

GENERAL ACUPUNCTURE

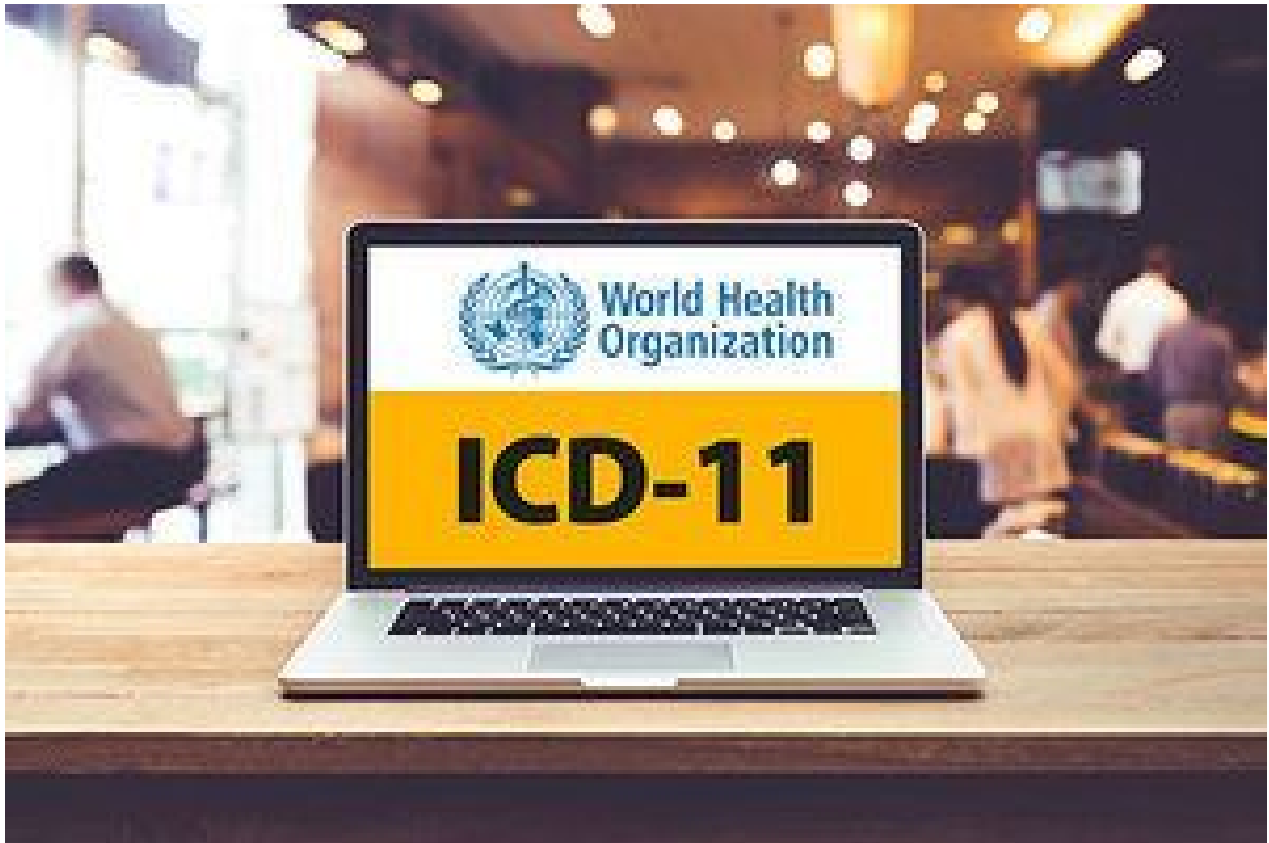
TCM Codes for the World

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I just received an email concerning the ICD-TM11 codes. The World Health Organization (WHO) will be presenting the new ICD-11 codes to World Health Assembly very soon. This is very good news for the ICD-TM11 codes. The slide presentation made it clear that the traditional medicine codes will be integrated into the ICD-11, the next set of health codes to be released.

You may remember that the U.S. was asked to contribute \$300,000 towards the creation of the code set for traditional medicine. The profession, including state associations, various herbal companies, several schools and the American Acupuncture Council (AAC) all contributed to the completion of this project.

The code set is ready for release—a great big thank you to everyone who contributed and made it possible for the U.S. to participate.



There are still many steps to complete before the codes are implemented and put to use. But all in all traditional medicine has made it into the world health codes, a huge feat. Traditional medicine is now on its way to becoming part of the health care systems of the world.

Another milestone, November 15, 2018 has been designated as *World Acupuncture Day* by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. This special day will be celebrated in Paris, in conjunction with the *Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie convention*, November 16-18, 2018. It would be nice if there could be a delegation from the U.S. to attend these festivities.

JULY 2018