Welcome to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) Diagnosis Code Requirements Part I course.

Note: This module applies to Responsible Reporting Entities (RREs) that will be submitting Section 111 claim information via an electronic file submission as well as those RREs that will be submitting this information via direct data entry (DDE).
Disclaimer

While all information in this document is believed to be correct at the time of writing, this Computer Based Training (CBT) is for educational purposes only and does not constitute official Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) instructions. All affected entities are responsible for following the instructions in the CRCP User Guide found under the Reference Materials menu at the following link: https://go.cms.gov/mirnghp.

Slide notes

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ICD Diagnosis Code Requirements Part I defines ICD-9/ICD-10, explains the importance of ICD diagnosis codes for Section 111 reporting, describes what these codes are used for, clarifies the ICD diagnosis code reporting and explains how to derive an ICD diagnosis code.

ICD Diagnosis Code Requirements Part II explains the transition from ICD-9 to ICD-10 and explains where an RRE can obtain valid ICD diagnosis codes.

Note: Liability insurance (including self-insurance), no-fault insurance and workers’ compensation are sometimes collectively referred to as “non-group health plan” or “NGHP”.

The term NGHP will be used in this CBT for ease of reference.
Slide notes

The ICD is designed to promote international comparability in the collection, processing, classification and presentation of mortality statistics.

ICD-9/ICD-10 are acronyms used in the medical field that stand for International Classification of Diseases, ninth/tenth revision.
What are ICD Diagnosis Codes Used For?

Help Medicare claims paying offices process Medicare claims

Example

- Beneficiary suffers a broken collar bone in automobile accident
- RRE assumes ORM for broken collar bone and submits record with ICD-9 diagnosis code 81000 (fractured clavicle NOS-closed)
- Medicare claims office will reject any related claim if it has not first been processed by the primary insurance
- Failure to provide accurate or appropriate diagnosis codes may result in Medicare paying primary on claims that are the responsibility of the RRE

Slide notes

ICD diagnosis codes submitted by RREs on Section 111 Claim Input Files are used by Medicare claims paying offices to help process Medicare claims.

For example, if an RRE assumes Ongoing Responsibility for Medicals (ORM), this means that the RRE should pay first on any claim with a service related to the condition(s) for which the RRE assumed ORM.

Let us say an RRE assumes ORM for a broken collar bone a beneficiary suffered in an automobile accident. The RRE may report ICD-9 diagnosis code 81000 (fractured clavicle NOS-closed).

Later, if a hospital or medical claim is sent to a Medicare claims paying office for services related to the broken collar bone, the Medicare claims office will reject the claim if it was not first processed by the primary insurance.

If an RRE does not report accurate or all appropriate diagnosis codes related to the condition(s) for which ORM was accepted, Medicare may mistakenly pay primary on claim(s) for which the RRE has assumed primary payment responsibility.
ICD Diagnosis codes are also important for claims recovery. As in our previous example, if an RRE has assumed ORM for a beneficiary’s broken collar bone injury due to a no-fault policy claim, the Commercial Repayment Center (CRC) will use the submitted ICD diagnosis codes to search Medicare records for claims paid by Medicare that are related to the case.

The claims search will include claims from the date of incident to the current date or the date ORM ended. An exact match on the submitted ICD diagnosis codes is not required.

If Medicare has made primary or conditional payment on claims related to the incident that should have been paid by other insurance, the CRC will pursue recovery from the insurer for the Medicare benefits paid.

Note: The policy number, (field 54), is now a key field, RREs must submit a delete Claim Input File record that matches the previously accepted add record, followed by a new add record with the changed information (i.e., delete/add process).

For more information on Medicare recovery where the insurer is the identified debtor, see the NGHP Recovery page available at the following link: http://go.cms.gov/NGHP.
What are ICD Diagnosis Codes Used For?

Help the BCRC pursue recovery from the beneficiary

Example

- Beneficiary suffers neck and ankle sprains in 2009
- Liability Insurance settlement reached in 2010 with $10,000 TPOC
- RRE submits claim record with ICD-9 diagnosis codes 8470 (sprain of neck) and 84500 (sprain of ankle)
- Exact match on submitted ICD-9 diagnosis codes is not required
- Recovery will be pursued on claims related to the injuries

Slide notes

The Benefits Coordination & Recovery Center (BCRC) also uses ICD diagnosis codes to pursue recovery from the beneficiary. Assume a beneficiary suffered neck and ankle sprains in 2009.

The beneficiary pursued a liability insurance claim for damages and settlement was reached in 2010 with a $10,000 Total Payment Obligation to Claimant (TPOC) being made to the beneficiary.

The RRE submits a Section 111 claim record and reports ICD-9 diagnosis codes 8470, sprain of neck and 84500, sprain of ankle. The BCRC will use this information to search Medicare claims history during the relevant time frame.

The BCRC will identify any claims paid primary by Medicare that relate to the neck and ankle sprains. An exact match on the submitted ICD-9 diagnosis codes (8470 & 84500) is not required.

If Medicare has made primary payment on claims related to the injuries, recovery of the Medicare benefits paid will be pursued from the beneficiary.
All add and update records must include ICD-9/ICD-10 diagnosis codes considered valid for Section 111 reporting in:

- At least the first of the ICD Diagnosis Code fields beginning in Field 18

RREs must provide as many ICD-9 diagnosis codes as possible to adequately describe the TPOC and/or ORM reported.

Note:
- RREs and their agents are now required to submit ICD-10 diagnosis codes on claim reports with CMS DOI on or after 10/1/2015.

Slide notes:
All add and update records on Claim Input Files and DDE submissions must include ICD-9/ICD-10 diagnosis codes considered valid for Section 111 reporting in at least the first of the ICD Diagnosis Codes 1-19 beginning in Field 18.

Although only one valid ICD diagnosis code will be required, RREs must provide as many as possible to adequately describe the TPOC and/or ORM reported.

Note: RREs and their agents are now required to submit ICD-10 diagnosis codes on claim reports with CMS DOI on or after 10/1/2015.
CMS recognizes that there will not always be an External Cause of Injury Code that matches the circumstance for the Alleged Cause of Injury, Incident or Illness. When there is not a good External Cause of Injury Code match, the ICD Diagnosis Code(s) reported starting in Field 18 become(s) even more critical and must accurately describe the injury, incident or illness being claimed or released or for which ORM is assumed.
An RRE may add or remove ICD diagnosis codes on subsequent update records after the initial add record has been submitted and accepted.

Update records should include:

- Previously submitted ICD diagnosis codes that still apply
- New codes the RRE needs to submit

Update records must include either all ICD-9 codes or all ICD-10 codes, but not a mixture of both.

An RRE may add or remove ICD diagnosis codes on subsequent update records after the initial add record has been submitted and accepted.

Update records should include the previously submitted ICD diagnosis codes that still apply to the claim report along with any new codes that the RRE needs to submit.

You are now able to enter ICD-10 diagnosis codes. However, the update record must include either all ICD-9 codes or all ICD-10 codes. If a combination of codes is submitted, the record will reject.
Sometimes, the medical claim records may include diagnosis codes that are unrelated to the illness or injury.

For Section 111 reporting, an RRE must submit ICD-9/ICD-10 diagnosis codes that describe the alleged injuries or illnesses that were claimed and/or released or for which ORM was assumed.

If a particular ICD-9/ICD-10 diagnosis code does not meet this requirement, it should not be submitted.

Note: Certain codes are not valid for No-Fault Insurance

- See NGHP User Guide (Section 6.2.5) Appendix J

Slide notes

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If a particular ICD-9/ICD-10 diagnosis code does not meet this requirement, it should not be submitted.

Note: Certain codes are not valid for No-Fault insurance types (Plan Insurance Type is “D” in field 51), because they are not related to the accident, and may result in inappropriately denied claims.

See NGHP User Guide (Section 6.2.5) Appendices Chapter (Appendix J) for a list of these codes.
For example, assume a Medicare beneficiary is injured in an auto accident and his No-fault Insurer accepts ORM for injuries that are the result of the accident. The beneficiary suffered a laceration to his nose in the accident.

While receiving care for the nose laceration in the emergency room, the beneficiary was also treated for poison ivy and a long standing heart condition, neither of which were related to the auto accident.

The No-fault Insurer did not assume ORM for either of those conditions. When the Claim Input File Detail Record is submitted by the No-fault Insurer, it should only contain ICD-9 code 873.20 for the nose injury.

Also, a clarification has been added to the No-Fault Insurance Limit field (61), and to the CP11 error code, to indicate that you cannot add zeros as valid values if the Plan Insurance Type is “D” (No-Fault Insurance) for MSP submissions.

The record should not include ICD-9 codes 692.6 for poison ivy nor 414.01 for the heart disease. Remember, when submitting the ICD-9 diagnosis code 873.20, it should be submitted as 87320 (without the decimal point).
Selecting ICD Diagnosis Codes

- Requires some level of knowledge of ICD coding to correctly select code(s) being claimed or released
- Critical that codes match the injury allegations, so there is no discrepancy as to which services are related
- Example
  - Beneficiary died as a result of an automobile accident
  - If RRE submits ICD-9 code 7982 (Death within 24 hours of symptoms), Medicare cannot identify which bills are related to the accident
  - If RRE submits ICD-9 code 80161 (Fracture of base of skull), bills can be more easily identified

Slide notes

Section 111 reporting may at times require the RRE to derive ICD-9/ICD-10 diagnosis codes from information on file.

Some level of knowledge of ICD coding will assist in correctly selecting the ICD-9/ICD-10 code(s) being claimed or released.

It is critical that the ICD-9/ICD-10 codes reported to CMS match the injury allegations, so there is no discrepancy as to which services are related.

To illustrate, assume a Medicare beneficiary died as the result of an automobile accident.

If the RRE only supplied ICD-9 code 7982 (Death within 24 hours of symptoms) Medicare may not be able to identify which hospital and medical claims received were related to the accident.

However, if the RRE supplied ICD-9 code 80161 (Fracture of base of skull), identification of related hospital and medical claims can be accomplished.
RREs can find ICD-9/ICD-10 codes, related to the claim report, on the medical claim records they receive from the injured party. RREs do not necessarily need to report all of the diagnosis codes appearing on a claimant’s actual medical forms or invoices because some codes may not be related, and some codes selected by doctors or hospitals may not even appear on the list of codes that are currently accepted by CMS for Section 111 reporting purposes.

Although a general ICD-9/ICD-10 code may exist for a doctor or hospital visit independent of a specified injury, illness or diagnosis,

RREs should always report specific, more descriptive ICD-9/ICD-10 code(s) that describe the illness or injury, not just those that describe services rendered.

This will lead to more accurate coordination of benefits, including facilitating accurate claims payment and/or the determination of recovery amounts, where applicable.
Slide notes

RREs may choose to set up a systems process to translate text descriptions of illnesses or injuries into valid ICD-9/ICD-10 codes.

They may instruct claims handlers to independently choose a valid ICD-9/ICD-10 code(s) from the code lists provided by CMS based on information on the claim and/or in their files.

RREs and reporting agents may also find it helpful to search the Internet where many sources of information regarding ICD-9/ICD-10 diagnosis codes may be found including downloadable search lists and free software to assist with deriving codes applicable to specific injuries.
In some very limited liability situations a settlement, judgment, award or other payment releases medicals or has the effect of releasing medicals but the type of alleged incident typically has no associated medical care and the Medicare beneficiary/injured party has not alleged a situation involving medical care or a physical or mental injury. This is frequently the situation with a claim for loss of consortium, an errors or omissions liability insurance claim, a directors and officers liability insurance claim, or a claim resulting from a wrongful action related to employment status action is alleged. Current Section 111 reporting requires the RRE to report in these circumstances.
ICD Diagnosis Code Use of ‘NOINJ’ Value

- In these very limited circumstances when the claim report does not reflect ORM and the insurance type is liability
  - Submit the “no injury” code NOINJ in Field 18
  - Code NOINJ may also be submitted in Field 15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Required Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alleged Cause of Injury, Incident, or Illness (Field 15)</td>
<td>NOINJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICD Diagnosis Code 1 (Field 18)</td>
<td>NOINJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORM Indicator (Field 78)</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plan Insurance Type (Field 51)</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All remaining ICD Diagnosis Codes 2-19 (Fields 19-36)</td>
<td>Fill with spaces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other remaining fields on claim report</td>
<td>As required</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Note: CMS will closely monitor the use of the ‘NOINJ’ value

Slide notes

In these very limited circumstances when the claim report does not reflect ORM and the insurance type is liability, submit the “no injury” code “NOINJ” in the ICD Diagnosis Code 1 (Field 18).

When the “NOINJ” value is used in Field 18, the only code that may be used in optional Field 15 is the NOINJ code.

Additionally, the following fields must be submitted as described, otherwise the record will reject with the applicable error code: ORM Indicator (Field 78) must be N; Plan Insurance Type (Field 51) must be L; all remaining ICD Diagnosis Codes 2-19 (Fields 19-36) must be filled with spaces; and all other remaining fields must be submitted on the claim report as required.

If these conditions are not met, the record will be rejected with the CI25 error code.

Note: CMS will closely monitor the use of the NOINJ default value to ensure it is used appropriately. RREs using this code erroneously are at risk of non-compliance with Section 111 reporting requirements.
ICD Diagnosis Code Data Editing

- Data submitted in the ICD diagnosis code fields on add or update transactions will be fully edited according to the field descriptions.
- Any submitted ICD diagnosis code must:
  - Be a valid code
  - Be left justified and any remaining unused bytes filled with spaces to the right
  - Include any leading and trailing zeros only if they appear that way on the list of valid ICD-9/ICD-10 diagnosis codes
  - Not include the decimal
    - Field 15: E-Code E917.9 should be submitted as E9179
    - Field 18: ICD-9 code 038.42 should be submitted as 03842
- Note: ICD Diagnosis Code edits are not applied to delete transactions

Slide notes

Whenever data is submitted in any of the ICD diagnosis code fields (i.e., the Alleged Cause of Injury, Incident, or Illness (Field 15) and/or the diagnosis code fields (beginning in Field 18)) on an add or update transaction, the data will be fully edited according to the field descriptions provided in the record layout regardless of when this data is submitted. Any submitted ICD diagnosis code must: be a valid code; be left justified and any remaining unused bytes filled with spaces to the right; include any leading and trailing zeros only if they appear that way on the list of valid ICD-9/ICD-10 diagnosis codes. Do not add leading or trailing zeroes just to fill the 5 positions of the field on the file layout; and do not include the decimal.

For example, in Field 15, E-Code E917.9 should be submitted as E9179. In Field 18, ICD-9 diagnosis code 038.42 should be submitted as 03842. Note: ICD diagnosis code edits are not applied to delete transactions.
Let us say a Medicare beneficiary is injured in an automobile accident and has suffered a fracture to his ankle. The RRE must submit the correct ICD-9/ICD-10 diagnosis code on the Claim Input File Detail Record.

- Field 18 = 82400 (fractured ankle)

When ICD-9/ICD-10 External Cause of Injury Codes/diagnosis codes not entered correctly, Claim Input File Detail Record will fail.
ICD-9 diagnosis codes are 3, 4 or 5 positions in length
  ▪ No partial codes may be submitted

ICD-10 diagnosis codes are 3-7 positions in length
  ▪ No partial codes may be submitted
  ▪ If the ICD code is less than 7 positions
    ▪ Do not add leading or trailing zeros
    ▪ Fill extra position(s) with spaces
      ◦ Example ICD-9 8472 (lumbar sprain)
        ◦ Valid entry: 8472 (last 3 positions of this field entered as a space)
        ◦ Invalid entry: 08472 or 84720 (leading/trailing zero entered)

Slide notes

ICD-9 diagnosis codes are 3, 4 or 5 positions in length. Valid ICD-10 diagnosis codes can be 3 to 7 digits long. No partial ICD-9/ICD-10 codes may be submitted. In other words, you may not submit only the first 3 digits of a 4-digit code.

Additionally, if you are submitting an ICD-9/ICD-10 code that is less than 7 positions in length, do not add leading or trailing zeros.

When the ICD-9/ICD-10 code to be submitted is less than 7 positions, the extra position or positions should be filled with spaces.

For example, if you are submitting ICD-9 code 8472 for lumbar sprain, this code should be entered as a 4 position ICD-9 code. The last 3 positions of this field should be filled with a space.

If this same code is entered with a leading or trailing zero e.g., 08472 or 84720, the ICD-9 code becomes invalid.
ICD Diagnosis Code Data Editing

- ICD-9/ICD-10 diagnosis codes that are four or five positions in length may not be truncated.

- Example: ICD-9 codes 3898 and 38901 are both valid.
  - Submitting either code as 389 makes the ICD-9 code invalid.

Slide notes

ICD-9/ICD-10 diagnosis codes that are four or five positions in length may not be shortened. For example, ICD-9 Codes 3898 and 38901 are both valid codes.

However, if either of these codes is submitted as 389, the ICD-9 code becomes invalid.
In order to prevent a Claim Input File Detail Record from rejecting for issues related to ICD diagnosis codes, RREs should ensure the following:

1) All ICD-9/ICD-10 diagnosis codes in Field 15 and in Fields 18-36 must be valid (i.e., each submitted ICD-9 diagnosis code must exactly match the first 5 positions on any entry (line) of any of the DX files currently being used to validate codes and cannot be a V code; each submitted ICD-10 diagnosis code must exactly match a record on any of the files incorporated into the BCRC Section 111 process and does not begin with the letter ‘V’, ‘W’, ‘X’, or ‘Y’);

2) Any submitted code cannot be on the list of excluded codes listed in the NGHP User Guide Appendices Chapter (Appendix I or Appendix J (when Plan Insurance Type is “D”));

Suppose a Claim Input File Detail Record has ICD-9 diagnosis code 20078 (a valid code) submitted in Field 18 and ICD-9 diagnosis code 20079 (an invalid code) submitted in Field 19. The Claim Input File Detail Record will reject even though one diagnosis code was valid. This Claim Response File Detail Record will be returned with a CI06 (Invalid ICD Diagnosis Code 2).

Suppose another Claim Input File Detail Record has ICD-9 diagnosis code E8000 (a valid code) submitted in Field 15 and ICD-9 diagnosis code E8001 submitted in Field 18. Although E8001 is a valid code, External Cause of Injury Codes are only considered valid when submitted in Field 15. External Cause of Injury Codes are not permitted in Fields 18-36. This Claim Input File Detail Record will reject.

The Claim Response File Detail Record will be returned with a CI05 (Invalid ICD Diagnosis Code 1). Detail Records that reject for invalid diagnosis codes will have to be corrected and resubmitted.
You have completed the ICD Diagnosis Code Requirements Part I course. Information in this presentation can be referenced by using the NGHP User Guide’s table of contents and any subsequent alerts. This document is available for download at the following link: https://go.cms.gov/mirnghp.
If you have any questions or feedback on this material, please go to the following URL: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NGHPTraining.