



## ICD-10 Frequently Asked Questions

### Why is the transition to ICD-10 happening?

The transition is taking place because ICD-9 codes have limited information about patients' medical conditions and hospital inpatient procedures. The ICD-9 code structure has been in place for 30 years. The terms currently used in ICD-9 have become outdated, obsolete and inconsistent with current medical practices. In addition, the structure of ICD-9 limits the number of new codes that can be created, and many ICD-9 categories are full.

### When is the ICD-10 compliance date?

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has mandated the U.S. health care industry use ICD-10 diagnosis and inpatient procedure codes starting with a date of service (DOS) or date of discharge (DOD) of **October 1, 2015**. Providers may continue to submit claims using ICD-9 diagnosis and inpatient procedure codes after this date *only* if the DOS or DOD is prior to **October 1, 2015**.

### When should I begin the ICD-10 transition process?

It is important to prepare now. The transition to ICD-10 is a major undertaking for providers, payers and vendors. It will drive business and systems changes throughout the health care industry, from large national health plans to small provider offices, laboratories, medical testing centers, hospitals and more. The CMS website lists implementation guides for large practices, small hospitals and small/medium provider practices. For more information, visit [www.cms.gov/ICD10](http://www.cms.gov/ICD10).

### Will ICD-10 replace Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) procedure coding?

No. The switch to ICD-10 does not affect CPT coding for outpatient procedures. Like ICD-9 procedure codes, ICD-10-PCS codes are for hospital inpatient procedures only.

### Where can I find the ICD-10 code sets?

The ICD-10-CM, ICD-10-PCS code sets and the ICD-10-CM official guidelines are available free of charge at [www.cms.gov/ICD10](http://www.cms.gov/ICD10).

### Will Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield (Anthem) be compliant by the October 1, 2015, deadline?

Yes. We are working to help ensure our systems, supporting business processes, policies and procedures successfully meet the implementation standards and deadlines without interruption to day-to-day business practices. We plan to work closely with providers, clearinghouses, vendors and state partners as they also work towards meeting this updated compliance date.

### Will Anthem reject my claims if I am not compliant?

We expect providers and clearinghouses we work with will meet the ICD-10 compliance date. However, we will continue to accept ICD-9 codes after the **October 1, 2015**, compliance date in order to accommodate claims with dates of service (outpatient) or dates of discharge (inpatient) prior to **October 1, 2015**, only.

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