



### 1) What is ICD-10?

The World Health Organization's (WHO) International Classification of Diseases has served the healthcare community for over a century. The United States implemented the current version (ICD-9) in 1979. While most industrialized countries moved to ICD-10 a number of years ago, the United States is just now transitioning with a final compliance date of October 1, 2015. The WHO's ICD-10 is a classification system for diagnosis codes only, and does not contain a procedural code set.

ICD-10-CM (International Classification of Diseases -10th Revision-Clinical Modification) is a US clinical modification of the WHO's ICD-10, developed to support US health information needs. ICD-10-CM is designed for classifying and reporting diseases in all US healthcare settings. ICD-10-PCS (Procedure Classification System) was developed by CMS and is not based on an international coding system. ICD-10-PCS replaces the ICD-9-CM procedure coding system and will only be required for facilities reporting procedures on hospital inpatient services. When speaking of both these new classifications, the term "ICD-10" is often used.

### 2) Why are we going through this transition to ICD-10 codes?

While the change is federally mandated, there are other projected benefits. ICD-9-CM was developed in the 1970s and no longer fits with the needs of the 21st century healthcare system. ICD-9-CM is used for many more purposes today than when it was originally developed and the ICD-9 coding structure does not allow enough space for the codes to provide meaningful details for analysis to support current health information needs. Continuing to rely on the outdated and imprecise ICD-9-CM platform adversely affects the value of healthcare data.

Adopting the ICD-10 codes is a strategic opportunity that will lead to numerous long-term benefits, including:

- Increased ability to measure performance and to provide offerings based on service excellence
- Improved quality of care and patient safety due to better data
- Providing more detail and specificity for capturing healthcare data
- Less ambiguity in the code set provides a potential for reduction in coding error rates that lead to rejected claims

### 3) What is Santa Clara Family Health Plan doing to prepare for the ICD-10 transition?

Santa Clara Family Health Plan has a dedicated team working on the ICD-10 transition requirements. The team worked with each business area within Santa Clara Family Health Plan to assess the impacts the ICD-10 transition will have on the organization. A roadmap was developed to define Santa Clara Family Health Plan's implementation plan. The roadmap includes a timeline to complete business requirements, system design and development, internal and external testing, medical policy updates, communication initiatives, and training. Upgrades have already started for a number of key systems impacted by ICD-10.

### 4) When will Santa Clara Family Health Plan be ICD-10 compliant?

Santa Clara Family Health Plan's implementation plan calls for us to be ICD-10 compliant by October 1, 2015.



**5) Will Santa Clara Family Health Plan accept ICD-10 coded claims before October 1, 2015?**

Even though we are working on becoming ICD-10 compliant well before the current government mandated date, some of our partners may not be ready to use ICD-10 before October 1, 2015. Therefore, we will not accept ICD-10 codes on claims before the government mandated date.

**6) Will Santa Clara Family Health Plan conduct testing with providers using ICD-10 codes?**

We are exploring options that will allow our providers to test with us using ICD-10 codes. For updates on our testing plan, please continue to visit our website.

**7) Will Santa Clara Family Health Plan accept ICD-9 codes after October 1, 2015, for dates of service prior to October 1, 2015?**

Yes. ICD-9 coded claims can be submitted after October 1, 2015 **provided** the dates of service or dates of discharge are prior to October 1, 2015. Current regulations require that all outpatient and professional claims with dates of service on or after October 1, 2015 be coded with ICD-10 diagnosis. Inpatient claims with discharge dates on or after October 1, 2015, must be coded using ICD-10 diagnosis codes.

**8) Will Santa Clara Family Health Plan use a crosswalk for claims processing?**

No. Santa Clara Family Health Plan will be able to process both ICD-9 and ICD-10 codes and will process the ICD code submitted by the provider.

**9) How does the ICD-10 implementation impact providers that file paper claims?**

The method used to submit the claim has no impact on the code set contained on the claim. The ICD-10 code set must be used on all claims with dates of service on or after October 1, 2015, and on all inpatient claims with a date of discharge on or after October 1, 2015.

**10) What should doctors and facilities do to prepare for the compliance date?**

Providers should contact their billing or software vendors for information on the vendors' ICD-10 conversion and testing plans. Providers should also look closely at their clinical, financial, billing and coding processes to see how they will be affected by the conversion to ICD-10.

These industry resources may help with your ICD-10 planning and preparation:

**Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services:** [www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10](http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10)

**Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange:** [www.wedi.org/topics/icd-10](http://www.wedi.org/topics/icd-10)