

The National Association of Social Workers

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Preparing for the ICD-10-CM Deadline in 2015

Clinical social workers should begin preparing for the implementation of the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Edition, Clinical Modification, known as the ICD-10-CM. It is a diagnostic classification system used to identify diseases. Developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for use in all United States health care settings, it is maintained and distributed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Background Information

In 2003, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA, P.L. 104-191) standardized uniform electronic code sets and identified the ICD-9-CM or its updated counterpart, as the diagnostic code set to use when seeking reimbursement for health and mental health services performed. The ICD-9-CM is over 30 years old and does not accurately describe diagnoses of the 21st century. Therefore, it will be replaced by the ICD-10-CM on October 1, 2015.

ICD-10 Basics

There are two components of the ICD-10:

- The ICD-10-CM is used to code a diagnosis when seeking reimbursement and is used in all health care settings. Under the ICD-10-CM, 3 to 7 digits are used for coding rather than the 3 to 5

digits used with the ICD-9-CM.

- The ICD-10-PCS (Procedure Coding System) is used in inpatient settings. ICD-10-PCS uses 7 alphanumeric digits instead of the 3 or 4 numeric digits used with the ICD-9-PCS.

For purposes of psychotherapy services, clinical social workers use the ICD-10-CM codes only. Effective October 1, 2015, clinical social workers, who seek reimbursement will be **required** to use the ICD-10-CM. The change from the ICD-9-CM to the ICD-10-CM **will not impact Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) coding** used by clinical social workers and other healthcare providers.

Implementation

Once implementation becomes effective on October 1, 2015, clinical social workers who continue to use the ICD-9-CM codes will receive claim denials. Because clinical social workers and other health care providers have been given adequate preparation time to transition to the ICD-10-CM, opportunities to resubmit or appeal denied claims may not exist for inappropriate diagnostic coding services performed on or after October 1, 2015. Psychotherapy services rendered prior to October 1, 2015 may continue to be processed with ICD-9-CM codes after October 1, 2015.

Transitioning to the ICD-10-CM

Because conversion from the ICD-9-CM to the ICD-10-CM will require significant changes in clinical and administrative systems, clinical social workers should prepare now for the transition. Preparation may include:

- Being aware that the codes of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th Edition (DSM-5) are now harmonized with the ICD-10-CM codes
- Purchasing and using the revised CMS-1500 Form (02-12) for claim submissions
- Training to become familiar with the new diagnostic codes
- Determining how the ICD-10-CM will affect your practice
- Mapping the ICD-9-CM codes to the ICD-10-CM codes
- Becoming familiar with the implementation plans of insurance companies with whom you are a provider
- Discussing and verifying with your billing services, practice management associate, or clearinghouse, their preparation and readiness for the implementation of the ICD-10. Clinical social workers are responsible for ensuring their claims are

filed with the appropriate codes, even though this responsibility may have been delegated by them to a third-party.

- Verifying with your software vendor that your computer system can accommodate the ICD-10 diagnostic codes.
- Upgrading or purchasing new practice management and electronic record system to accommodate the data format of the ICD-10-CM.
- Developing new forms such as the patient encounter form or super bill, if you submit claims by paper.
- Developing and implementing a testing plan for the ICD-10 prior to the compliance date of October 1, 2015.
- **Establishing an emergency fund** to cover reimbursement delays and unexpected expenses that may arise during the early months of implementation.

Where to Find the ICD-10-CM Codes

Additional information and a copy of the ICD-10-CM codes are available free online at www.cms.gov/ICD10. Clinical social workers may also sign up for e-mail updates at this Web site to receive the latest news and resources on the ICD-10.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS 2014 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

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Conference Details

THEME: Social Work: Courage, Hope and Leadership
DATES: July 23-26, 2014
LOCATION: Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, DC

REGISTRATION FEES:

Early Bird (Jan-Feb 2014)	\$375 NASW Member \$575 Non-Member	Regular (Mar-July 2014*) <small>* or until capacity is met</small>	\$425 NASW Member \$625 Non-Member
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PRESENTATION FORMATS:

Symposium: Topic-focused 90 minute panel sessions with three speakers
Individual Presentation: 30 minute presentations (conference committee will place three individuals speakers in a 90 minute session based on a common theme)
Poster Presentations: Posters will be displayed in the exhibit area throughout the conference. Poster presenters are encouraged to discuss their work with attendees at designated breaks

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: Available Online

EXHIBIT REGISTRATION OPEN: Available Online

REGISTRATION OPEN: January 3, 2014

Center for Workforce Studies & Social Work Practice Recent Publications

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- *Social Work Services with Parents: How Attitudes and Approaches Shape the Relationship*

Clinical Social Work

- *Major Changes in 2014 for Clinical Social Workers*
- *New Psychotherapy Codes for Clinical Social Workers*
- *Documenting For Medicare: Tips For Clinical Social Workers*
- *Opting Out of Medicare as a Clinical Social Workers*
- *Retiring? Tips For Closing Your Private Practice*
- *Risk Management In Clinical Practice*

Education

- *Addressing the Educational Needs of Older Youth*
- *Gangs: A Growing Problem in Schools*

Leadership and Organizations

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- *Organizational Integration of Cultural Competency: Building Organizational Capacity to Improve Service Delivery to Culturally Diverse Populations*
- *Organizing For Office Safety*

Poverty

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- *Overcoming Economic Hardships*

Workforce & Career Development

- *Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs): Opportunities for the Social Work Profession*
- *Career Coaching: A Valuable Resource For Social Workers*
- *Furthering Your Social Work Education: Obtaining A Doctorate*
- *Negotiating A Higher Salary*
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- *Setting and Maintaining Professional Boundaries*
- *State Health Insurance Exchanges: What Social Workers Need to Know*
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Practice Perspectives Winter 2014



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