



Media Release

Contact:

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For Immediate Release

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DHS to hold town halls to prepare providers for major changes to billing

The Department of Human Services (DHS) and Arkansas Medicaid will be hosting a series of town halls across the state to help prepare doctors and other providers for the ICD-10 code switch. The ICD-10 coding system is what providers use to bill Medicaid, Medicare and private insurers for claims. The federal government is requiring providers to switch to ICD-10 by October 1.

The switch will impact all 38,000 Medicaid providers in Arkansas.

According to a recent survey conducted by the Arkansas Medical Society, only 16 percent of providers say they are ready for the switch. If providers are not ready by October 1, their claims will be denied.

“This is a significant change from what we do today. Some providers are hesitant to prepare because it has already been postponed by the federal government twice,” said Tami Harlan, deputy director for the DHS Division of Medical Services (DMS). “Other providers may think it doesn’t apply to them. But it’s happening October 1, and it will affect everyone. That’s why we are doing these town halls- to make the transition as smooth as possible.”

At the town halls, Medicaid officials will explain ICD-10, how it is different from the current coding system and what providers and their staffs need to do to prepare.

[Register
Today!](#)

For a list of dates and locations, please see the table below.

-more-

July 7 - Camden - Noon-1 p.m.
Camden Public Library
405 Cash Rd., Camden, AR 71701

July 7 - Hope - 6-7 p.m.
Wadley Regional Medical Center
2001 S. Main St., Hope AR 71801

July 8 - Jonesboro - Noon-1 p.m.
St. Bernards Health & Wellness Institute
1416 E. Matthews Ave., Jonesboro, AR
72401

July 8 - West Memphis - 6-7 p.m.
West Memphis Public Library
213 N. Avalon, West Memphis, AR
72301

July 9 - Searcy - Noon-1 p.m.
ASU Campus - Room TE127
1800 E. Moore Ave., Searcy, AR 72143

July 21 - Fayetteville - Noon-1 p.m.
Hilton Garden Inn Hotel
1325 N. Palek Dr., Fayetteville, AR
72704

July 21 - Fort Smith - 6-7 p.m.
Chaffee Crossing Media Center
7801 Ellis, Fort Smith, AR 72916

July 22 - Little Rock - 6-7 p.m.
Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care
1020 W. 4th St., Suite 300, Little Rock,
AR 72201

July 23 - Little Rock - Noon-1 p.m.
Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care
1020 W. 4th St., Suite 300, Little Rock,
AR 72201

July 28 - Warren - Noon-1 p.m.
Warren Housing Authority
801 W. Central, Warren, AR 71671

July 28 - Pine Bluff - 6-7 p.m.
Jefferson Regional medical Center
1600 W. 40th St., Pine Bluff, AR 71603

August 4 - Mena - Noon-1 p.m.
Polk County Library
410 8th St., Mena, AR 71953

August 4 - Hot Springs - 6-7 p.m.
National Park Community College - Lab
Sciences Auditorium
101 College Dr., Hot Springs, AR 71913

August 5 - Bull Shoals - Noon-1 p.m.
James Gaston Visitors Center
153 Dam Overlook Lane, Bull Shoals, AR
72619

August 5 - Mountain View - 6-7 p.m.
Stone County Medical Center
2106 E. Main St., Mtn. View, AR 72560

August 6 - Russellville - Noon-1 p.m.
Pope County Library - Heritage Hall
113 E. 3rd. Street, Harrison, AR 72801

August 6 - Conway - 6-7 p.m.
Conway Regional Medical Center
2302 College Ave., Conway, AR 72034