FAQs: Transitioning to ICD-10 with Providence Health Plan

Is Providence Health Plan ready for testing?

All Providence Health Plan (PHP) applications will be ready for end-to-end formal testing by summer of 2014. We will implement beta testing the first half of 2014 with select, to be determined, provider and clearinghouse partners.

When will ICD-10 become effective at Providence?

PHP will adopt ICD-10-CM codes (diagnosis codes) effective Oct. 1, 2014, in conjunction with Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and all other major payers. Claims for services prior to Oct. 1, 2014, must be submitted with ICD-9 diagnosis codes, and claims for services after Oct. 1, 2014, must be submitted with ICD-10 diagnosis codes.

How is Providence Health Plan getting from ICD-9 to ICD-10?

PHP is using General Equivalency Mappings to map codes from one system to the other for all medical policies, payment policies, benefit applications, diagnostic edits and historical data tracking. PHP also will employ "intent mapping," in which the analyst compares ICD-9-CM codes to an expanded version of ICD-10-CM codes to identify all appropriate equivalent groupings. This way, PHP captures the intent of each code rather than simply creating a one-to-one crosswalk.

Why is CMS upgrading to ICD-10?

The health care industry is making the transition from ICD-9 to ICD-10 because:

- **ICD-9 codes provide limited data about patients' medical conditions and hospital inpatient procedures**. ICD-9 is 30 years old. It has outdated and obsolete terms, and is inconsistent with current medical practices. Also, the structure of ICD-9 limits the number of new codes that can be created, and many ICD-9 categories are full.

- **ICD-10 codes allow for greater specificity and precision for describing a patient's diagnosis and in classifying inpatient procedures.** ICD-10 also will accommodate newly developed diagnoses and procedures, innovations in technology and treatment, performance-based payment systems, and more accurate billing. ICD-10 coding will make the billing process more streamlined and efficient, and this will also allow for more precise methods of detecting fraud.

What is different in ICD-10?

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

- ICD-10-CM for diagnosis coding
- ICD-10-PCS for inpatient procedure coding

ICD-10-CM is 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 is 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.

Who needs to transition?

ICD-10 will affect diagnosis and inpatient procedure coding for everyone covered by Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act (HIPAA), not just those who submit Medicare or Medicaid claims. The transition will go much more smoothly for organizations that plan ahead and prepare now. The change to ICD-10 does not affect CPT coding for outpatient procedures.

Will I need to use both ICD-9 and ICD-10 codes during the transition?

Practice management systems must be able to accommodate both ICD-9 and ICD-10 codes until all claims and other transactions for services before Oct. 1, 2014, have been processed and completed. Promptly processing ICD-9 transactions as the transition date nears will help limit disruptions and will limit the timeframe when dual code sets need to be used.

What happens if we need to reprocess a claim after the Oct. 1, 2014, cutoff when the original process date fell before Oct. 1?

Diagnosis will still be DOS-specific.

Will ICD-10 replace Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) procedure coding?

No. The switch to ICD-10 does not affect CPT coding for outpatient procedures. Like ICD-9 procedure codes, ICD-10-PCS codes are for hospital inpatient procedures only.

Will my payment change?

For providers, payment will continue to be based on CPT codes. You should not experience any change in payment due to ICD-10.

For inpatient hospital procedure billing, DRGs may shift. We encourage you to do internal analytics to be prepared as much as possible for these shifts where they occur.

What happens if I don't switch to ICD-10?

Claims that do not use ICD-10 diagnosis and inpatient procedure codes on or after **Oct. 1, 2014,** cannot be processed. It is important to note, however, that claims for services provided before Oct. 1, 2014, must use ICD-9 diagnosis and inpatient procedure codes.

Where can I find the ICD-10 codes?

The ICD-10-CM, ICD-10-PCS code sets and the ICD-10-CM official guidelines are available for free at:

- 2014 ICD-10-CM and GEMs
- 2014 ICD-10 PCS and GEMs

They're also available through the CMS ICD-10 website.

Where can I get answers to coding questions?

- American Hospital Association Central Office serves as the U.S. clearinghouse for issues related to ICD-9-CM and ICD-10-CM/PCS codes.
- Online process for submitting coding questions can be found at AHA Coding Clinic Advisor. (Submit copy of relevant, de-identified medical record with coding question.)
- AHIMA offers the following information:
    - ICD-10-CM/PCS Transition: Planning and Preparation Checklist
    - Practice guidance
        - Putting ICD-10-CM/PCS GEMS into Practice
        - Transitioning ICD-10-CM/PCS Data Management Processes
        - ICD-10-CM/PCS Project Management Resources
        - Planning Organizational Transition to ICD-10-CM/PCS
        - Planning for the ICD-10-CM Transition for LTC Facilities
    - Toolkits
        - ICD-10-CM/PCS Implementation Toolkit
        - Clinical Documentation Improvement Toolkit
        - Other tools
        - ICD-10 Readiness Assessment and Prioritization Tool
        - ICD-10 vendor questionnaire
    - Role-based implementation models
        - Physician practice
        - Long-term care
        - Inpatient and outpatient coders
        - Data managers
        - Health plans
        - Academic institutions
    - Training and education
        - Coder readiness assessments
        - Face-to-face or online training
        - Publications
        - Webinars/conferences

Where can I learn more?

ICD-10 resources are available through CMS, Medicare Administrative Contractors, professional associations and societies, such as AHIMA and the American Academy of Professional Coders, and practice management system/EHR vendors.

Visit CMS ICD-10 website for all things ICD-10, including the latest information on training opportunities. (See more CMS ICD-10 links below.)

Sign up for CMS ICD-10 email updates to receive the latest news and resources on ICD-10.

If you have further questions about PHP's process for migration from ICD-9 to ICD-10 diagnosis coding systems, please contact your PHP provider relations representative.

ICD-10: Less Than One Year Out: ICD-10
(Source: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services)

CMS is encouraging the health care industry to take advantage of the numerous ICD-10 resources available for checking progress and any actions that may be needed because the Oct. 1, 2014 is quickly approaching.

Intro Guide to ICD-10
The CMS Intro Guide to ICD-10 explains the essential aspects of ICD-10 and offers steps and resources for preparing for Oct. 1, 2014.

Online ICD-10 Guide
The Online ICD-10 Guide includes an overview of ICD-10 as well as information on how to transition to ICD-10 for small/medium practices, large practices, small hospitals and payers.

Other ICD-10 resources
Below are links to other helpful tools available on the CMS ICD-10 website:

- ICD-10 Basics for Small and Rural Practices
- ICD-10 Resources Flyer
- Role of Clearinghouses in the ICD-10 Transition
- The ICD-10 Transition: An Introduction
- ICD-10 Basics for Medical Practices
- Talking to Your Vendors About ICD-10: Tips for Medical Practices
- ICD-10 FAQs
- National ICD-10 Provider Education Teleconferences

CMS, in collaboration with Medscape, has produced videos and articles that offer tips and advice on ICD-10, along with an opportunity for physicians to earn continuing medical education credits and nurses to earn continuing education credits.

CMS has recently released two new Medscape videos, ICD-10: A Roadmap for Small Clinical Practices