

ICD-10. COMPLIANCE DATE OCTOBER 1, 2015

News Updates | June 25, 2015

ICD-10 Deadline October 1, 2015: Talk to Your Vendors and Health Plans

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: 4 Talk to Your Vendors and Health Plans

ICD-10 Get Ready Now!

Software System Vendors
Call right away to confirm your systems are ready



4

Talk to Your Vendors and Health Plans | Confirm Systems Are Ready

Health Plans



Billing Services



Clearinghouses



Ask about their readiness and testing opportunities

- **[Call your vendors](#) to confirm the ICD-10 readiness of your practice's systems**
- Confirm that the health plans, clearinghouses, and third-party billing services you work with are ICD-10 ready
- Ask vendors, health plans, clearinghouses, and third-party billers about testing opportunities

Tips

- You can use [forms available in the Road to 10's Template Library](#) to guide discussions with vendors, health plans, clearinghouses, and billing services
- Double check that you've identified all systems that use ICD codes—e.g., practice management systems, electronic health record (EHR) products—when contacting vendors
- Update contracts with vendors and health plans as needed
- Transition costs for small medical practices could be substantially lower than projected earlier:
 - Many EHR vendors are including ICD-10 in their systems or upgrades—at little or no cost to their customers
 - Software and systems costs for ICD-10 could be minimal for many providers

To learn more about getting ready, visit 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.

