

What is ICD-10?

The World Health Organization created the International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD) in order to classify every disease, sign, symptom, finding, cause, complaint, or circumstance of an injury or disease. Nearly every health care system uses the ICD system. The 10th Version (ICD-10) was created in 1994, and since 2007 all other industrialized countries had adopted it, except for the United States.

Scripps Health currently uses ICD-9, which is limited to approximately 18,000 codes, while ICD-10 contains more than 140,000 codes. The increase in codes accounts for new diagnoses and allows for increased specificity and detail in coding, which in turn ensures accuracy in reimbursement from insurance plans for care provided to patients. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has mandated that the transition from ICD-9 codes to ICD-10 codes take place on October 1, 2015.

Questions? Concerns? ICD-10 Hotline: 858-336-0293 / ICD10help@scrippshealth.org