

Official CMS Industry Resources for the ICD-10 Transition www.cms.gov/ICD10



ICD-10 Basics for Medical Practices

Begin preparing now for the ICD-10 transition to make sure you are ready by the **October 1, 2013**, compliance deadline. The following quick checklist will assist you with preliminary planning steps.

- Identify your current systems and work processes that use ICD-9 codes. This could include your clinical documentation, encounter forms/superbills, practice management system, electronic health record system, contracts, and public health and quality reporting protocols. It is likely that wherever ICD-9 codes now appear, ICD-10 codes will take their place.
- Talk with your practice management system vendor about accommodations for both Version 5010 and ICD-10 codes.

 Contact your vendor and ask what updates they are planning to your practice management system for both Version 5010 and ICD-10, and when they expect to have it ready to install. Check your contract to see if upgrades are included as part of your agreement. If you are in the process of making a practice management or related system purchase, ask if it is Version 5010 and ICD-10 ready.
- Discuss implementation plans with all your clearinghouses, billing services, and payers to ensure a smooth transition. Be proactive, don't wait. Contact organizations you conduct business with such as your payers, clearinghouse, or billing service. Ask about their plans for the Version 5010 and ICD-10 compliance and when they will be ready to test their systems for both transitions.
- ☐ Talk with your payers about how ICD-10 implementation might affect your contracts. Because ICD-10 codes are much more specific than ICD-9 codes, payers may modify terms of contracts, payment schedules, or reimbursement.
- Identify potential changes to work flow and business processes. Consider changes to existing processes including clinical documentation, encounter forms, and quality and public health reporting.
- Assess staff training needs. Identify the staff in your office who code, or have a need to know the new codes. There are a wide variety of training opportunities and materials available through professional associations, online courses, webinars, and onsite training. If you have a small practice, think about teaming up with other local providers. You might be able, for example, to provide

Background

The ICD-10 transition is coming on **October 1**, **2013**. A related change, the transition to Version 5010 standards for electronic transactions happens before then, on **January 1**, **2012**. Everyone covered by HIPAA is affected. Now is the time to prepare.

About ICD-10

ICD-10 CM/PCS (International Classification of Diseases, 10th Edition, Clinical Modification/ Procedure Coding System) consists of two parts:

- 1. ICD-10-CM for diagnosis coding
- 2. ICD-10-PCS for inpatient procedure coding

ICD-10-CM was developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for use in all U.S. health care settings. Diagnosis coding under ICD-10-CM uses 3 to 7 digits instead of the 3 to 5 digits used with ICD-9-CM, but the format of the code sets is similar.

ICD-10-PCS was developed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for use in U.S. inpatient hospital settings only. ICD-10-PCS uses 7 alphanumeric digits instead of the 3 or 4 numeric digits used under ICD-9-CM procedure coding. Coding under ICD-10-PCS is much more specific and substantially different from ICD-9-CM procedure coding.

The transition to ICD-10-CM/PCS does **not** affect Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes, which will continue to be used for outpatient services.

Visit www.cms.gov/ICD10 for ICD-10 and Version 5010 resources from CMS.



IOL2 Rheumatic aortic stenosis with insufficiency IOLA Other rheumatic aortic valve diseases IOL9 Rheumatic aortic valve disease, unspecified IO70 Rheumatic tricuspid stenosis IO71 Rheumatic tricuspid insufficiency

training for a staff person from one practice, who can in turn train staff members in other practices. Coding professionals recommend that training take place approximately 6 months prior to the October 1, 2013, compliance date.

Budget for time and costs related to ICD-10 implementation, including expenses for system
changes, resource materials, and training. Assess the costs of any necessary software updates,
reprinting of superbills, training and related expenses.

Conduct test transactions using Version 5010/ICD-10 codes with your payers and clearinghouses.
Testing is critical. Allow yourself enough time to first test that your Version 5010 transactions, and
subsequently, claims containing ICD-10 codes are being successfully transmitted and received by your
payers and billing service or clearinghouse. Check to see when they will begin testing, and the test days
they have scheduled. If you submit electronic claims, you need to have completed internal testing of
Version 5010 systems in time to begin external testing with your payers, clearinghouses, billing services,
and other business partners by January 1, 2011 .

This fact sheet was prepared as a service to the health care industry and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations, and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents.



