All over the world, PATIENT CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS are used for financing, clinical management, planning, budgeting, evaluation and control purposes in hospitals and in other health care services. In a growing number of countries reforms based on PATIENT CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS have been implemented. In others, governments and health research institutions are still evaluating and experimenting on their possible use.

The CASEMIX SUMMER SCHOOL® introduces the science of case mix, providing an overview on the most important patient classification schemes, their use in health care quality evaluation, how they can support appropriate service financing policy, and their health information system requirements.

The School is organised by CASEMIX Quarterly, a eJournal which offers a forum for networking and discussing achievements and developments in casemix evaluation. The faculty of the School includes some of the most recognised experts on the field in the world. The Summer of 2008 will be the 10th edition of the School. In the previous years, more than one hundred people have attended, coming from Japan, Australia, Singapore, Mexico, South Africa and from as many as 22 different European Countries. One of the strength of the School is the opportunity it provides of networking with those involved in the implementation of Casemix systems.

Venice needs no presentation. A perfect place for a cultural and professional week.

http://www.casemix.org/iniziative/summ_08/programma.htm
INTERNATIONAL COURSE

MONDAY 23RD JUNE
09.00  Overview of the Course and Introduction to the Faculty and Participants - All faculty
10.30  Break
11.00  Principles of DRG-based casemix systems - Beth Reid
   This session will provide an introduction to Diagnosis Related Groups (DRGs), their purpose, history, structure, and how they have been modified in various countries. The discussion of various applications of DRGs will give participants an opportunity to explore the strengths and limitations of this classification system
12.30  Lunch
14.00  Grouper designs, up-coding and data quality - Beth Reid
   This session will focus on two issues: how groupers are designed and evaluated, and data quality. There is a detailed discussion of how the performance of groupers can be evaluated from both a statistical and clinical perspective. We will explore such questions as how errors in the data impact on the quality of the DRGs, what is the evidence regarding up-coding, and how can the quality of the disease and procedure coding be evaluated and improved.
15.30  Break
16.00  Casemix in Primary Health Care - Paolo Piergentili
   Research is going on in the development of Casemix tools also in PHC. The module will review existing classification systems, the problems related to the Information System, and the possible use of data related to PHC evaluation and financing.

TUESDAY 24TH JUNE
09.00  Introducing Casemix in a Health System - Jugna Shah
   This session will cover all of the elements that most countries address as they begin to introduce a case-mix based financing system in their own country. The session will highlight the most common implementation issues, questions, strategies, and pitfalls that countries have faced in the beginning stages of casemix implementation so newcomers to the field can be aware and try to avoid some of these. In addition, participants will be given examples of how and what strategies countries lacking “perfect” coding and cost data were able to do in order to begin implementation. Technical issues related to coding, data collection, costing, grouping etc. will be addressed in the context of decision-making in other countries as well as the issues new countries to case-mix need to think through. Political, cultural, and economic issues will also be raised as they related to thinking through the questions of “why DRGs, how, when”, etc. The session will use implementation examples from other countries to allow participants to understand others experiences. Finally, the last hour of the session is intended to be interactive so participants can discuss debate, ask questions, and perhaps even begin designing their own case-mix implementation plan.
10.30  Break
11.00  Introducing Casemix in a Health System (continued)
12.30  Lunch
14.00  DRG in Australia - Beth Reid
15.30  Break
16.00  DRG in USA - Marc Berlinguet

WEDNESDAY 25TH JUNE
09.00  Casemix and Quality of Care – Marc Berlinguet
   1. Golden triangle of Access, cost and Quality
   2. Quality of care historic perspective and new Patient-centered health care refocus
   3. US Agency for Health Care and Research Quality Indicators and others
   4. DRG and other grouping classifications linked quality indicators
   5. Most relevant International initiatives and trends
   6. Analytic tools available
   7. Impacts and Outlook
10.30  Break
11.00  Casemix and Quality of Care (continued)
12.30  Lunch
14.00  Casemix for Ambulatory Care, Rehabilitation and Long-term Care - Steve Sutch
   Whilst many countries are able to adopt a similar view in classification of patients receiving acute hospital care, this does not apply to the non-acute services. This session will outline the issues and problems concerned with the casemix development in this area, and describe examples of differing solutions and developments world-wide
15.30  Break
16.00  Casemix in Italy - Paolo Piergentili
THURSDAY 26TH JUNE

09.00  Tutorials – All faculty
      The Faculty will be available during all the morning to deepen specific issues, included in the courses and where participants have a specific interest. Participants will express their requests on the Wednesday evening, and arrangement will be made to put together faculty member and participants with homogeneous interests.

10.30  Break

11.00  Tutorials (continued).

Afternoon free

FRIDAY 27TH JUNE

09.00  Principles of Costing by Case - Jean Claude Rey
      This session will provide an introduction to costing and cover its various aspects, such as reasons for product costing, costing by case, methods used (top-down, bottom up, cost-modelling, data required), type of costs (direct, indirect, overhead), cost-weights (inliers, outliers), inclusion of various components (nursing, drugs, implants, etc.). Discussion on implications and problems will give participants the opportunity to explore further the possibilities, implications and limitations of costing by case.

10.30  Break

11.00  Principles of Costing by Case (continued)

12.30  Lunch

14.00  DRG in UK - Steve Sutch

15.30  Break

16.00  Conclusion and Evaluation - All faculty

THE FACULTY

Marc Berlinguet was trained as physician and specialist in Community Health (McGill, Harvard and London School of Economics and Political Sciences Universities). He became principal and led Integrated Medical Decision Making Systems Inc. In this capacity, he helps introduce and validate DRG classifications, population-based groupers and quality/performance indicators in Canadian hospitals, and provinces of Quebec, Ontario and Alberta for twenty years from 1981 to 2001. During a three year stint in early 1990's, he became senior Policy Analyst, for the USA Agency for Health Care Policy and Research, DHSS (now AHRQ). Since 2004, he is the International Medical Manager of 3M-HIS Inc.

Beth Reid is the Professor of Health Information Management in the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Sydney. Her research in the topic of casemix has included: evaluating the performance of several DRG versions; evaluating and improving medical record abstract data; developing a protocol for measuring the impact of output-based payment of hospitals of the quality of care; developing casemix-based information systems in seven major teaching hospitals; casemix adjusting hospital performance indicators; and casemix costing in seven major teaching hospitals.

Jean Claude Rey is the Founder and President of the Swiss Institute for Health and Economics (ISE) in Lausanne. Since 1990 the Institute is a leading force in the promotion, introduction and maintenance of DRG’s in Switzerland. Specialized in case-mix applications, it has produced the cost-weights for the six annual versions of AP-DRG for Swiss hospitals. The Institute is a leader in introducing and improving data in the various fields of healthcare and has been trusted with numerous missions at national level, such as Nursing Data, Patient Classification Systems/Switzerland as well as scientific councillor for multi-state implementation projects. The Institute is often consulted by the Swiss Federal Government and recently did the Evaluation Report on legislation supporting the development of casemix data, case-costing and tariffs. Jean-Claude Rey is a frequent guest speaker at international conferences, as well as teacher on case-mix and financing systems in several countries. He is a member of the Swiss Expert Health Statistics Commission.

Jugna Shah is the Founder of Nimitt Consulting Inc., a research and consulting firm dedicated to the study, evaluation, development, and implementation of inpatient (DRGs) and outpatient (APCs/APGs) case-mix based payment systems both in the United States and throughout the world. She began working with international governments and hospitals in 1996 and continues her work today with the country of Turkey. She is a well-known and popular educator on all aspects of case-mix classification and payment, including the basics of coding, collecting and analyzing data, grouping, creating relative weights, simulating new budgets or payment systems, and ultimately...
designing country specific implementation plans that take culture, politics, economics, and infrastructure into consideration.

Steve Sutch has a special interest in worldwide developments in Patient Classification and its application in Health planning, funding and resource allocation. He began working in the English NHS in 1987 as an Operational Research consultant, modelling hospital and NHS systems. In 1991, he moved to Wales to manage the investigation of casemix, its introduction, advising the Welsh Health Department and providing a range of casemix information services to hospitals and authorities. In 1994, he moved to the national casemix office in England, continuing work for Wales as a casemix Consultant including the move from APDRG to HRG. Joining the NHS Information Authority in 1999 he managed the Analytical and Statistics department supporting the development of casemix groupings (Healthcare Resource Groups) and related services in England and Wales until 2004, and from 2004 to 2006 was Principal Casemix Consultant responsible for the design of casemix groupings for England. In 2006 he set up a consultancy company specialising in casemix information, design and reimbursement and works across different countries in Europe and worldwide. He has also carried out research in casemix classification design and has links with a number of Universities worldwide.

SCHOOL DIRECTOR Paolo Piergentili

Editor of CASEMIX Quarterly, he is working as Director for Health Affairs in Pordenone, in a Health Organization in North Eastern Italy serving a population of 300,000, three hospitals, community and Primary Care Health Services. From 1984 to 1990 he was responsible for the Italian National DRG’s Project in the Ministry of health, and in more recent years, of the Regione Veneto DRG’s Project. He has conducted many researches and organised several cultural events on casemix and health service evaluation.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Venue.
The School will be held in the CENTRO ARTIGIANELLI DON ORIONE. Classes start at 9 am and finish at 17.30 pm roughly. On Thursday the 26th no afternoon class is scheduled.

Hotel accommodation
A number of rooms have been reserved in the Centro Artigianelli and in a nearby hotel. The hotel cost is included in the fee. Extra nights and double rooms are available. Inquiry for information.

Registration

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<th>Until 31 March 2008</th>
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<tr>
<td>Basic fee</td>
<td>2.250,00</td>
<td>3.000,00</td>
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<td>Fee VAT included</td>
<td>2.600,00</td>
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Fees are in Euros, and include 5 night hotel accommodation (single room plus breakfast) from 22 to 27 of June. Inquiry for extra night and double room.

According to Italian Law, a 20% VAT must be added to the fee, unless the invoice is issued to a Non Profit Health Care Organisation, a University, a Government Agency. The invoice must be issued to the organisation itself, and not to the person employed by the organisation. Inquiry for details.

Payment Options
a. bank draft or transfers, with no cost for the payee, to Q&S, Banca Intesa Ag. 327, Padova, IBAN IT 03 H 03069 12107 615245590950, BIC BCITITMM327 (please be sure that the registrant’s name and the invoice number are clearly indicated); 
b. credit card: VISA, Mastercard.
Social programme
A Get Together Dinner will take place on Monday evening, and a farewell event on Thursday night. Also, cultural events will be organised. Detailed information will be send to registered participants.

Cancellations and refunds
A 30% cancellation fee will be charged for cancellations made before the 31st March. No refund will be given after this date. Substitutions will be possible at any time. All reimbursements will be made after the School.

Privacy policy. All personal data concerning your registration to the School are recorded on electronic means and their use is limited, according to Italian law (l. 675/96) to: administrative procedures concerning your participation to the School, advertising of other events organised by Q&S. Your data will not made public, nor be released to thirds party, excepting other participants to the School. Legal holder of the data is Q&S. Responsible of the use of the data is the legal representative of the Association. You maintain the right of verifying, modifying, cancelling, etc. your personal data. For inquiry please write to Q&S, via Martiri Giuliani e Dalmati, 14, 35129 Padova, Italy, fax +39.0498085122, E-mail segreteria@casemix.org.

ORGANISING SECRETARIAT Q&S
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