Implementation of ICD-10

Summary

On August 24, 2012, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a final rule delaying the compliance date for use of the ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS code sets to October 1, 2014. ACP sent its comments to CMS, encouraging the agency to delay the compliance to at least October 1, 2014 – to give physicians and others in the medical community sufficient time to complete their transition plans and activities.

On the compliance date, the current ICD-9 (International Classification of Disease, 9th Revision) code sets used to report health care diagnoses and procedures will be replaced by expanded ICD-10 (International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision) code sets. All Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) transactions, including outpatient and inpatient claims, will be required to use the ICD-10 codes by the specified compliance date.

According to CMS, adoption of the ICD-10 code sets is expected to:

- Support value-based purchasing by accurately defining services and providing specific diagnosis and treatment information, such as identifying cases of MRSA and other specific conditions, and would further Medicare’s ability to detect and prevent program abuse.

- Support comprehensive reporting of quality data.

- Ensure more accurate payments for new procedures, fewer rejected claims, improved disease management, and harmonization of disease monitoring and reporting worldwide.

- Allow the United States to compare its data with international data to track the incidence and spread of disease and treatment outcomes because the United States is one of the few developed countries not using ICD-10.

Physicians’ claims for outpatient and inpatient services will transition to using ICD-10 Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) for reporting diagnoses. Please note that ICD-10-CM will not replace the CPT procedure codes. (Inpatient facility claims will transition to the ICD-10 Procedure Coding System, also called ICD-10-PCS – for reporting inpatient procedures).

ACP has tools available to help increase awareness and ensure an orderly transition to ICD-10.

Resources

- ACP Running a Practice – ICD-10 info.
  http://www.acponline.org/running_practice/payment_coding/coding/icd10.htm