



TATA MEMORIAL CENTRE

A GRANT-IN-AID INSTITUTION UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY, GOVT. OF INDIA

Centre for Cancer Epidemiology The Unit for Strengthening Cause of Death (USCOD)

NEWSLETTER



STATE-LEVEL ICD-10 MORTALITY CODING TRAINING WORKSHOP, MAHARASHTRA

USCOD at National Symposium & Stakeholder Consultation to Strengthen Mortality Information System in India

The National Symposium & Stakeholder Consultation to Strengthen Mortality Information System in India, themed “Building a Mortality Information System for Viksit Bharat: Every Death is Counted and Cause of Death Ascertained,” was held from 9–11 February 2026 at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi (pre-symposium workshops) and the India International Centre, New Delhi. The symposium aimed to develop a comprehensive roadmap for India to realize the vision of counting all deaths, accurately ascertaining causes of death, and effectively utilizing mortality data for policy and program development. The event brought together representatives from Indian Council of Medical Research, the Office of the Registrar General of India (ORGI), Niti Aayog, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), World Health Organization, International Institute of Population sciences, state health departments, researchers, epidemiologists, policy makers and public health experts from leading institutions across the country.

The unit presented on the Impact of CRVS Strengthening Interventions in India with case examples from Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab, Haryana and West Bengal at the pre-conference workshop. It also delivered a talk on the Capacity building initiative for strengthening MCCD. The unit’s capacity building initiatives received immense appreciation and a demand for use of the same through collaborative efforts was well established. As a part of the symposium’s goal of forming a consortium of key organisations working to strengthen mortality data in the country, Tata Memorial Centre through the unit extended its support as a technical partner.

Tata Memorial Centre presented the following papers and posters at the conference that received much appreciation-

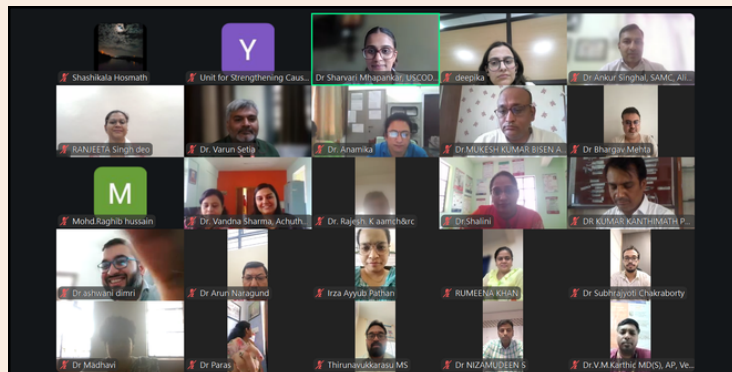
1. Improving the Accuracy of Death Certification: Evidence from a Training Intervention at a Mumbai Tertiary Care Hospital- Oral Paper
2. A Systematic Approach for Improving Cause of Death in Bihar- Poster
3. Initiatives by the Tata Memorial Centre for Strengthening Cause of Death (COD) in India- Poster
4. From Registration to Reality: Improving Cause-of-Death Reporting in India’s CRVS System- Poster

The unit’s oral paper presentation on Improving the Accuracy of Death Certification: Evidence from a Training Intervention at a Mumbai Tertiary Care Hospital won second prize within the paper presentation category.

National - Strengthening Medical Certification of Cause of Death (MCCD) Capacity Across AYUSH Institutions

The Unit for Strengthening Cause of Death, in collaboration with the Ministry of AYUSH, has launched a nationwide Medical Certification of Cause of Death (MCCD) Training of Trainers (ToT) initiative to strengthen mortality data quality across India. The program aims to develop a pool of master trainers who can subsequently conduct cascading MCCD training within their institutions and regions, thereby expanding the reach of standardized cause-of-death certification practices. Participating institutions are expected to report the training activities undertaken by these certified trainers to the Ministry of AYUSH.

As part of this large-scale initiative, several AYUSH organizations have been designated as nodal agencies to coordinate training activities. In partnership with the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM), the program targets 650 AYUSH medical colleges, with each institution nominating two faculty members for ToT workshops, resulting in a total of 1,300 prospective MCCD trainers. By 12 June 2026, all training batches had been completed, training 974 doctors. Additional training will be arranged for the doctors who have missed the training in the first round. 57 doctors from the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) centres across India have been trained as MCCD trainers. Several trained participants have already begun conducting cascading training programs within their institutions, demonstrating early adoption and expansion of MCCD capacity-building efforts across the AYUSH sector.



Maharashtra state

Under the leadership of Dr. Daksha Shah, Executive Health Officer, Public Health Department, Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), the Unit for Strengthening Cause of Death (USCOD) has undertaken a city-wide capacity-building initiative to enhance the quality of Medical Certification of Cause of Death (MCCD) among Private Medical Practitioners (PMPs). The programme focuses on training doctors in the accurate completion of MCCD Form 4A, thereby improving the quality of cause-of-death information available for ICD mortality coding and strengthening the reliability of mortality statistics for public health planning and decision-making.

As of 13 June 2026, orientation sessions have been conducted in 22 of the 25 administrative wards of Mumbai, reaching 1,204 PMPs. The initiative represents a significant step towards strengthening death certification practices and improving the quality of mortality data in Mumbai.

State-Level ICD-10 Mortality Coding Training Workshop, Maharashtra -

The Unit for Strengthening Cause of Death (USCOD) has organized a State-Level ICD-10 Mortality Coding Training Workshop in collaboration with the State Bureau of Health Intelligence and Vital Statistics (SBHIVS), Government of Maharashtra, Public Health Department, and the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Nagpur.

The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. (Prof.) Prashant P. Joshi, Executive Director and CEO, AIIMS Nagpur, Dr. Babita Kalapurkar, Deputy Director of Health Services and SBHIVS, Maharashtra, and Dr. Rajesh Dikshit, Director, Centre for Cancer Epidemiology, Tata Memorial Centre. Their presence highlighted the importance of strengthening mortality data systems and building capacity for accurate ICD-10 mortality coding across the state. The training was conducted in two phases, with the online component held from 27–29 April 2026, followed by an in-person training program from 5–8 May 2026 conducted at AIIMS, Nagpur. Dr. Saman Gamage, Senior Technical Advisor at the CDC Foundation, a globally recognized ICD expert based in Sri Lanka, served as the key resource person for the workshop, providing participants with extensive technical guidance and practical training in ICD-10 mortality coding. A total of 97 nominated medical officers and statistical officers from districts across Maharashtra participated in the program.

The workshop followed a Training of Trainers (ToT) model, with the objective of developing a pool of skilled ICD-10 trainers who can further cascade the training within their respective districts and institutions. Through interactive sessions, practical exercises, and case based discussions, participants strengthened their knowledge and skills in mortality coding, thereby contributing to improved quality and standardization of mortality data across Maharashtra.

लोकमत

मृत्यूच्या कारणांची अचूक नोंदणी आवश्यक

तज्ञांचा सूर : 'एम्स'मध्ये राज्यस्तरीय प्रशिक्षण

लोकमत न्यूज नेटवर्क

नागपूर : मृत्यूच्या कारणांची अचूक नोंद आणि वैज्ञानिक सांख्यिकी विश्लेषण हे प्रभावी आरोग्य व्यवस्थेचे महत्वाचे आधारस्तंभ आहेत. यावरून कोणत्या भागात कोणत्या आजारांमुळे मृत्यूचे प्रमाण वाढत आहे, याची अचूक माहिती मिळते. त्यामुळे प्रशासनाला वेळीच प्रतिबंधात्मक उपाययोजना राबविता येतात, आरोग्य सुविधा अधिक सक्षम करता येतात आणि भविष्यातील धोके टाळण्यासाठी प्रभावी नियोजन करता येते, असे मत तज्ज्ञांनी व्यक्त केले.

अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थेच्यावतीने (एम्स) 'आयसीडी-१०' मॉडेलिटी कोडिंगवरील चार दिवसीय राज्यस्तरीय प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रमाचे आयोजन करण्यात आले आहे.

हा उपक्रम महाराष्ट्र शासनाच्या स्टेट ब्युरो ऑफ डेथ इंटेलिजन्स अँड

क्वायटल स्टॅटिस्टिक्स, टाटा मेमोरिअल सेंटर आणि एआयआयएमएस नागपूरच्या फॉरेन्सिक मेडिसिन अँड टॉक्सिकॉलॉजी विभागाच्या संयुक्त विद्यमाने आयोजित करण्यात आला आहे. उद्घाटन 'एम्स'चे कार्यकारी संचालक व मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी डॉ. प्रशांत जोशी यांच्या हस्ते झाले. या प्रसंगी डॉ. राजेश दीक्षित, डॉ. मनीष श्रीगिरीवार, डॉ. याग्निक वाझा, डॉ. सुमित चिद्रावार, डॉ. शर्वा म्हापणकर आणि अमेरिकेतील सीडीसी फाउंडेशनचे डॉ. समन गमागे प्रामुख्याने उपस्थित होते. संचालन डॉ. गीता सुप्रिया यांनी केले. कार्यक्रमाच्या आयोजनासाठी डॉ. मेदार साने, डॉ. हर्षल ठुबे, डॉ. पवन यादव, डॉ. अस्वान गिरीश कुमार, डॉ. लक्ष्मी श्रवाळा, शोभित कापसे, संकर गिरी आणि विपिन यांनी सहकार्य केले.

वक्त्यांनी सांगितले की, मृत्यूचे कारण अचूक नोंदविल्यास सार्वजनिक आरोग्य धोरणे अधिक प्रभावीपणे राबविता येतात. यामुळे आजारांचे प्रमाण, अपघात, माता-बाळ मृत्यू आणि



कार्यक्रमाच्या उद्घाटनप्रसंगी एम्सचे कार्यकारी संचालक डॉ. प्रशांत जोशी यांना स्मृतिचिन्ह देऊन सत्कार करताना (डावीकडून) डॉ. मनीष श्रीगिरीवार, डॉ. याग्निक वाझा, डॉ. समन गमागे, डॉ. सुमित चिद्रावार व डॉ. शर्वा म्हापणकर

राज्यात मॉडेलिटी कोडिंग युनिट्स

भारतामध्ये 'डेा फॉर हेल्थ' उपक्रमांतर्गत मृत्यू नोंदणी प्रणाली मजबूत करण्याचे काम सुरू असून, महाराष्ट्राने या क्षेत्रात विशेष पुढाकार घेतला आहे. राज्यात मॉडेलिटी कोडिंग युनिट्स स्थापन करण्यात आले असून प्रशिक्षण आणि 'ट्रेनिंग ऑफ ट्रेनर्स' पद्धतीवर भर दिला जात आहे. जागतिक स्तरावरील आयसीडी कोडिंग तज्ज्ञ डॉ. गमागे हे सत्रांचे मार्गदर्शन करीत आहेत.

असंसर्गजन्य आजारंचे वास्तव चित्र स्पष्ट होते. तसेच आरोग्य सुविधा आणि संसाधनांचे योग्य नियोजन करण्यास मदत होते.

Nagpur Main
Page No. 7 May 09, 2026
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- A Medical Certification of Cause of Death (MCCD) training program was conducted for resident doctors from the Department of Medicine at King Edward Memorial (KEM) Hospital, Mumbai, in four batches from 4th to 9th April 2026. A total of 59 resident doctors participated in the training, which focused on strengthening their knowledge and skills in accurate cause of death certification and improving the quality of mortality data.
- MGM Medical College, Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar, has sought technical support from USCOD to strengthen the functioning of the audit committee, which includes medical officers, nursing leadership, medical records personnel, and statisticians. In response, a comprehensive strategic support package was developed, encompassing MCCD rapid assessment tools, training on AnaCOD3, ICD-10 mortality coding, use of automated coding software, and the development of hospital SOPs and IEC materials such as MCCD Do's and Don'ts. Training of 210 doctors was done by USCOD

CRVS Strengthening Workshop for Statistical Officers, Maharashtra :

The Unit for Strengthening Cause of Death (USCOD) was invited to a one-day Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) Strengthening Workshop organized by the State Bureau of Health Intelligence and Vital Statistics (SBHIVS), Directorate of Health Services, Pune, for statistical officers from districts across Maharashtra. During the workshop, USCOD conducted sessions on best practices in Medical Certification of Cause of Death (MCCD) and the basics of ICD-10 mortality coding. The program was attended by 26 statistical officers and provided an important opportunity to enhance participants' understanding of mortality data systems, supporting ongoing efforts to strengthen the quality of cause-of-death reporting and vital statistics in the state.

Bihar-

Bihar continued to strengthen Medical Certification of Cause of Death (MCCD) and Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) systems through capacity building, stakeholder engagement, and quality improvement initiatives. MCCD orientation training was conducted at Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital and Research Centre (HBCH&RC), Muzaffarpur, Shri Krishna Medical College & Hospital, Muzaffarpur; Nalanda Medical College, Patna; and Darbhanga Medical College & Hospital, reaching doctors, residents, interns, and healthcare staff across multiple departments.

Uttar Pradesh-

Uttar Pradesh made notable progress in strengthening Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) and Medical Certification of Cause of Death (MCCD) systems. The first CRVS and MCCD Focus Group was established in Varanasi under the leadership of the Chief Medical Officer, bringing together representatives from major government healthcare facilities to regularly review MCCD implementation, monitor cause-of-death reporting, and identify strategies for improvement.

MCCD Refresher Training Program-

The unit has conducted an MCCD Refresher Training Program for doctors who had previously participated in the Medical Certification of Cause of Death (MCCD) Training of Trainers (ToT) program over the past two years. The session served as a platform to revisit key principles of accurate cause of death certification, discuss common errors and challenges encountered in practice, and reinforce best practices in MCCD. The refresher training aimed to strengthen participants' knowledge and support the continued improvement of mortality data quality across healthcare institutions.

Punjab-

Cascading of MCCD Training in Punjab:

To strengthen the implementation of Medical Certification of Cause of Death (MCCD) practices across the state, the Directorate of Census Operations, Punjab, issued a formal communication to the Directorate General of Health Services, Punjab, encouraging the further dissemination of MCCD training. The communication emphasized the need for participants who attended the MCCD Training of Trainers (ToT) program in December 2025 conducted by USCOD to further conduct cascading training sessions for doctors within their respective institutions. This initiative aims to expand the reach of MCCD capacity-building efforts and promote improved quality of cause of death certification throughout the state.

The Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Punjab, has issued an official order mandating the completion of the Medical Certification of Cause of Death (MCCD) e-learning course designed by Tata Memorial Centre for all state government doctors and private medical practitioners across Punjab. This initiative aims to strengthen the quality of cause of death certification and promote the generation of accurate and reliable mortality data throughout the state.

Global Presence-

USCOD presented at the CRVS Research Forum, Thailand 2026

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), and Vital Strategies organized the second CRVS Research Forum on 30 March - 1 April 2026 in Bangkok, Thailand. The Unit for Strengthening Cause of Death represented India on this prestigious platform and presented four ongoing research studies aimed at strengthening Civil Registration and Vital Statistics and Medical Certification of Cause of Death. These studies highlighted the use of globally accepted tools and technology for improving one of the crucial health matrices which is the cause of death data in India. USCOD's research is aligned with SDGs set by the United Nations.

Please visit the Unit for Strengthening Cause of Death Data website for more information on the resources provided and additional resources

<https://tmcepi.gov.in/USCOD>

Medical Certification of Cause of Death (MCCD) eLearning course-

<https://www.omnicuris.com/academics/medical-certification-of-cause-of-death>

USCOD Youtube channel link - <https://youtube.com/@uscodece?si=X6KJPau5LG9oYR-k>

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