



Provider Inquiry Assistance

The International Classification of Diseases, 10th Edition (ICD-10) Clinical Modification/Procedure Coding System (CM/PCS) - The Next Generation of Coding – JA0832

Note: MLN Matters® article SE0832 was revised to modify the description of the ICD-10-CM diagnoses codes on page 2 (**in bold**) and to modify a Web address on page 4 to link to the ICD-10 Final Rule.

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Implementation Date: NA

Key Words SE0832, ICD, Clinical, Codes

Contractors Affected

- Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs)
- Medicare Carriers
- Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs)
- Regional Home Health Intermediaries (RHHIs)
- Durable Medical Equipment MACs (DME MACs)

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, providers, and suppliers who submit claims to Medicare Carriers, A/B MACs, DME MACs, FIs, and RHHIs for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries



- MLN Matters® article SE0832 is informational only. It outlines general information for providers detailing the ICD-10 classification system.
- Compared to the current ICD, 9th Edition, CM (ICD-9-CM) classification system, ICD-10 offers more detailed information and the ability to expand specificity and clinical information in order to capture advancements in clinical medicine

Provider Needs to Know...

- The ICD-10-CM/PCS consists of the ICD-10-CM and the ICD-10-PCS classification systems.
- **The ICD-10-CM** diagnosis classification system was developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for use in all United States of America health care treatment settings.
 - Diagnosis coding under this system uses a different number of digits and some

other changes.

- The format is very much the same as the ICD-9-CM.
- **The ICD-10-PCS** procedure classification system was developed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for use in the U.S. for inpatient hospital settings ONLY. The new procedure coding system uses 7 alpha or numeric digits while the ICD-9-CM coding system uses 3 or 4 numeric digits.

Description of ICD-10-CM/PCS

- The ICD-10-CM/PCS:
 - Incorporates much greater specificity and clinical information, which results in:
 - Improved ability to measure health care services;
 - Increased sensitivity when refining grouping and reimbursement methodologies;
 - Enhanced ability to conduct public health surveillance; and
 - Decreased need to include supporting documentation with claims;
 - Includes updated medical terminology and classification of diseases;
 - Provides codes to allow comparison of mortality and morbidity data; and
 - Provides better data for:
 - Measuring care furnished to patients;
 - Designing payment systems;
 - Processing claims;
 - Making clinical decisions;
 - Tracking public health;
 - Identifying fraud and abuse; and
 - Conducting research.

Structural Differences Between the Two Coding Systems

Diagnoses Codes

- ICD-9-CM diagnoses codes are 3 – 5 digits in length with the first digit being alpha (E or V) or numeric and digits 2 – 5 being numeric. For example:
 - 496 – Chronic airway obstruction not elsewhere classified (NEC);
 - 511.9 – Unspecified pleural effusion; and
 - V02.61 – Hepatitis B carrier.
- **ICD-10-CM diagnoses are 3 – 7 digits in length with the first digit being alpha, digit 2 being numeric and digits 3 – 7 are alpha or numeric. The alpha digits are not case sensitive. For example:**

- A78 – Q fever;
- A69.21 – Meningitis due to Lyme disease; and
- S52.131a – Displaced fracture of neck of right radius, initial encounter for closed fracture.

Procedure Codes

- ICD-9-CM procedures are 3 – 4 digits in length and all digits are numeric. For example:
 - 43.5 – Partial gastrectomy with anastomosis to esophagus; and
 - 44.42 – Suture of duodenal ulcer site.
- ICD-10-PCS procedures are 7 digits in length with each of the 7 digits being either alpha or numeric. The alpha digits are not case sensitive. Letters O and I are not used to avoid confusion with the numbers 0 and 1. For example:
 - 0FB03ZX – Excision of Liver, Percutaneous Approach, Diagnostic; and
 - 0DQ10ZZ – Repair upper esophagus, open approach

Note: The ICD-10-CM/PCS would not affect physicians, outpatient facilities, and hospital outpatient departments' usage of Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes on Medicare fee-for-service claims, as CPT use would continue.

Background

- Countries already using ICD-10, include:
 - United Kingdom (1995);
 - France (1997);
 - Australia (1998);
 - Germany (2000); and
 - Canada (2001).

Operational Impact N/A

Reference Materials

The related MLN Matters® article can be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE0832.pdf> on the CMS website.
 CMS has developed a dedicated webpage for ICD-10 information, which is located at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/ICD10> on the CMS website.

Details on the ICD-10-PCS coding system, mappings, and a related training manual may be found at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/ICD10/02_ICD-10-PCS.asp#TopOfPage on the CMS website.

The ICD-10 Final Rule is available at <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-743.pdf> on the Internet.

Details on the ICD-10-CM coding system, mappings, and guidelines may be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/otheract/icd9/abtcd10.htm> on the Internet and at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/ICD10/03_2008_ICD_10_CM.asp#TopOfPage on the CMS website.

Many private sector professional organizations and businesses have resources available that may help with ICD-10-CM/PCS implementation planning.

Note: The ICD-9-CM is published by the United States Government. A CD-ROM, which may be purchased through the Government Printing Office, is the only official federal government version of the ICD-9-CM. ICD-9-CM is an official Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act standard. The dedicated CMS ICD-10 page also has links to these resources in the "Related Links Outside of CMS" at the bottom of the page.
