Clinical coder exam in Sweden. A first try

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Introduction
There is no officially recognized profession of Clinical Coders in Sweden, although a systematized training education in diagnosis coding according to ICD-10 has been in place since 2000 as a private enterprise in cooperation with many Swedish hospitals, County Councils and Regions. Educated Clinical Coders have organized themselves in the Swedish Society of Clinical Coders (RDK) which has been organizing a two days' conference on a yearly basis since 2003. To enhance the coders' official status, the RDK have taken initiative to organize a Certification scheme and as part of this gave their first Coding Exam in conjunction to their yearly conference 12 March 2015. The Exam was adapted to the scheme for a morbidity exam recommended by the WHO-FIC EIC (Education and Implementation Committee).

Methods
The Exam was designed in three parts. Part 1: 20 multiple choice questions on coding rules; Part 2: 30 short coding questions ("How do you code xxx?"); Part 3: 12 short clinical scenarios to be coded. The evaluation was decided to be strict and points were only given for correct codes on the 4th character level. A half point was deducted for incorrect sequencing, for invalid codes and for incorrect choice of principal diagnosis in Part 3. The maximum points were 137.

Results
Of the 100 coders who participated in the Exam, 21 obtained the 80% correct answers limit set as the requirement to obtain the certification Diploma.

Conclusions
Detailed statistics on the results will be presented.

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