

SPECIAL BULLETIN

FOR HEALTH OPTIONS PROVIDERS

JULY 31, 2015

- **ICD-10: ARE YOU READY?**
- **NEW APPEALS & GRIEVANCE ADDRESS**

ICD-10: ARE YOU READY?

Oct. 1, 2015 - compliance date for implementation of ICD-10-CM (diagnoses) and ICD-10-PCS (procedures)

- ICD-9-CM codes will not be accepted for services provided on or after **Oct. 1, 2015**.
- ICD-10 codes will not be accepted for services prior to **Oct. 1, 2015**.

Begin using the ICD-10-CM codes to report diagnoses for all ambulatory and physician services on **all paper and electronic claims** with dates of service on/after Oct. 1, 2015, and for all diagnoses on **all paper and electronic claims** for inpatient settings with dates of discharge that occur on/after Oct. 1, 2015.

Additionally, hospitals must begin using the ICD-10-PCS (procedure codes) for all hospital claims for inpatient procedures on **paper and electronic claims** with dates of discharge that occur on or after Oct. 1, 2015. Check with your clearinghouses to confirm you are ready for ICD-10.

The implementation of ICD-10 will:

- accommodate new procedures and diagnoses unaccounted for in the ICD-9 code set;
- allow for greater specificity of diagnosis-related groups and preventive services, and
- allow for improved accuracy in reimbursement, fraud detection, historical claims and diagnoses analysis for the health care system.

As you prepare for ICD-10 implementation, we wanted to share some facts that CMS gathered to address common questions and concerns heard about the transition:

You don't have to use 68,000 codes.

Your practice does not use all 13,000 diagnosis codes available in ICD-9. Nor will it be required to use the 68,000 codes that ICD-10 offers. As you do now, your practice will use a very small subset of the codes.

You will use a similar process to look up ICD-10 codes that you use with ICD-9.

Increasing the number of diagnosis codes does not necessarily make ICD-10 harder to use. As with ICD-9, an alphabetic index and electronic tools are available to help you with code selection.

Outpatient and office procedure codes aren't changing.

The transition to ICD-10 for diagnosis coding and inpatient procedure coding does not affect the use of CPT for outpatient and office coding. Your practice will continue to use CPT. *(Continued)*



Refer to the Emdeon ICD-10 Submitter-Provider Quick Start Guide included with this Special Bulletin. In addition, information regarding the ICD-10 transition is available on the Department of Human Services (DHS) website at www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dmma/icd10compliance.html. You will also find a helpful ICD-10 Library and Tool Kit on Highmark Delaware's Provider Resource Center at www.highmarkbcbssde.com.

NEW ADDRESS FOR APPEALS & GRIEVANCE

Please note the following new address for Highmark Health Options Appeals & Grievance:

Appeals & Grievance

P.O. Box 22278

Pittsburgh, PA 15222