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Health Care Provider Alert

Beginning on October 1, 2015, all claims and health care transactions between health care payers and health care providers are to include diagnosis codes specified within the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Edition (ICD-10) according to federal law. Health care providers are to be aware that claims using ICD-9 diagnosis codes will be rejected and that they must be corrected and resubmitted using appropriate ICD-10 codes.

The Division of Insurance (Division) is aware that Medicare, Medicaid, and most payers have alerted health care providers about this required change, and that many providers are ready to switch to ICD-10 by October 1, 2015. This notice is intended for those who may not yet be ready for ICD-10 to alert them to information about making the necessary conversions.

First, if you use a billing agent to process your claims, you should contact your billing agent to ensure that the agent is ready to use ICD-10 codes on October 1, 2015. If not, you may want to consider switching to one that is ready.

Second, if your office processes all your claims, especially if you submit paper claims to health care payers for payment, it is important to understand the diagnosis codes that are most commonly used by your office. You will want to identify the ICD-10 codes that replace the ICD-9 codes that you regularly use. The following websites may provide helpful information for developing an ICD-9 to ICD-10 crosswalk for your practice.

- [The ICD-10 Resource Center](#) (Massachusetts Medical Society)
- [ICD-9 to ICD-10 Crosswalk by Specialty](#) (AAPC)
- [Crosswalk - Top 50 Codes for Behavioral Health](#) (AAPC)
- [Top 20 ICD-9 to ICD-10 Conversion Charts](#) (Pulse)
- [ICD-9 to ICD-10 Code Conversion](#) (AAPC)*

If you have additional questions about what may be required beginning October 1, 2015, please consider contacting your trade association or contracting payer, or looking at materials available from any of the following agencies:

Federal Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services
<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/index.html>

Massachusetts Health Data Consortium
(781) 419-7807, <http://mahealthdata.org/icd10public>

*Most code conversion utilities are based on the General Equivalency Mapping (GEM) files published by CMS, and is not intended to be used as an ICD-10 conversion, ICD-10 mapping or ICD-9 to ICD-10 crosswalk tool. Keep in mind that while many codes in ICD-9-CM map directly to codes in ICD-10, in some cases, a clinical analysis may be required to determine which code or codes should be selected for your mapping. Always review mapping results before applying them.

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