



Division of Medical Services UTILIZATION REVIEW

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Messaging for DMS Providers

On August 24, 2012, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced the revised compliance date for use of the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision (ICD-10). The previous date of October 1, 2013, has been extended for the period of one year to October 1, 2014. This rule applies to all HIPAA Covered Entities including Health Plans, Clearinghouses and all Healthcare Providers. There is much work to be done by providers and payers to prepare for this change.

Like organizations across the country, Arkansas Medicaid in conjunction with the Arkansas Department of Human Services (DHS) continues to work toward this universal compliance date. The Impact Assessment and ICD-9 to ICD-10 code crosswalks as they relate to Arkansas Medicaid have been completed. The next phase of ICD-10 readiness includes collaborative testing within Arkansas Medicaid as well as external vendors to ensure the ability of Arkansas Medicaid to pay claims accurately on and after October 1, 2014.

Providers are encouraged to use the additional time afforded by this extension to thoroughly assess their business processes, work flows and technical systems. This evaluation and assessment will guide remediation efforts that may be identified; including technical system upgrades, education of staff, and training for ICD-10. Evaluation of your productivity metrics may indicate the need for additional staff or process redesign to ensure that your practice continues to operate efficiently post-implementation.

As a reminder, ALL claims submitted to Arkansas Medicaid for dates of service and dates of discharge after October 1, 2014, must be submitted with ICD-10 CM codes representing the diagnosis and ICD-10 PCS codes representing inpatient procedures performed. Failure to submit claims with the proper codes will result in claims not being processed. Claims received for dates of service prior to the implementation date of October 1, 2014, should continue to be submitted utilizing the current ICD-9 diagnosis and procedure codes.

Arkansas Medicaid and DHS will soon launch a website with Arkansas-specific ICD-10 updates, information and resources to assist our providers in this transition. Included on this website will be a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) that will provide additional information on the progress of Arkansas Medicaid's quest for ICD-10 Readiness on October 1, 2014. Details regarding upcoming provider outreach and training specific to Arkansas Medicaid also will be posted on the website at www.humanservices.Arkansas.gov/ICD10.

