

Licensing information to be aware of when working with the AR-DRG Classification System

Includes ICD-10-AM, ACHI, ACS and AR-DRG

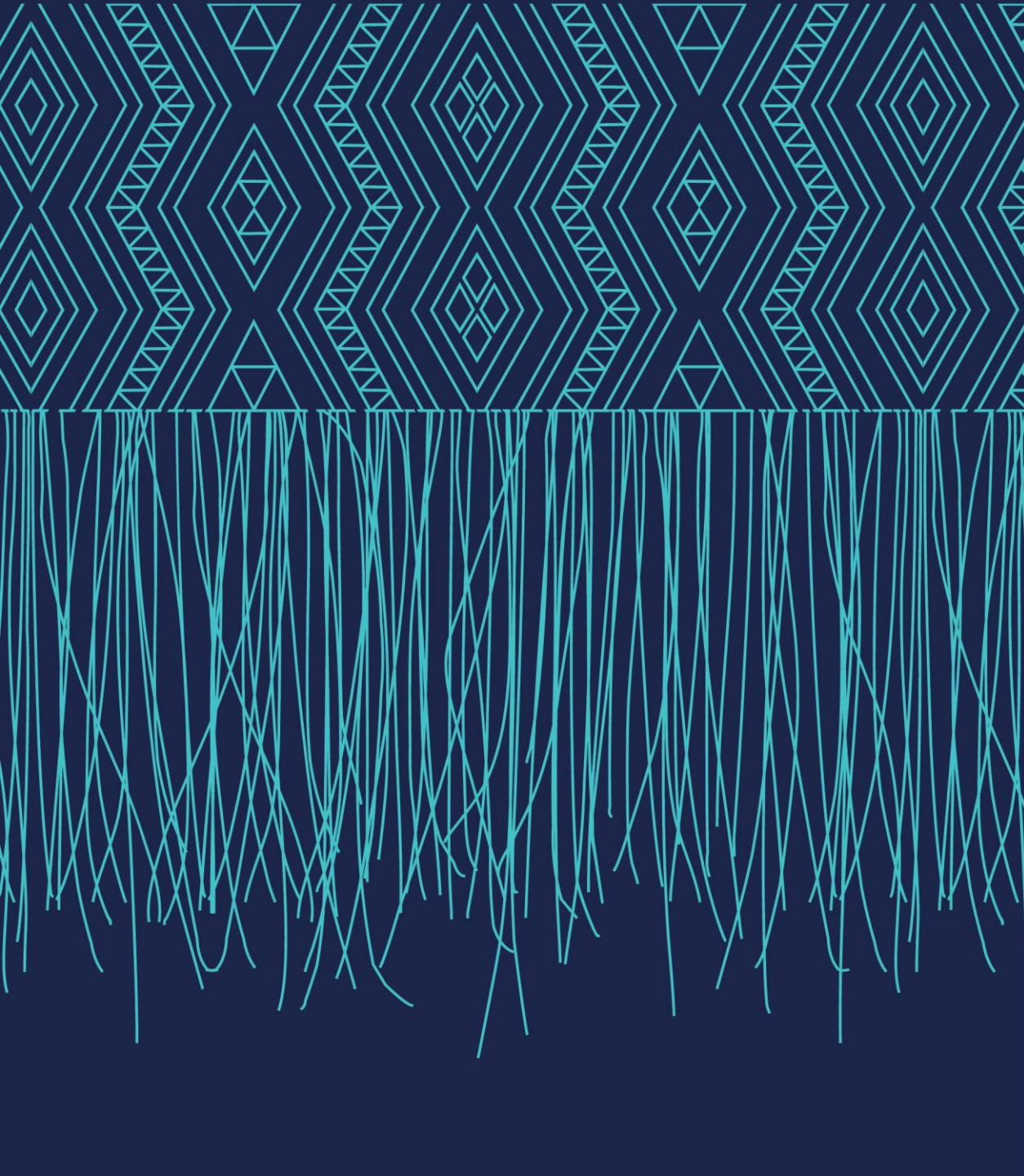
April 2023

Who is this guidance for

- Anyone who works with diagnosis/procedure codes
- Anyone working with data from the National Minimum Dataset (NMDS), Mortality Collection, New Zealand Cancer Registry (NZCR), Programme for the Integration of Mental Health Data (PRIMHD) and National Booking Reporting System (NBRS)
- Anyone who wants to document/share the method(s) that was used regarding diagnosis/procedure codes
- Anyone working with ICD-10-AM, ACHI, ACS and AR-DRG

This pack covers:

- What is the AR-DRG Classification System
- How the licensing agreement works
- Controls in place to share the AR-DRG Classification System in a way that is in line with our country license agreement
- How to attribute appropriately when referring to the AR-DRG Classification System
- Who to contact for help and more information

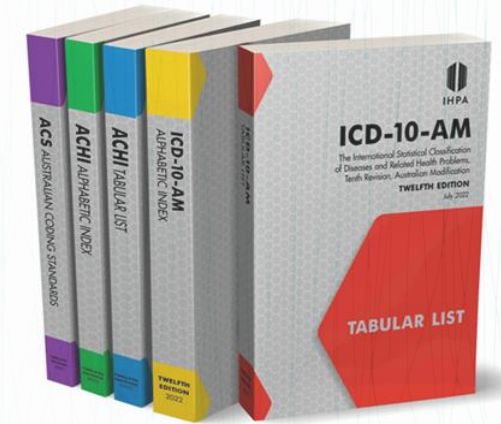


What is the AR-DRG Classification System and how the licensing agreement works

The AR-DRG Classification System

The AR-DRG Classification System is **licensed material** and includes:

- **Diagnosis codes:** International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision, Australian Modification (ICD-10-AM)
- **Procedure codes:** Australian Classification of Health Interventions (ACHI)
- **Coding standards:** Australian Coding Standards (ACS) for ICD-10-AM and ACHI
- **AR-DRG definitions:** Australian Refined Diagnosis Related Groups (AR-DRG)



Listed below are the main, widely-used National Collections that include data using the AR-DRG Classification System*:

- National Minimum Dataset (hospital discharges)
- Mortality Collection (stillbirth and death registrations)
- New Zealand Cancer Registry (cancer registrations)
- Programme for the Integration of Mental Health Data (mental health and addiction service use)
- National Booking Reporting System (booking system events)

* Other collections and datasets may also use the AR-DRG Classification System and the usual means of attribution and sharing of codes should be applied to these collections and datasets.

Ownership and licensing agreement

The intellectual property for the AR-DRG Classification System is owned by the Australian Government.

Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand, National Collections holds a country license agreement with the Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority (IHACPA) (on behalf of the Australian Government) to:

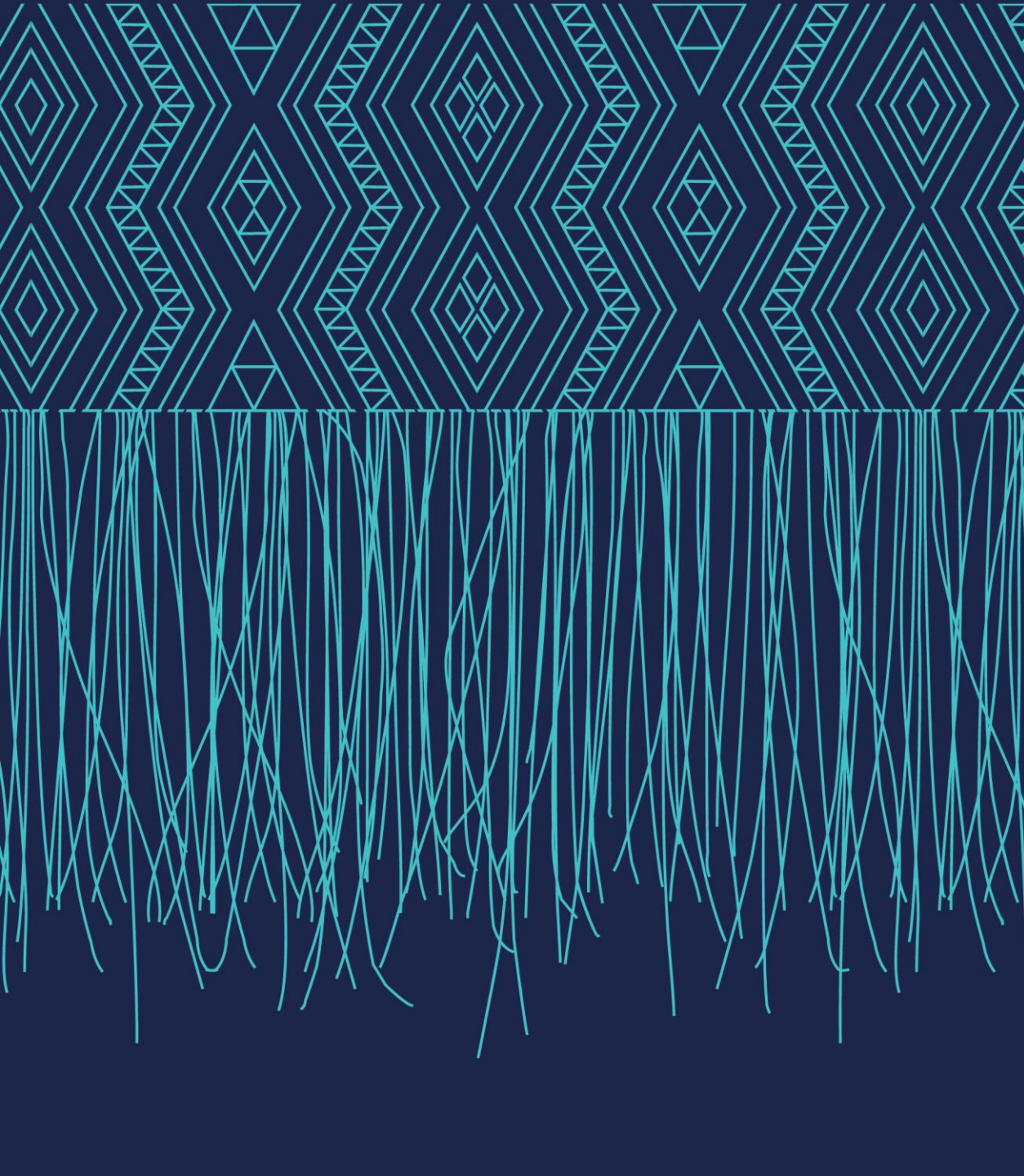
- allow the use of the AR-DRG Classification System within New Zealand only
- manage the use and sharing of electronic code lists/tables (ECLs) within the New Zealand health sector.

Why is this important

Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand, National Collections is required to:

- Have processes in place to control the sharing of electronic code lists of the AR-DRG Classification System, including excerpts of codes and lists.
- Appropriately attribute the source in any use of the AR-DRG Classification System.

The guidance outlined needs to be followed to ensure **Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand, National Collections does not breach the terms of its country license agreement.**



How to share

Electronic Code Lists (ECLs)

Controlled sharing

- Full lists (or at least 50%) of ICD-10-AM, ACHI, ACS and/or AR-DRG codes and descriptions.
- This may be in the form of the electronic code lists (ECLs) or reference tables in the National Collections Data Warehouse (ie, Dim Clinical Code).

Open for sharing

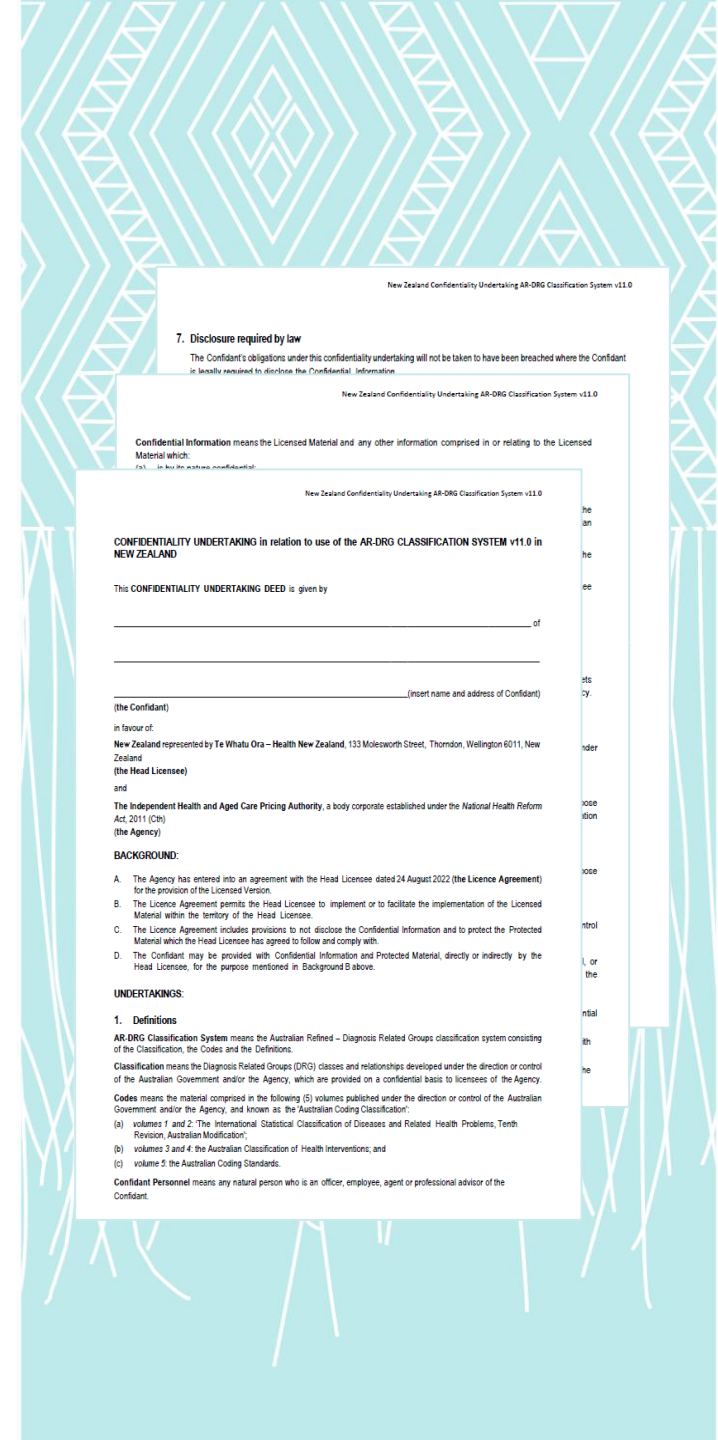
- ICD-10-AM (three character classification upwards) and ACHI (procedure blocks) published in the [Publicly funded hospitalisations](#) file.
- Small excerpts of the electronic codes lists of ICD-10-AM, ACHI or AR-DRG and information from ACS. Example: Chapter 4 *Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases* (E00–E89) from ICD-10-AM or the section on viral hepatitis from ACS 0104.
- WHO ICD-10 codes and descriptions sourced from [WHO online](#) (this material is not under Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand’s country license agreement)

Controlled sharing

- People who require over 50% or full lists of the AR-DRG Classification System need to sign a non-disclosure agreement (NDA) before they receive the files to protect IHACPA's intellectual property.
- These files may be in the form of the electronic code lists (ECLs) or a reference table stored in the National Collections Data Warehouse (ie, Dim Clinical Code).
- Some data users will have access to the electronic code lists (ECLs) in Snowflake. Snowflake data users must review the NDA during onboarding and agree to the terms outlined.

Controlled sharing

- If you have a copy of the ECLs or the reference table, you **should not forward the file** to anyone.
- If you have any questions and/or need to obtain an NDA for signing, please email any of the following:
 - coding_helpdesk@health.govt.nz
 - data-enquiries@health.govt.nz
 - ncamp@health.govt.nz
 - data.governance@health.govt.nz



How to share custom excerpts

If you do share **custom excerpts** of the AR-DRG Classification System electronic code lists with other people, you need to:

- note that further distribution of the file is not permitted
- attribute the product(s) and edition(s) as used.

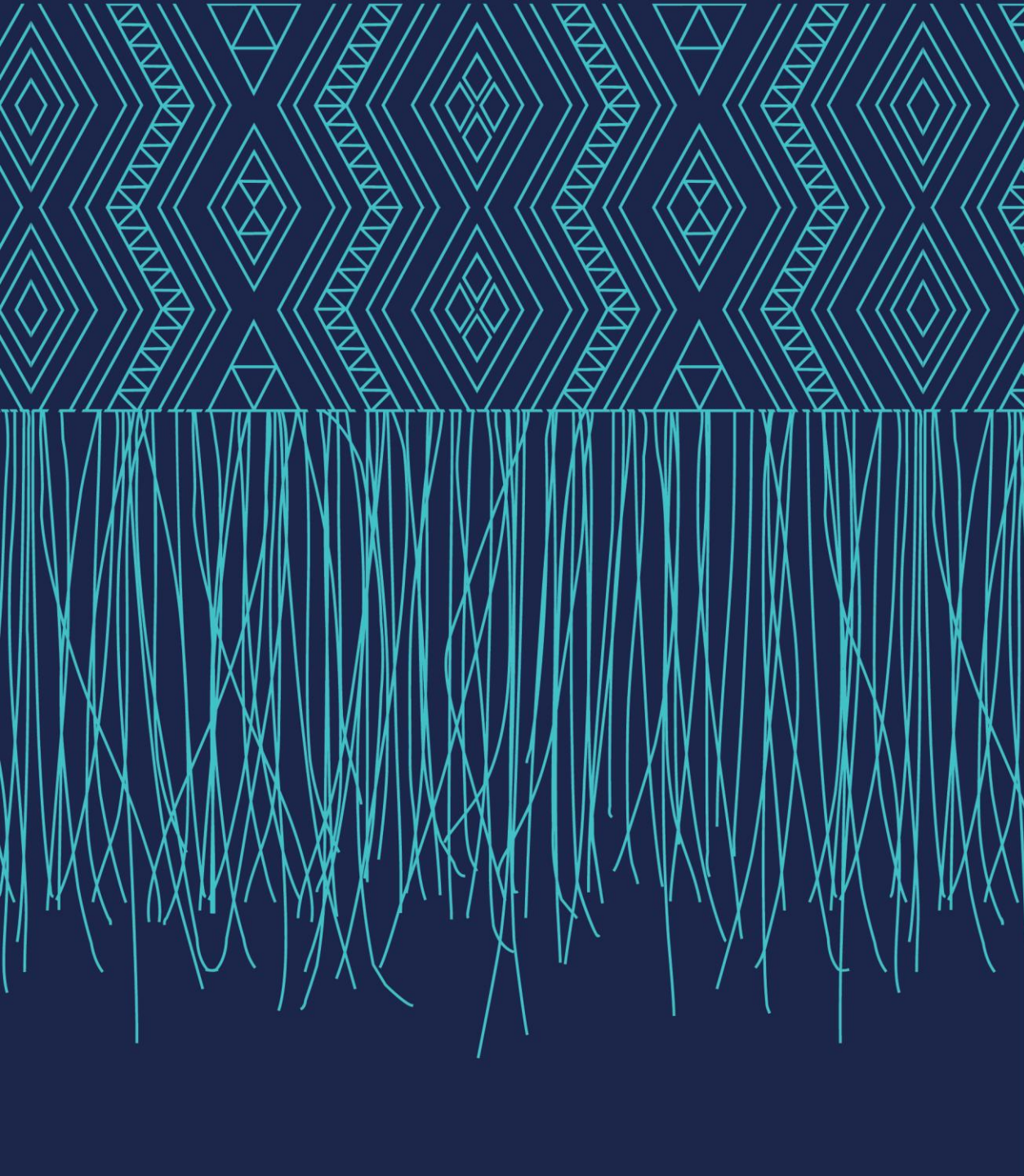
Example:

The **attached file** contains the list of diagnosis codes in Chapter 2 Neoplasms (C00-D48) from the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision, Australian Modification (ICD-10-AM), Eighth Edition (Source: The Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority).

The **attached file** is part of a licensed product. The licensed material is owned by the Australian Government (through the Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority) and the World Health Organization. As per the Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand, National Collections License Agreement the codes are provided on the condition that they are treated as secret and confidential commercial information. Please do not distribute **this file** to a third party without first receiving consent from National Collections, Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand.

If you intend to publish excerpts from the **attached file**, please ensure that you attribute the source of these codes.

The codes are provided on the basis that they are for New Zealand use only.



How to attribute

Recommended steps for attribution

1. Identify the correct product(s) from the AR-DRG Classification System that you have used (eg, ICD-10-AM, ACHI, ACS or AR-DRG).
2. Identify the edition(s) used for those product(s) (eg, 8th Edition).
3. State the full name of the product(s) including the edition (eg, *The Australian Classification of Health Interventions (ACHI) Eighth Edition*).
4. State the source of the product(s) (ie, *Source: The Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority*).

Attribution for publications, reports and webpages

- ICD-10-AM: causes of death were coded to the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision, Australian Modification, Eighth Edition (Source: The Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority).
- The Australian Classification of Health Interventions (ACHI), Eighth Edition (Source: The Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority), was used to classify hospital procedures throughout this publication.
- The International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision, Australian Modification (ICD-10-AM), 8th Edition (Source: The Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority), was used to classify causes of morbidity throughout this publication.
- Hospital events in NMDS are clinically coded using the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision, Australian Modification (ICD-10-AM) for diagnoses and the Australian Classification of Health Interventions (ACHI) for procedures. Both ICD-10-AM and ACHI are from the Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority, Australia. NMDS is based on the 6th Edition for hospital discharges up to 30 June 2014 and the 8th Edition for hospital discharges from 1 July 2014 onwards.

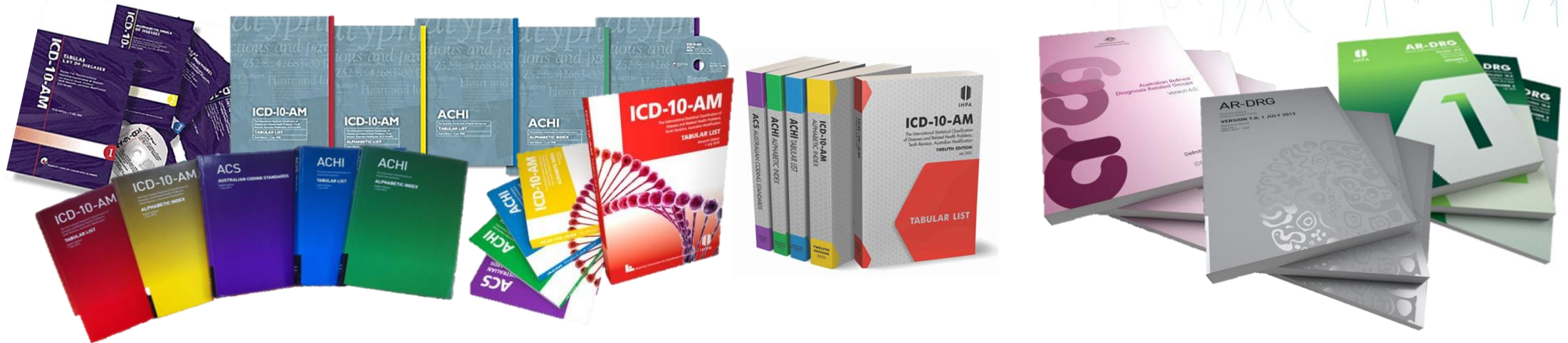
Use these examples of attribution when sharing the AR-DRG Classification System in relation to statistical data or methodology.

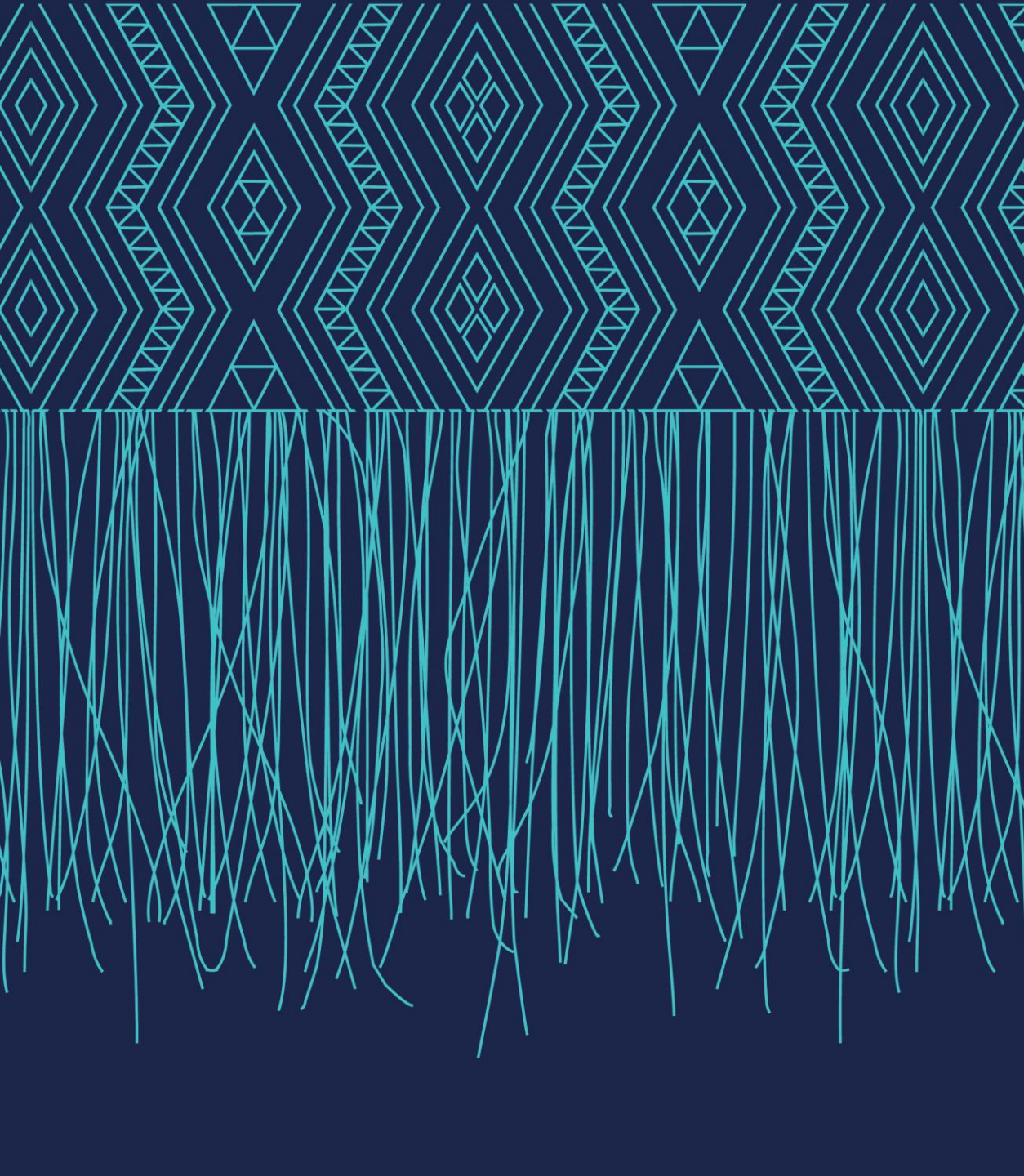
For example:

- Technical notes in reports or on webpages
- Accompanying information for publication or webpages

Attributing specific books and editions

- Over the years, different organisations in Australia have developed and managed the different products under the AR-DRG Classification System.
- If you are writing a scientific article and need precise attribution, please use the physical books published for each product and edition to ensure that you attribute precisely.
- Get in touch with someone from the people listed in this document to access those books.





Getting help with attribution and sharing

National Collections can help you

Email any of the following:

- ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS, AR-DRG helpdesk (coding_helpdesk@health.govt.nz)
- Data Services (data-enquiries@health.govt.nz)
- NCAMP (ncamp@health.govt.nz)
- Data Governance (data.governance@health.govt.nz)

Background to the licensing of the AR-DRG Classification System

The licensing of the Australian classification system (AR-DRG) we use in the New Zealand health system is multi-layered.

World Health Organization

- The WHO holds the intellectual property for the ICD-10 classification.
- The Australian Government entered into a license agreement with the WHO to develop ICD-10-AM, the Australian Modification of ICD-10.

Australian Government

- The International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision, Australian Modification (ICD-10-AM), the Australian Classification of Health Interventions (ACHI), the Australian Coding Standards (ACS) and the Australian Refined Diagnosis Related Groups (AR-DRG) are collectively known as the AR-DRG Classification System.
- The AR-DRG Classification System is developed and maintained by Australian classification experts from the Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority (IHACPA).
- All parts of the AR-DRG Classification System are licensed and the Australia Government owns the intellectual property. Countries wanting to use the AR-DRG Classification System are first required to enter into a formal country license agreement with the Australian Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority (IHACPA) and pay the license fee.
- Electronic Code Lists (ECLs) are electronic files that are used in the development of software or are integrated into existing health software using the ICD-10-AM/ACHI codes for private or commercial purposes. Purchasers of electronic code lists are required to sign an additional license agreement – an ECL License Agreement with IHACPA before the purchase can go ahead in order to protect the intellectual property.

Te Whatu Ora
Health New Zealand

Ngā mihi nui

A decorative background pattern consisting of a dark blue field. The upper portion features a repeating geometric motif of concentric diamonds and zig-zags in a lighter blue color. The lower portion features a dense, vertical pattern of thin, light blue lines that resemble a fringe or a stylized forest.