

Related Change Request (CR) #: 3303

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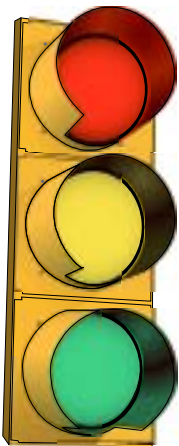
Implementation Date: October 4, 2004

## *Medicare Contractor Annual Update of the International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM)*

### Provider Types Affected

Physicians, suppliers, and providers

### Provider Action Needed



#### **STOP – Impact to You**

Medicare will soon issue the annual update of the *International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM)* to Medicare contractors. This update will apply for claims with service dates on or after October 1, 2004.

#### **CAUTION – What You Need to Know**

Remember that, as of October 1, 2004, Medicare no longer can provide a 90-day grace period for physicians, practitioners and suppliers to use in billing discontinued ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes.

#### **GO – What You Need to Do**

Be ready to use the updated codes on October 1, 2004. Refer to the *Background* and *Additional Information* sections of this article for further details regarding this instruction.

### Background

This instruction is a reminder that Medicare carriers and intermediaries will use the annual *International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM)* coding update effective for:

- Dates of service on or after October 1, 2004; and
- Discharges on or after October 1, 2004 for institutional providers.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has been evolving the use of ICD-9-CM codes as follows:

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- Beginning in 1979, ICD-9-CM codes became mandatory for reporting provider services on Form CMS-1450.
- On April 1, 1989, the use of ICD-9-CM codes became mandatory for all physician services submitted on Form CMS-1500.
- Effective October 1, 2003, an ICD-9-CM code is required on all paper and electronic claims billed to Medicare carriers with the exception of ambulance claims (specialty type 59) (see Change Request (CR) 2725, dated June 6, 2003, at [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/pm\\_trans/B03045.pdf](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/pm_trans/B03045.pdf)).
- Effective for dates of service on and after October 1, 2004, CMS will no longer provide a 90-day grace period for physicians, practitioners and suppliers to use in billing discontinued ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes on Medicare claims. The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requires that medical code sets be date-of-service compliant, and ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes are a medical code set (see CR 3094 dated February 6, 2004 at: [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/pm\\_trans/R95CP.pdf](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/pm_trans/R95CP.pdf)).

Updated ICD-9-CM codes are published in the Federal Register in April/May of each year as part of the Proposed Changes to the Hospital Inpatient Prospective Payment System and are effective each October first. Physicians, practitioners, and suppliers must use the current and valid diagnosis code that is in effect beginning October 1, 2004.

After the ICD-9-CM codes are published in the Federal Register, CMS places the new, revised, and discontinued codes on the following Website:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/medlearn/icd9code.asp>

The update should be available at this site in June.

## Implementation

The implementation date for this instruction is October 4, 2004.

## Related Instructions

The *Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Pub. 100-04, Chapter 23 (Fee Schedule Administration and Coding Requirements), Section 10.2 (Relationship of ICD-9-CM Codes and Date of Service)* has been revised. The updated manual instructions are included in the official instruction issued to your carrier, and it can be found by going to:

[http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/transmittals/comm\\_date\\_dsc.asp](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/transmittals/comm_date_dsc.asp)

From that Website, look for CR3303 in the CR NUM column on the right, and click on the file for that CR.

If you have any questions, please contact your carrier/intermediary at their toll-free number, which may be found at:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/medlearn/tollnums.asp>.

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### Additional Information

The new, revised, and discontinued ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes are posted annually on the following CMS Website:

[www.cms.hhs.gov/medlearn/icd9code.asp](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/medlearn/icd9code.asp)

Providers can view the new updated codes at this Website in June and providers are also encouraged to purchase a new ICD-9-CM book or CD-ROM on an annual basis.

In addition, the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) also will place the new ICD-9-CM Addendum on their Website ([www.cdc.gov/nchs/icd9.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/icd9.htm)) in June, which is also available for providers to visit.

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