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## Results From March 2015 ICD-10 Acknowledgement Testing Week

CMS and volunteer health professionals conducted another successful acknowledgement testing week in March 2015. Acknowledgement testing gives providers and others the opportunity to submit claims with ICD-10 codes to the Medicare Fee-For-Service (FFS) claims systems and receive electronic acknowledgements, confirming that their claims were accepted. Volunteers were not required to register and there was no limit on the number of claims that could be submitted.

Providers, suppliers, billing companies, and clearinghouses can conduct acknowledgement testing with CMS at any time, and many have already participated in previous acknowledgement testing weeks. For the March acknowledgement testing, 775 submitters participated, submitting almost 9,000 claims. Nationally, CMS accepted 91.8 percent of test claims. This is a higher acceptance rate than the previous two testing weeks. No Medicare FFS claims systems issues were identified during this testing week or the previous acknowledgement testing weeks in [November 2014](#) and [March 2014](#).

(Excluded from these statistics are 8.2 percent of claims that were rejected because testers used future dates, which cannot be accepted during acknowledgement testing.)

In the March test, as in previous acknowledgement testing weeks, CMS found most rejects resulted from improperly developed test claims unrelated to ICD-10.

- Many rejects were related to an invalid National Provider Identifier (NPI) or an NPI that was not on the NPI crosswalk.
- On professional claims, common errors included invalid Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes and invalid postal ZIP codes.
- Other claims were rejected for future dating. While this is an issue in the testing environment, it should not be a factor after implementation on October 1, 2015.

CMS will continue to conduct extensive outreach to testers on setup of test claims to avoid these issues for future acknowledgement testing.

Testing demonstrated that CMS is ready for ICD-10 and shows the tremendous progress of health professionals to be ready for the transition. Mark your calendar for the next acknowledgement testing week on June 1 through 5, 2015. In addition to the special testing week, providers are welcome to submit acknowledgement test claims anytime up to the October 1, 2015, implementation date. Contact your [Medicare Administrative Contractor](#) for more information.