

ICD-10 ALERT

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What does the ICD-10 conversion mean for Physicians and Providers?

- All physicians, hospitals, and health plans must transition to the use of ICD-10 codes for clinical diagnosis and procedure information on October 1, 2015.
- This transition is significant. **ICD-10 codes are used in virtually all processes including payments, referrals, and contracts.** Changes will occur in the structure of the codes, as well as in coding rules and terminology.
- **ICD-10 data will benefit physicians by enhancing reimbursement for care provided to higher acuity patients.***
- **ICD-10 will support a physician's strong reputation by clearly communicating medical necessity and patient acuity in data used to determine quality measures.***
- The foundation of implementing ICD-10 begins with a greater level of specificity being documented in the medical record.
- ICD-10 education and transition resources can be accessed at munsonhealthcare.org/icd10. This website also includes instructions for downloading free smart phone/tablet applications on implementing ICD-10. **Easy-access online educational programs are available in HealthStream to help physicians learn what additional information will need to be documented.**

*Excerpts from 'Helping Physicians Succeed in an ICD-10 World,' White Paper, HealthStream