

Why ICD-10?

The change to ICD-10 is necessary for two main reasons, according to CMS:

1. Using ICD-9, payers cannot pay claims fairly. The limitations of ICD-9 do not reflect the changes in technology and healthcare and a single ICD-9 code can encompass a broad range of diagnoses and procedures. ICD-10-CM codes require increased specificity and are complete, which eliminates the issue of grouping significantly different diagnoses and procedures into one ICD-9 code. The ability of ICD-10 codes to provide a full diagnostic description of the disease process will allow for proper reimbursement.
2. ICD-9 codes lack the precision necessary to measure the quality of care provided. ICD-10-CM codes will improve public health and risk tracking, and the data mining that is possible with the accuracy of codes will allow the industry to improve patient care.

ICD-10 will positively affect healthcare by improving measurements of quality, safety and efficacy.

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