



ICD-10: A Practical Approach to Making the Transition

MCMS Compliance Conference & Trade Show

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Deb is a Senior Consultant at MBA, LLC, a firm specializing in Healthcare Consulting and Practice Management issues for all types of healthcare providers/entities. Prior to joining MBA, she was the Director of Compliance Education & Training, as well as a former Director of Accounts Receivable with a national billing company.

Her 20+ years of experience with revenue cycle management, coding compliance, chart auditing and physician education has allowed her to be a valuable asset to the local medical community. She has aided many physician practices in improving their coding & documentation accuracy and is currently providing a variety of consulting services, which include revenue cycle management, chart auditing and managed care contract negotiation. Deb is an active member of the American Academy of Professional Coders (AAPC) as both a Certified Professional Coder (CPC) and a Certified Professional Medical Auditor (CPMA). She's also a member of the American Institute of Healthcare Compliance (AIHC).

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Session Objectives

- ICD-10 – What Is It, When Is It Coming...?
- How Will It Impact Your Practice
- How to Get Your Practice Ready

What Is ICD-10?

- ICD-10 CM (Clinical Modification) and ICD-10-PCS (Procedure Classification System) Coding Systems Will Replace the Current ICD-9-CM Coding System
- It Is Based on ICD-10 – Developed by the World Health Organization (WHO) and is Used Internationally
- Approximately 79,000 Codes Are in the 2013 Draft Code Set Compared to the Approximate 14,000 existing now in ICD-9
- Codes Are 3-7 Characters in Length

Compare the Differences

ICD-9-CM Diagnosis Codes	ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Codes
3-5 characters in length	3-7 characters in length
Approximately 14,000 codes	Approximately 79,000 codes
First digit may be alpha (E or V) or numeric. Digits 2-5 are numeric	Digit 1 is alpha; digit 2-7 are alpha or numeric
Limited space for new codes	Flexible for adding new codes
Lacks detail	Very specific
Non-specificity of codes makes it difficult to analyze data	Specificity improves coding accuracy and depth of data for analysis – greater granularity
Not used in other countries so it's difficult to compare health-related data outside U.S.	Supports the exchange of health care data between other countries and the United States

Source: AAPC ICD-10 Implementation Boot Camp

When Is It Coming?

- Final Rule for Adoption of ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS by HHS was Released Jan. 15, 2009 With an Original Implementation Date of Oct. 1, 2013
- On April 9, 2012 HHS Released Propose Rule Indicating an Extension of the Implementation Date for One Year...

October 1, 2014

How Will It Impact Us?

- Impact is Two-Part
 - Impact of Preparing for the Change
 - Impact of the Change Itself

Preparing for the Change

How Will It Impact Your Budget?

- Think about your IT infrastructure
 - Are systems (EMR/EHR, Practice Management, Interfaces) compatible? Are there upgrades needed? When will you receive them?
 - Do you need more staff resources, either internally or outsourced
 - Overtime or increased expenses for system upgrades and testing time may/will occur.
 - Establish guidelines for OT to avoid surprises

Preparing for the Change

Training Needs – How much will be needed and what are the costs?

Look at the: “Who, What, When & Where” as it relates to training needs

Training Needs – Who?

- Who Should Be Trained?
 - Anyone in your practice that currently touches ICD-9 diagnosis codes
 - Front Desk
 - Clinical Staff
 - Coding/Billing Staff
 - Physicians
 - Ancillary Services (labs/x-ray)



Training Needs – What?

- What Level of Training is Needed
 - Consider whether it will be conducted internally or by using external resources
 - Should not be a “one size fits all” approach
 - Coders/Billers may need more than others
 - Physicians/Practitioners – Must be included!



Training Needs – When?

- Most experts recommend code set and documentation training begin in January 2014
- Train too soon and the information won't be retained for practical use at Go-Live date of October 1st



Training Needs – Where?

- Similar to the “What”
- Need to determine if you will use internal resources or an external vendor (or a combination of the two)
- Seek expert advice to determine which approach fits your needs
- Consider using a “Train the Trainer” approach



Preparation – Other Items to Consider

Your preparation budget needs to include:

- 1) Form revisions
- 2) Process Flow modifications
- 3) Increased staffing - at least temporary
- 4) Documentation readiness audit



Impact of The Change Itself

- ICD-10 will affect your people and processes
- Everywhere they use or see ICD-9 today
- Know how your EMR/EHR is going to handle code selection – Start this research NOW



Impact of the Change

- Need to inquire whether all your payers will be making the switch
- Need concurrent use of both ICD-9 & ICD-10 – It's date of service driven
- Outsourced services – Know their readiness level
 - For example – Have they conducted an analysis of systems, processes? Do they have an ICD-10 Committee &/or Project Team with an active Implementation or Project Plan?

Getting Ready for the Transition

- **What to Do Now**
 - Review ICD-10 Resources
 - CMS, Specialty &/or Trade Associations, Payers & Vendors
 - Develop an ICD-10 communication plan
 - Create an ICD-10 Project Team
 - Develop and complete an ICD-10 Project Plan

Sample Project Plan

Item	Task Name	Resources	Due Date	Status	Start Date	End Date
	Create ICD-10 Steering Committee					
1	Select Key Members including senior management, representatives from Billing/Coding, Nursing/MA, Front Desk, IT, Physician and identify Committee Chair or Project Manager	Project Manager	9/1/2013	Completed	8/1/2013	8/15/2013
2	Schedule First Steering Committee Meeting	Project Manager	9/15/2013	Completed	8/15/2013	8/15/2013
3	Conduct Steering Committee Meeting	Project Manager	9/15/2013	Completed	8/15/2013	8/15/2013
4	Determine Method of Regular Communication and Meeting Frequency	Steering Committee Members	10/1/2013	In Progress	8/15/2013	
5	Define Key Steps for Transition and Monitoring Phases and Create Project Plans With Associated Tasks	Steering Committee Members	10/20/2013	In Progress	8/15/2013	
6	Discuss a Unified "Message" and Communication Strategy to All Affected Staff Members	Steering Committee Members	10/20/2013	In Progress	8/15/2013	
7	Determine if Overview or Education is Needed for Any Members of Steering Committee on ICD-10	Steering Committee Members	10/1/2013	Completed	8/15/2013	8/15/2013
8	Review ICD-10 Project Plans and assign Planned Tasks, Responsibility/ Resources, Target Deadlines, and Planned Budget Analysis	Steering Committee Members	11/1/2013	Not Yet Started		
	Communication Plan					
9	Determine Frequency for Mailings/Posters	Steering Committee Members	10/20/2013	Not Yet Started		
10	Draft Format of Notice(s)/Communication(s)	Steering Committee Members	10/20/2013	Not Yet Started		
11	Review & Finalize Format	Steering Committee Members	10/31/2013	Not Yet Started		
12	Assess System Readiness					
13	Identify and List all Current Electronic Systems (Practice Management, EMR, Transcription, Lab, Radiology, interfaces, BI software, etc.)	To Be Determined				
14	Create Contact List for Each Electronic System	To Be Determined				
15	Contact with Vendors to Inquire on their Timeline for ICD-10 Readiness and Planned Steps for Integration					
16	Determine if Upgrades Will be Required					
17	Determine if System will Allow for Dual Coding of ICD-9 and ICD-10 in Order to Address Coding Prior to Transition Date and After Transition Date and How Long the Dual Entry Will be Accommodated					



Getting Ready – What to Do Now - cont'd

- Estimate and approval process for a budget – Is financing needed?
- Reach out to vendors and payers
- Review your ICD-9 code frequencies
- Implement documentation readiness audits
- Start high-level training NOW



Getting Ready – What to Do Later

- By January 2014, have claims testing and/or other transaction testing underway
- By end of March 2014, begin detailed training for coders & your clinicians



Getting Ready – What to Do Later

- Monitor your readiness every step of the way with an ICD-10 Project Plan
- Establish a timeline based on recommendations by CMS, AAPC &/or AHIMA
- Work with vendors to ensure your practice is production-ready at Go-Live



In Summary

- Implementation date is Oct. 1, 2014
- Prepare and Approve your ICD-10 Budget
- Prepare a Structured Implementation/Project Plan
- Try Not to Underestimate Time or Cost
- Consider Outside Help from Experts Early in Your Process Who Can Assist During Implementation, Documentation Audits, Testing & Training

ICD-10 Resources

CMS – www.cms.gov/ICD10.com

AHIMA-<http://www.ahima.org/topics/icd10>

AAPC-<http://www.aapc.com/icd-10/index.aspx>

Questions

Call us if you need assistance with your
ICD-10 transition.

