

Rheumatic fever without heart involvement  
I010 Acute rheumatic pericarditis  
I011 Acute rheumatic endocarditis  
I012 Acute rheumatic myocarditis



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# Questions to Ask Your Systems Vendors about ICD-10

As the health care industry embraces broader use of health IT, many providers are looking to purchase or upgrade their clinical and administrative health IT systems. ICD-10 should be a consideration when choosing either clinical or administrative health IT systems.

ICD-10 is the next code set for diagnosis and inpatient procedure coding. The switch to the ICD-10 code set is mandated for October 1, 2014. The new codes will impact many parts of the health care process, from patient referrals to billing and payment.

**ICD-10 DEADLINE  
OCT 1, 2014**

Asking the right questions about ICD-10 will help ensure that a new system will meet your practice's health IT goals.

## Questions to Ask Your Practice Management Vendor

Your current health IT vendor may be planning to upgrade your practice management system to function with ICD-10. To check whether a practice management vendor's ICD-10 upgrades or products will meet your needs, ask vendors these questions:

- Will you install products well before the October 1, 2014, deadline, so I can begin testing them in 2013?
- Will support for my current products be discontinued after the October 1, 2014, ICD-10 deadline?
- When will you update my current products and applications for ICD-10?
- Will you provide periodic updates for new products? Will there be a charge for these updates?
- Will I need new hardware to accommodate ICD-10-related software changes?
- What are the costs associated with maintaining new products?
- Will you offer product support? If so, how long will the vendor support the application?
- How do I report issues and how quickly will you respond?
- Will you provide training on your software?
- Will you offer support during and after internal ICD-10 testing?
- Will you help me test my system with payers and other trading partners?
- Does your product give me the ability to search for codes by the ICD-10 alphabetic and tabular indexes? By clinical concept?
- Will your product allow for coding in both ICD-9 and ICD-10 to accommodate transactions with dates of service before October 1, 2014, and transactions with dates of service after October 1, 2014?

I062 Rheumatic aortic stenosis with insufficiency  
I068 Other rheumatic aortic valve diseases  
I069 Rheumatic aortic valve disease, unspecified  
I070 Rheumatic tricuspid stenosis  
I071 Rheumatic tricuspid insufficiency  
I072 Rheumatic tricuspid stenosis and insufficiency

### Questions to Ask Your EHR Vendor

Clinical health IT systems, such as electronic health records (EHRs), will also need to be compatible with ICD-10 in order to make the most of your health IT investment. When purchasing or upgrading an EHR system, be sure to ask the following questions about ICD-10:

- Are your EHR products ICD-10 ready? If not, when will they be?
- Can your products help me with the ICD-10 transition? For example, will the products suggest ICD-10 codes based on the clinical data I enter about specific patients?
- Do your products map SNOMED-CT to ICD-10 codes to help connect clinical and administrative data?

### Partner with Your Vendor

After assessing your vendors' capabilities, continue to work with them throughout the ICD-10 transition. Ask your vendor to share strategies that other clients have used successfully.

### For More Information

To learn more about working with vendors and other business partners, consult the ICD-10 resources available on the CMS [ICD-10 website](#).



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