



ICD-10 is on its way! Start Preparing Now

October 1, 2013 might seem like a long way away, but the reality is that preparing for a change like ICD-10 is a major task. There are a number of questions that need to be asked and then addressed in order to assure that your transition to ICD-10 is a smooth one.

If your fiduciary/sponsoring agency has already started preparing, make sure your providers and clinic staff are included in any discussions and trainings available. While it isn't quite time for providers to complete a comprehensive coding training, there are a number of other discussions and training topics that are very relevant for other clinic staff. It is important that with all the changes happening in the healthcare industry that this one doesn't get lost in the shuffle. It is an integral part of the changing healthcare environment.

ICD-10 will have effects on many aspects of your practice. It will require changes to your Practice Management/Billing and EHR software. It will effect data collection and reporting. Any aspect of your practice that currently relies on ICD-9 codes will need to be considered when thinking about the implementation of ICD-10. It is important to consider all areas that will be affected and have a plan in place for implementation of the new codes for each of them.

There are a number of resources available for your providers, clinics and fiduciaries to begin reviewing to assist in the planning and implementation process. Here are a few:

- **CMS ICD-10 Resources** (<https://www.cms.gov/ICD10/>)
- **AAPC ICD-10 FAQ's** (<http://www.aapc.com/icd-10/faq.aspx>)
- **AHIMA ICD-10 Resources** (<http://www.ahima.org/icd10/>)

SCHA-MI's practice management team would like to know how your clinic/providers are preparing for this transition. Please send details of how you are moving forward with the change along with any questions to Brenda McLean, Practice and Data Network Manager, at bmclean@scha-mi.org.

**For More Information, please contact
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