

ICD-10.

COMPLIANCE DATE OCTOBER 1, 2015

100 DAYS AWAY: ICD-10 Deadline October 1, 2015

Get Ready Now with the New CMS [Quick Start Guide!](#)

While ICD-10 is almost here, you still have time to get ready. But you must get ready now.

Each day this week we are highlighting 1 of the 5 steps from the new [Quick Start Guide](#): 1) Make a Plan, 2) Train Your Staff, 3) Update Your Processes, 4) Talk with Your Vendors and Health Plans, and 5) Test Your Systems and Processes. Today our focus is:

Step: 1 Make a Plan

The graphic features a blue header with the text "ICD-10 Get Ready Now!". Below this, a large blue circle with the number "1" is positioned to the left of the main heading "Make a Plan | Obtain Access to ICD-10 Codes". To the left of the "1" is a yellow box with the text "Online" and "You can download the 2016 Code Tables and Index at cms.gov/ICD10", accompanied by a laptop icon. Below the "1" are three columns of options: "Practice Management Systems" with a tablet icon, "Print and Electronic" with a smartphone icon, and "Electronic Health Record Products" with a laptop icon. At the bottom right of the graphic is the "CMS ICD-10" logo.

- Assign target dates for completing steps outlined here
- **Most important, obtain access to ICD-10 codes. The codes are available from many sources and in many formats:**
 - Code books
 - CD/DVD and other digital media
 - [Online](#) (e.g., go to [cms.gov/ICD10](#) and select "2016 ICD-10-CM and GEMS" to download 2016 Code Tables and Index)
 - Practice management systems
 - Electronic health record (EHR) products
 - Smartphone apps
- Decide [role\(s\) your clearinghouse\(s\)](#) will play in your transition. Some providers who are not ready could benefit from contracting with a clearinghouse to submit claims:
 - Clearinghouses can help by:
 - Identifying problems that lead to claims being rejected
 - Providing guidance about how to fix rejected claims (e.g., more or different data need to be included)
 - Clearinghouses **cannot** help you code in ICD-10 codes unless they offer third-party billing/coding services

Tips

- You must use:
 - ICD-10 codes for all services provided on or after October 1
 - ICD-9 codes for all services provided before October 1
- Identify everywhere in your practice that you use ICD-9 codes to make sure you know what processes and systems need to be updated for ICD-10; for example:
 - Patient registration and scheduling
 - Clinical documentation/health records
 - Referrals and authorizations
 - Order entry
 - Coding
 - Billing
 - Reporting and analysis
- Even clearinghouses that offer coding and billing services cannot translate ICD-9 codes to ICD-10 codes unless they have the detailed clinical documentation required to select the right code
- Practices that do not prepare for ICD-10 risk disruptions in cash flow
- For a more in-depth approach to planning, see the [Action Plan](#) section of the Road to 10

To learn more about getting ready, visit [cms.gov/ICD10](https://www.cms.gov/ICD10) for free resources including the Road to 10 tool designed especially for small and rural practices, but useful for all health care professionals.

Keep Up to Date on ICD-10

Visit the CMS [ICD-10 website](#) for the latest news and resources to help you prepare. Sign up for [CMS ICD-10 Industry Email Updates](#) and [follow us](#) on Twitter.

