



# ICD-10

Official CMS Industry Resources for the ICD-10 Transition  
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## ICD-10. COMPLIANCE DATE OCTOBER 1, 2015

News Updates | August 31, 2015

### Get Ready Now: Assess How ICD-10 Will Affect Your Practice

With ICD-10 just 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:

- **A**ssess how ICD-10 will affect your practice and [make a plan](#)
- **B**e sure your systems are ready
- **C**ontact your vendors

Today, we'll explore "A" – "Assess how ICD-10 will affect your practice."

## Get the **ABCs** and Get Ready Now!

**A**

**ASSESS** how ICD-10 will affect your practice

So that you can make a plan

Do you need:

Access to ICD-10 codes?



Clearinghouse services?



Coding training?



Clinical documentation training?



New forms?



Systems upgrades?



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As part of assessing how ICD-10 affects your practice, you should find out if you need:

**Access to ICD-10 codes** – You can find codes from a variety of sources, including:

- Code books
- CD/DVD and other digital media
- [Online](#) (e.g., go to [cms.gov/ICD10](https://www.cms.gov/ICD10) and select “2016 ICD-10-CM and GEMS” to download 2016 Code Tables and Index)
- Practice management systems
- Electronic health record (EHR) products
- Free and low-cost smartphone apps
- [CMS ICD-10 Code Lookup](#)
- [Coding Conversion Tool](#)

**Clearinghouse services** – Some providers who are not ready could benefit from contracting with a clearinghouse to submit claims.

- Clearinghouses can help by:
  - Identifying problems that lead to claims being rejected
  - Providing guidance about how to fix rejected claims (e.g., more or different data need to be included)
- Clearinghouses cannot help you code in ICD-10 codes unless they offer third-party billing/coding services.

### **Clinical documentation and coding training**

- Train staff on ICD-10 fundamentals using the wealth of free resources from CMS, which include the [ICD-10 website](#), [Road to 10](#), [Email Updates](#), [National Provider Calls](#), and [webinars](#). Free resources are also available from:
  - Medical societies, health care professional associations
  - Hospitals, health systems, health plans, vendors
- Training for clinical staff—e.g., physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, registered nurses—should focus on documentation, new coding concepts captured in ICD-10.
- Training for coding and administrative staff—e.g., coders, billers, practice managers—should focus on ICD-10 fundamentals.

**New forms** – It is crucial to update hard-copy and electronic forms (e.g., superbills, [CMS 1500 forms](#)).

**Systems upgrades** – Double check that you’ve identified all systems that use ICD codes and need upgrades (e.g., practice management systems, electronic health record (EHR) products).

- [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
- Transition costs for small medical practices could be substantially lower than projected earlier:
  - Many EHR vendors are including ICD-10 in their systems or upgrades—at little or no cost to their customers
  - Software and systems costs for ICD-10 could be minimal for many providers

**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.



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