ICD-10 Toolkit: New Toolkit Provides Resources to Assist with the ICD-10 Transition

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Data form the foundation of the US healthcare system, and the dependence on healthcare data will continue to grow for the purposes of research, reimbursement, and quality measurement. These demands require the adoption of a new, more precise code set that can better accommodate changing healthcare terminology and advancing healthcare practice while minimizing discrepancies among those applying the code set. These needs are behind the industry's upgrade to ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS.

Because the ICD code set is so deeply rooted in the healthcare system, the transition from ICD-9 to ICD-10 reaches into many aspects of a facility's operations. Many resources are available to help facilities create their implementation plans, but locating the resources can be time consuming and challenging. A free toolkit from AHIMA helps speed the process.

The "ICD-10-CM/PCS Implementation Toolkit" is an online compilation of free Web resources that can assist organizations with the development of their ICD-10 implementation plans. The toolkit is intended to assist all healthcare professionals affected by the transition, including physicians, acute care hospitals, long-term care organizations, and home health providers.

About the Toolkit

The "ICD-10-CM/PCS Implementation Toolkit" consists of an overview of the code set and its implementation issues as well as several appendices. A master list of ICD-10 resources, found in appendix A, includes more than 100 articles, presentations, assessment plans, and other tools. The list is in a spreadsheet format to allow sorting by variables such as type of provider or healthcare setting, key words, or source (see excerpt below). Each entry includes a brief description tagged with key words (e.g., documentation improvement, mapping, training) and a hyperlink to the source.

Resource Central

Appendix A of the toolkit includes more than 100 ICD-10-CM/PCS resources including articles, presentations, and assessment plans. The list can be sorted by topic, key words, or source.

Topic	Key Words	Description	Source	Website URL
Development of ICD-10-CM/PCS	Code Sets Maintenance	This web page provides the overview, industry and standards activities, as well as links that pertain to code set maintenance.	AHIMA	web page no longer available
Development of ICD-10-CM/PCS	Code Sets Maintenance	Partial Freeze to ICD-9 and ICD-10 for Smoother Transition. This fact sheet provides education about important dates on code set freezes	AMA	AMA ([requires login](#))

Development of ICD-10-CM/PCS	Implementation Issues, Training, Mapping and Legacy Data	CMS website provides information and educational resources to providers on the implementation and transition of ICD-10 and 5010 environment	CMS	[CMS](#)
Development of ICD-10-CM/PCS	Code Sets Maintenance	Partial Code Freeze Prior to ICD-10 Implementation -This is a three-page Medlearn article announcing the ICD-9 and ICD-10 code freezes in effect for 2012 and 2013.	CMS	[Medlearn](#)
Development of ICD-10-CM/PCS	Implementation Issues, ICD-9-CM Outdated	This is a nine-page Medlearn article covering the background, benefits and structure of ICD-10-CM and PCS and GEMS. It also includes a section on "What to do now in Preparation for ICD-10 Implementation"	CMS	[Medlearn](#)

Developing detailed training plans that address the needs of all healthcare providers within an organization-ranging from awareness training for those who will only interact with ICD-10 codes to extensive training for those who will be involved in assigning codes-is part of the implementation process. The toolkit can assist with the development of these types of training programs.

Physician practices and outpatient services will only need to concentrate on migration to ICD-10-CM for diagnoses coding, as CPT and HCPCS codes are not affected. Appendix B, "Resources for Physician Practices and Users of ICD-10 CM Only," addresses the development of communication tools that provide an overview of ICD-10-CM; items that help describe the structure and organization of the ICD-10-CM classification; and its differences and similarities to ICD-9-CM diagnosis coding.

Lastly, appendix C, "Tools for Implementation ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS," provides links to AHIMA's ICD-10-CM/PCS vendor questionnaire, readiness assessment tools, and planning and preparation checklists. It also provides presentations and tip sheets on documentation improvement.

Special Focus: Documentation Improvement

Clinical documentation improvement (CDI) is a growing necessity within healthcare, especially for acute care hospitals. Due to the magnitude of the ICD-10 implementation, it is imperative that CDI professionals be included in overall implementation planning and readiness assessments.

One of the goals of ICD-10-CM/PCS is improved coding accuracy and specificity; however, the quality of code assignments will still depend on the thoroughness of provider documentation. Evaluating and improving provider documentation should be a significant area of focus during ICD-10-CM/PCS implementation.

The "ICD-10-CM/PCS Implementation Toolkit" includes resources designed for CDI professionals, beginning with a general presentation on ICD-10 for use across all healthcare settings. Other resources highlight key CDI impact areas that will likely need additional documentation or require new information for accurate coding.

The toolkit also provides sample ICD-10-CM tip sheets for addressing diagnoses that will require additional specificity for accurate code assignment as well as introducing general diagnostic and procedural terms critical for accurate code assignment.

The ICD-10-CM/PCS toolkit is available online at www.ahima.org/icd10

Additional CDI resources from AHIMA are available at http://www.ahima.org/topics

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