”, was held in Brussels in October 2012. The next meeting is planned in the city of Luxembourg in September 2013.

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