



Related MLN Matters Article #: SE0517

Date Posted: February 18, 2006

Related CR #: N/A

Tool Available for Registering Patients with Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillators

Note: MLN Matters article SE0517 was revised, to add a reference to MLN Matters article SE0578 (<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE0578.pdf>). SE0578 announced that in order for providers to continue to satisfy the National Coverage Determination (NCD) requirements for primary prevention ICDs, they had to transition out of QNet and begin using the American College of Cardiology National Cardiac Data Registry (ACC-NCDR) registry. Providers should disregard references to the ICD Abstraction (ICDA) tool. There were also two references added to related articles in the Important Links section below.

Key Words

SE0517, Tool, Register, Patients, Implantable, Cardioverter, Defibrillators

Provider Types Affected

Physicians and other providers needing to register Medicare patients receiving the Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (ICD) as primary prevention of sudden cardiac death

Key Points

- The ICD Abstraction (ICDA) tool allows for on-line collection of registry information, including patient identifiers, history and clinical characteristics, medications, ICD indications, device information, complications, and facility and provider information.
- Submitting patient information through the ICDA tool satisfies the coverage requirement:
 - The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) requires that any Medicare patient receiving an ICD as primary prevention of sudden cardiac death be enrolled in a data collection system.
 - CMS has an electronic tool (the Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator Abstraction (ICDA) tool) which is available to Medicare participating hospitals to assist in submitting this data to the data collection system, also referred to as the registry.
 - The tool is available for download at by each hospital's QualityNet Exchange Administrator (See note above).
 - Users click on "ICDA Tools" to begin the download process for the tool and associated guides for using the tool.

- The ICDA tool allows for the ability to import and export data utilizing existing XML standards.
- After downloading, users must launch the ICDA application using the shortcut/icon provided on their desktop, or through the ICDA Program Group in the Windows Start menu.
- Also available on the qnetexchange web site are Frequently Asked Questions and a “paper” tool, a one-page, printable version of the ICDA that contains a list of all data elements collected in the tool.
- Providers are not required to use the paper tool.
- Three individual recorded ICDA training sessions will be available for viewing and/or downloading from the ICDA site in the near future and will allow for subject matter-specific viewing of the following:
 - ICDA 1.0 Installation and Setup;
 - ICDA 1.0 Abstraction Processes (New, Edit); and
 - ICDA 1.0 Import and Export.
- In addition, the ICDA User’s Guide, available from the ICDA site, provides detailed instructions on the installation, set-up, and utilization of the tool.
- CMS identifies Medicare patients receiving an ICD for primary prevention indications and requiring participation in a registry. For more information on the registry, providers may go to <http://www.accncdr.com/webncdr/ICD> on the Internet.
- The following codes assist in identifying patients with previous arrhythmias (secondary prevention). However, depending on code practices these may not accurately reflect the requirements for coverage:
 - 427.1 – Ventricular tachycardia;
 - 427.41 – Ventricular fibrillation;
 - 427.42 – Ventricular flutter;
 - 427.5 – Cardiac arrest; and
 - 427.9 – Cardiac dysrhythmia, unspecified.
- Users can access the following software and associated documents from the “Tools” option available from the ICDA Overview page: (see note above)
 - ICDA Version 1.0 Installation Instructions (pdf);
 - ICDA Installation (exe);
 - User’s Guide Download Instructions (pdf);
 - ICDA User’s Guide (exe); and
 - Using the ICDA User’s Guide (pdf).

Important Links

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE0517.pdf>

Additionally, more information about ICD claims may be found in MLN Matters articles MM3604 and MM4273, which can be viewed at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM3604.pdf> and
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM4273.pdf>, respectively.