



RESPONSE TO PETITION

Prepare in English and French marking 'Original Text' or 'Translation'

PETITION No.: **421-02911**

BY: **MR. SIKAND (MISSISSAUGA--STREETSVILLE)**

DATE: **NOVEMBER 19, 2018**

PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY: **MR. JOHN OLIVER**

Response by the Minister of Health

SIGNATURE

Minister or Parliamentary Secretary

SUBJECT

FIBROMYALGIA

ORIGINAL TEXT

REPLY

The International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD) is maintained and published by the World Health Organization (WHO) and is the international classification standard for mortality and morbidity statistics. The current version of ICD is the tenth revision, ICD-10, although the eleventh revision (ICD-11) is expected to be adopted by the World Health Assembly (WHA) as the new standard in 2019. Several countries, including Canada, have obtained licenses from WHO that allow for limited modification of the ICD-10 for national health information purposes. The Canadian modification of ICD-10 is ICD-10-CA. Under the terms of a license granted by the WHO, the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) is responsible for maintaining ICD-10-CA. ICD-10-CA is updated on a three-yearly cycle. The most current version was released in 2018.

The license with the WHO that authorizes CIHI to make modifications to ICD-10 for Canadian purposes is explicit in describing the nature of permitted modifications. **Modifications that change the structure of the classification are not permitted.** Moving Fibromyalgia from its current location in the Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissues chapter to a different chapter would be a structural change and would contravene the terms of the license. None of the countries with national modifications of ICD-10 has moved Fibromyalgia from its location at M79.7. In the past, to effect a change such as that requested by the petition, CIHI would have had to submit a proposal to the WHO for

consideration by the ICD-10 Update and Revision Committee. If accepted through that process, the change would have been made to the international version of ICD-10 itself and the change would, then, have been reflected in ICD-10-CA.

WHO is no longer making changes to ICD-10. Until 2018, ICD-10 was updated and revised on an annual basis. However, with the release in June 2018 of a version of ICD-11 to allow Member States to start planning for implementation (and its anticipated formal adoption by WHA in 2019), WHO is no longer revising ICD-10. The ICD-10 Update and Revision Committee no longer exists. In its place an update and revision process for ICD-11 has been instituted. Change requests can be directed to ICD-11.

During the development of ICD-11, the International Association for the Study of Pain formed a Task Force for the Classification of Chronic Pain to provide advice to the WHO. The Task Force developed a new classification of chronic pain for inclusion in ICD-11. Within this new classification, Fibromyalgia is included as an inclusion term under “Chronic widespread pain” (MG30.01), located in the chapter: Symptoms, signs or clinical findings, not elsewhere classified.

The process for submitting proposals for change is an open one that allows anyone, once registered, to submit a proposal for changes to ICD-11 on the maintenance platform accessible here: <https://icd.who.int/>.