Get Ready Now: Contact Your Software Vendors, Clearinghouses, and Billing Services

With ICD-10 less than 30 days away, now is the time to get ready. You can make sure your practice is prepared by following the ABCs of ICD-10:

- **Assess how ICD-10 will affect your practice** and make a plan
- **Be sure your systems are ready**
- **Contact your vendors**

Today, we’ll explore “C” – “Contact your vendors.”
If you aren’t sure your systems are ready for ICD-10, contact your vendors and other business trading partners.

**Ask about testing opportunities**

- **Test with vendors, clearinghouses, billing services, and health plans** to:
  - Verify that you can submit, receive, and process data with ICD-10 codes
  - Understand how ICD-10 updates affect the transactions you submit
  - Identify and address specific issues before October 1
- Check for testing opportunities at the website of the [Cooperative Exchange](#), an association of clearinghouses.

**Confirm vendors and products are ICD-10-ready**

- **Call your vendors** to confirm the ICD-10 readiness of your practice’s systems
  - Confirm that the health plans, clearinghouses, and third-party billing services you work with are ICD-10 ready
  - Ask vendors, health plans, clearinghouses, and third-party billers about testing opportunities
  - Many EHR vendors are including ICD-10 in their systems or upgrades—at little or no cost to their customers
- You can use [forms available in the Road to 10’s Template Library](#) to guide discussions with vendors, health plans, clearinghouses, and billing services
- Double check that you’ve identified all systems that use ICD codes—e.g., practice management systems, claims submission systems, electronic health record (EHR) products—when contacting vendors
- Update contracts with vendors and health plans as needed

**Keep Up to Date on ICD-10**

Visit the CMS [ICD-10 website](#) and [Roadto10.org](#) for the latest news and resources to help you prepare. Sign up for [CMS ICD-10 Email Updates](#) and follow us on Twitter.