



# ICD-10

Official CMS Industry Resources for the ICD-10 Transition  
[www.cms.gov/ICD10](http://www.cms.gov/ICD10)



## Payers

### Implementation Timeline

**Please note the dates in this timeline are based on an October 1, 2013, deadline, which HHS has extended to October 1, 2014.**

The following is a timeline of essential activities needed to successfully transition to ICD-10. While each organization's implementation may be unique, the following activities and procedures are intended to provide guidance for a smooth transition. Depending on your organization, many of these timelines can be compressed and/or performed at the same time as other tasks. The estimated total duration for each activity is provided.



#### Actions to Take Immediately

- Inform core group and senior management of upcoming changes (3 months)
- Create a governance structure, such as a project management team, executive sponsor, steering committee, and/or ICD-10 point of contact (1 month)
- Complete impact assessments (6 months)
  - Identify business areas, policies, processes and systems, and trading partners affected by the transition
  - Review cost benefit analysis
  - Identify and validate CMS and National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) General Equivalence Mappings (GEMs) and reimbursement crosswalks and mapping tools
- Determine business and technical implementation strategy (6 months)
  - Establish and communicate the implementation timeline
- Determine migration strategy for coverage policies and contracts to identify who will need ICD-10 coding training (6 months)
- Secure budget for implementation and establish and engage implementation team (3 months)
- Define functional requirements for system development efforts; these requirements should support your implementation strategy (6 months)
- Complete ICD-10 coding training in the code sets and maps for staff who translate coverage policies (9 months)

- Begin and continue system design and development (18 months)
- Begin conversation of coverage policies for the ICD-10 code sets; develop a strategy to coordinate versions of coverage policies to maintain consistency through implementation (12+ months)
- Begin development of business and system requirements (9 months)
- If using vendor solution, engage immediately for development of business and system requirements
- Begin system design and development (9 months)
- Determine provider contract remediation requirements
- Start vendor code development and internal testing (12 months)



## Spring 2011

- Perform impact assessment, if not already complete
- Identify business areas affected, if not already complete
- Identify policies affected, processes and systems, if not already complete
- Identify outcomes on trading partners, if not already complete
- Review cost benefit analyses, if not already complete
- Validate CMS and NCHS GEMs, if not already complete
- Develop implementation strategy/plan, if not already complete
- Initiate implementation program and governance structure set-up, if not already complete
- Develop business strategy, if not already complete
- Begin conversion of coverage policies for the ICD-10 code sets; develop a strategy to coordinate versions of coverage policies to maintain consistency through implementation (12+ months)
- Begin development of business and system requirements (9 months)
- If using vendor solution, engage immediately for development of business and system requirements



## Summer 2011

- Continue conversion of coverage policies for the ICD-10 code sets; develop a strategy to coordinate versions of coverage policies to maintain consistency through implementation

- Continue development of business and system requirements
- Begin system design and development (9 months)
- Determine provider contract remediation requirements



## Fall 2011

- Continue conversion of coverage policies to the ICD-10 code sets
- Complete development of business and system requirements
- Continue system design and development
- Start vendor code deployment and internal testing (12 months)



## Winter 2012

- Continue conversion of coverage policies to the ICD-10 code sets
- Complete system design and development
- Complete vendor code deployment and internal testing
- Start internal testing. This must be a coordinated effort with internal coding, billing and technical resources as well as vendor resources, if applicable (9 months)



## Spring 2012

- Continue conversion of coverage policies to the ICD-10 code sets
- Continue internal testing. This must be a coordinated effort with internal coding, billing and technical resources as well as vendor resources



## Summer 2012

- Continue conversion of coverage policies and provider contracts to the ICD-10 code sets
- Continue internal testing. This must be a coordinated effort with internal coding, billing and technical resources as well as vendor resources



## Fall 2012

- Complete internal testing

- Complete conversion of coverage policies to the ICD-10 code sets
- Begin external testing with trading partners (11 months)
- Create a plan for post-implementation data analysis by beginning to identify potential code/code categories to focus on. (The conversion process will likely reveal insights on how coverage policies or overall reimbursements might be affected) (9 months)



## Winter 2013

- Continue external testing with trading partners
- Continue to develop a plan for post-implementation data analysis by identifying potential code/code categories to focus on. (The conversion process will likely reveal insights on how coverage policies or overall reimbursements might be affected)



## Spring 2013

- Continue external testing with trading partners
- Continue to develop a plan for post-implementation data analysis by identifying potential code/code categories to focus on. (The conversion process will likely reveal insights on how coverage policies or overall reimbursements might be affected)



## Summer 2013

- Complete external testing with partners
- Begin systems implementation (3+ months)
- Complete plan for post-implementation data analysis by identifying potential code/code categories to focus on. (The conversion process will likely reveal insights on how coverage policies or overall reimbursements might be affected)



## Fall 2013

- Complete system implementation
- October 1, 2013: ICD-10 system implementation for full compliance. ICD-9 codes will continue to be used for services provided before October 1, 2013

On-going education and implementation assistance for ICD-10 is available from many professional organizations and associations. Visit the CMS website at [www.cms.gov/ICD10](http://www.cms.gov/ICD10) for the latest information and tools to help you prepare for the ICD-10 transition.

*CMS consulted resources from the American Medical Association (AMA), the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA), the North Carolina Healthcare Information & Communications Alliance (NCHICA) and the Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange (WEDI) in developing this timeline.*



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