

PROVIDER BULLETIN No. 13-82

December 20, 2013

TO: All Providers Participating in the NE Medicaid Program
All Medicaid EDI Trading Partners

FROM: Vivianne M. Chaumont, Director 
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Medicaid IT Initiatives

RE: Medicaid ICD-10 Implementation Project
December 2013 Update

Please share this information with Clinical, Coding, Billing, and IT Staff

The United States Department of Health and Human Services requires that all HIPAA covered entities use the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision (ICD-10) codes beginning October 1, 2014. This bulletin provides information regarding the Nebraska Medicaid ICD-10 Implementation Project.

Use of Unspecified ICD-10 Codes

In preparation for the transition from ICD-9 to ICD-10, the following information should be considered regarding the use of unspecified codes:

- Each healthcare encounter should be coded to the highest level of specificity known for that encounter.
- Due to the greater number of code choices in ICD-10-CM, the need for unspecified codes should be reduced.
- Unspecified codes should be reported when they most accurately reflect what is known about the patient's condition at the time of that particular encounter.
- When sufficient clinical information isn't known or available about a particular health condition to assign a more specific code, it is acceptable to report the appropriate unspecified code.

- It is inappropriate to select a specific code that is not supported by the medical record documentation, or to conduct diagnostic testing solely to determine a more specific code.
- The use of unspecified codes may result in claims being denied or pending for additional documentation.

Resources

Nebraska Medicaid ICD-10 website at: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/medicaid/Pages/ICD-10.aspx>

Visit the Nebraska ICD-10 Collaborative website at: <http://www.nebraskaicd10.org/> for information about training opportunities and other resources.

Check out the Nebraska Health Information Management Association website at: <http://www.nhima.org> for some training opportunities in Nebraska.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has resources to help prepare for a smooth transition. Visit www.cms.gov/ICD10 to find out more.

Questions?

Please submit questions about this bulletin or about ICD-10 to DHHS.ICD-10Implementation@nebraska.gov.

The Nebraska Medicaid ICD-10 Project website also has a number of Frequently Asked Questions at <http://dhhs.ne.gov/medicaid/Pages/ICD-10.aspx> .

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website has a list of Frequently Asked Questions at: <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/Downloads/ICD10FAQs2013.pdf> .