

ICD-10: 8 Days and Counting!

The last full week of ICD-10 preparation is here. Hopefully, you have the proper tools in place and the education your team needs to have success, but don't stop preparing now that we are in the home stretch. Last week, we created a suggestion list of small daily tasks to help you prepare for the October 1, 2015 implementation. This week, we will provide you with another list of suggested daily tasks to help keep you on track.

Monday, September 21: Randomly choose one E/M service and one procedural/surgical service per provider and audit for ICD-10 accuracy. DO NOT ONLY AUDIT THE CODING, but instead go further to ensure the documentation supports the code. With EHR, our providers have the option to select a diagnosis, but if the documentation cannot support the diagnosis selected based on specificity and laterality, then the code is still not supported.

Tuesday, September 22: Review the findings of the audited services with the provider and appropriate clinical staff (MA/scribe). Make sure they have a clear understanding of any deficiencies noted.

Wednesday, September 23: Review the notes or at least a selection of these notes with the billing, coding, and charge entry team. They are a huge element to the success of ICD-10, so be sure they understand the findings and changes that are needed.

Thursday, September 24: Contact your EHR and clearinghouse vendor and verify readiness. Assuming is not always the best option in preparing for such a transition.

Friday, September 25: This is always a good day for staff education. In the product spotlight, you will find a link that will provide you with a one-time complimentary access to an ICD-10 training webinar. The webinar focuses on the documentation elements to ensure success for ICD-10. Since the last two weeks have been all about documentation review and prep, this webinar will be timely and provide a final layer of education to your staff.

All of the preparation in the world cannot avert certain unexpected hiccups, but being prepared will help lessen the intensity and length of problems that may come along.

This Week's Tip Provided by:

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