

Have Your Say – Skills IQ Case for Change in Clinical Coding Competency Units

Skills IQ is a not-for-profit, independent Skills Service Organisation to support allocated Industry Reference Committees (IRCs) to ensure Commonwealth training packages reflect the skills needs of industry. Amongst its objectives is the facilitation of IRCs to advise the Australian Government via the Australian Industry and Skills Committee (AISC).

Health is one of the IRCs for which SkillsIQ is responsible in this role and in terms of Clinical Coding the health training package includes four units of competency or skills sets:

- HLTADM005 Produce coded clinical data
- HLTADM006 Undertake complex clinical coding
- HLTADM007 Complete highly complex clinical coding
- HLTSS00048 Clinical Coding Skill Set

SkillsIQ's Technicians Support Services IRC is currently proposing a Case for Change to these four Units. This case can be found [HERE](#).

Member Contribution

HIMAA encourages members to contribute to this proposal for a Case for Change, for the following reasons.

- There is now a 22274VIC Certificate IV in Clinical Classification that HIMAA has on scope as a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) which it delivers nationally
- This qualification is owned by the Victorian Government who generously extend its use by permission without charge
- A national qualification structure of a comparable nature would be advantageous
- A diploma level is proposed in the Case for Change

Rationale

As members will recall HIMAA has been the largest provider of post-secondary education and training in clinical coding by distance learning in Australia since 1990. Since becoming a Registered Training Organisation in 2010 we have delivered our introductory, intermediate and advanced clinical coding courses to, respectively, the national Units of Competency known today as HLTADM005 Produce coded clinical data, HILTADM006 Undertake complex clinical coding and HLTADM007 Complete highly complex clinical coding.

Given its commitment to improving career structure for Clinical Coders, as one of the two foundation occupations of the health information management profession, in 2015 the HIMAA Board invested in the conversion of its Comprehensive Medical Terminology, Introductory Clinical Coding and Intermediate Clinical Coding courses into the 22274VIC Certificate IV in Clinical Classification, a then-new qualification and course developed by the Victorian Department of Health largely by leading members of HIMAA, with input from the Association as a whole.

By 2016, as an RTO, we had this qualification on scope and ready for launch for enrolment of its first cohort in July of that year. Whilst we appreciate and applaud the Victorian Government for pioneering the Certificate IV in Clinical Classification, we understand that there is no opposition from that stakeholder group to the possibility of a national qualification of a comparable nature. A diploma level is proposed in the Case for Change.

THANK YOU!