

MHS Preparedness for the Transition to ICD-10

ICD-10 has survived the first of August without further delay, which puts us within 2 months from the ICD-10 implementation. There have been a few bills in the House threatening to potentially impact ICD-10, but all are still sitting in committee with no signs of activity. These bills do not appear to have any traction and the nationwide ICD-10 transition will remain 1 October 2015.

The MHS ICD-10 Integrated Project Team (IPT) and its four sub-workgroups (SWG) have been executing preparations since 2010 for the implementation of a cost effective migration strategy based on minimum essential requirements that do no harm to current processes for the enterprise to transition to the use of ICD-10 in MHS clinical and business operations. Services have MHS ICD-10 IPT voting members, and are actively engaged in IPT workgroups. Services also have their own ICD-10 transition teams. Nationwide compliance cutover to use of ICD-10 is for dates of service on and after 1 October 2015.

Functional Requirements & Implementation

The MHS ICD-10 SWG for Functional Requirements & Implementation has been focused on enterprise readiness as the transition date approaches; specifically, helping to ensure that the MHS is as ready as it can be prior to the implementation and that methods of resolution exist should issues arise after 1 October 2015. Service and Program Office stakeholders have created pre-implementation readiness checklists for the MHS components, in order to confirm that necessary activities have been accounted for prior to the transition. Additionally, the SWG has developed a Business Process Continuity Plan (BPCP), including the creation of a virtual “ready room” which includes subject matter experts, that describes the methods for monitoring, analysis, communication, and escalation of identified issues during the implementation. With these efforts underway, the SWG is improving the MHS’ readiness posture as we approach the ICD-10 implementation.

MHS IT Systems

The Defense Health Agency (DHA) performed an initial requirements development effort in 2009, which produced a Concept of Operations and high level Functional Requirements for centrally managed MHS direct care clinical and business information systems. The Services also identified affected systems and received additional funding to support ICD-10 related changes.

- **Systems Upgraded:** Over 50 DHA centrally managed and Service IT systems use ICD’s. Many, but not all, needed modification and all are deployed, except for the Armed Forces Billing and Collection Utilization Solution (ABACUS) and the deployable Theater systems. ABACUS is scheduled to be deployed by October 2015, and Theater systems deployments will begin in January 2016.
- **Testing:** MHS completed two MHS simulated end-to-end test events in December 2013 and June 2014. The first event addressed ICD-10 interoperability across remediating Armed Forces Health

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Days Remaining to ICD-10 Conversion
As of 8/1/2015

Upcoming Events

Physician Engagement for Clinical Documentation Improvement

August 18

Webinar

<http://www.ahima.org/events/2015webjuly-cdi>

Brushing Up on ICD-10: A Refresher Workshop

August 24-25

Chicago, IL

<http://www.ahima.org/events/2015aug-icd10refresher-chicago3>

AHIMA ICD-10 Academy: Building Expertise in Coding

August 31 – September 2

Chicago, IL

<http://www.ahima.org/events/2015aug-coderacademy-chicago2>

Note that the links above are provided as informational resources only and do not constitute an endorsement of any non-Government site or entity.

Longitudinal Technology Application (AHLTA), Composite Health Care System (CHCS), Coding Compliance Editor (CCE) and Service-identified systems. A second, more robust test employing the available remediated systems addressed key business processes toward assurance they will continue without degradation.

Training & Communication

Training

Training focus in 2012 was on coder preparation and/or certification leveraging American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) documentation and certification programs. Each Service Identified training requirements and executed training contracts in FY14 for affected staff. ICD-10 specific training costs were supplemented by DHA in FY2013/2014. Additionally, DHA procured centralized online training on the ICD-10 codes from 3M® which will remain available for at least a year after implementation. The Services are currently focused on Clinical Document Improvement (CDI) as a key training area for the clinical community in FY15. Each Service and the National Capital Region has developed an ICD-10 training plan that has been consolidated into an overall MHS ICD-10 Training Plan.

Communications

The Training & Communication sub workgroup publishes bi-monthly Newsflashes on various and timely ICD-10 hot topics. Newsflashes are geared towards MTF staff, and are distributed by Service ICD-10 IPT members to Service MTFs. Communications also include the Health.mil site, communications to/from the Purchased Care contractors, and to/from other Federal Agencies. Senior executive briefings on MHS ICD-10 readiness status had previously been quarterly to the Senior Military Medical Action Council (SMMAC), and are now to the Medical Deputies Action Group (MDAG). These status briefings will now be more frequent, by request of the MDAG, as the 1 October 2015 ICD-10 implementation date approaches.

Forms & Publications

In preparation for the ICD-10 transition, a total of 26 DoD-level forms and publications were identified as needing required changes for ICD-10. Of these identified items, 22 have been completed and 4 are in the process of being updated. The incomplete forms and publications will be changed as part of their periodic/annual updates. The SWG tracks the publication process at three major milestones: 1) completion of the ICD-10 updates 2) completion of document coordination 3) completion of publication. Form/publication points of contact provide monthly status updates for readiness assessment; reporting all are complete or on-track. Services' medical departments are addressing Service-specific forms and publications.

Purchased Care

The ICD-10 Purchased Care SWG was established to help facilitate transition to the ICD-10 code set within the TRICARE Private Sector Care arena. This forum was set up to engage with Managed Care contractors on ICD-10 activities, and to ensure all involved are moving towards being ready by the ICD-10 compliance date. ICD-10 related mods to TRICARE Manuals have been published. Quarterly status information from Managed Care Support Contractors (MCSCs) have been reported and tracked. As of 1 August 2015, status reporting will be on a monthly basis. All Purchased Care MCSCs have reported an on track status with no major risks and/or roadblocks identified. TRICARE Contracting Officer Representatives (CORs) have been engaged with monitoring metrics, risks, and issues and will support business process continuity activities during transition.

The MHS ICD-10 Integrated Project Team and four sub workgroups have taken proactive steps to help ensure readiness and preparedness for the ICD-10 transition on 1 October 2015. The MHS is on track for a successful transition. The nationwide implementation will occur, as planned, on 1 October 2015

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Or visit <http://health.mil/hipaatcsi>

For coding information, please contact the DHA Medical Coding Program Office: dha.ncr.business-spt.mbx.mcpointo@mail.mil

Or visit <http://health.mil/About-MHS/Defense-Health-Agency/Business-Support/Medical-Coding-Program-Office>