

IT Tools and Solutions to an Effective **ICD-10 Transition** *White Paper*



Overcome all the challenges of ICD – 10 Transition,
by using the MTBC's Standard Diagnostic Tools and
Integrated Apps

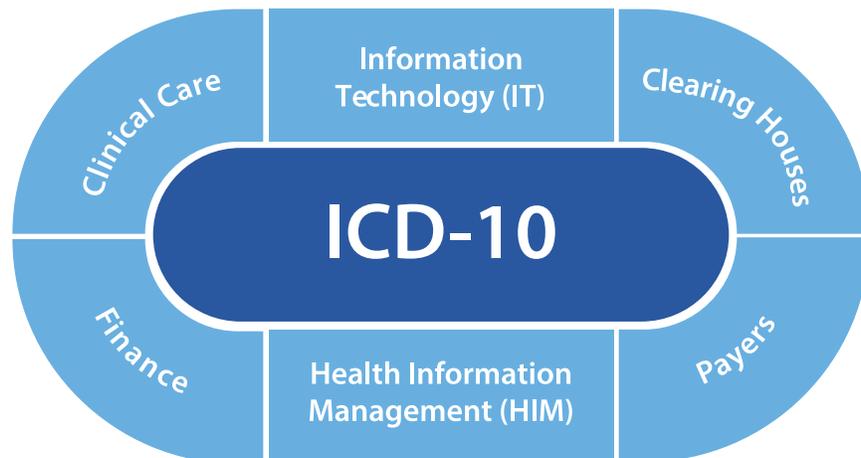
Executive Summary

ICD-10 is the 10th revision of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD). There are two components: ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS. ICD-10-CM is an abbreviation for International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision Clinical Modification developed and maintained by the World Health Organization (WHO). ICD-10-PCS is an abbreviation for International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision Procedure Coding System, developed by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

ICD-10-CM contains approximately 69,000 diagnosis codes, whereas ICD-9-CM contains approximately 14,000 codes. This major expansion in the codes allows for greater detail and technological advances in medicine. ICD-10-CM is used to report diagnoses in all medical/clinical settings. The ICD-9 code sets used to report medical diagnoses are replaced by ICD-10 code sets on October 1, 2015. It is important to note that use of the ICD-10 code system does not affect CPT coding for outpatient procedures and physician services.

Impact across Healthcare Industry

The transition^[1] of ICD-10 affects all those who use the healthcare information that involves a diagnosis and/or inpatient procedure code, including:



Benefits of ICD-10^[2]

In 1992, the World Health Organization (WHO) first introduced the ICD-10 code set, and it has become the diagnostic coding standard in developed countries outside the US. A few of the primary benefits of these coding standards are listed below:

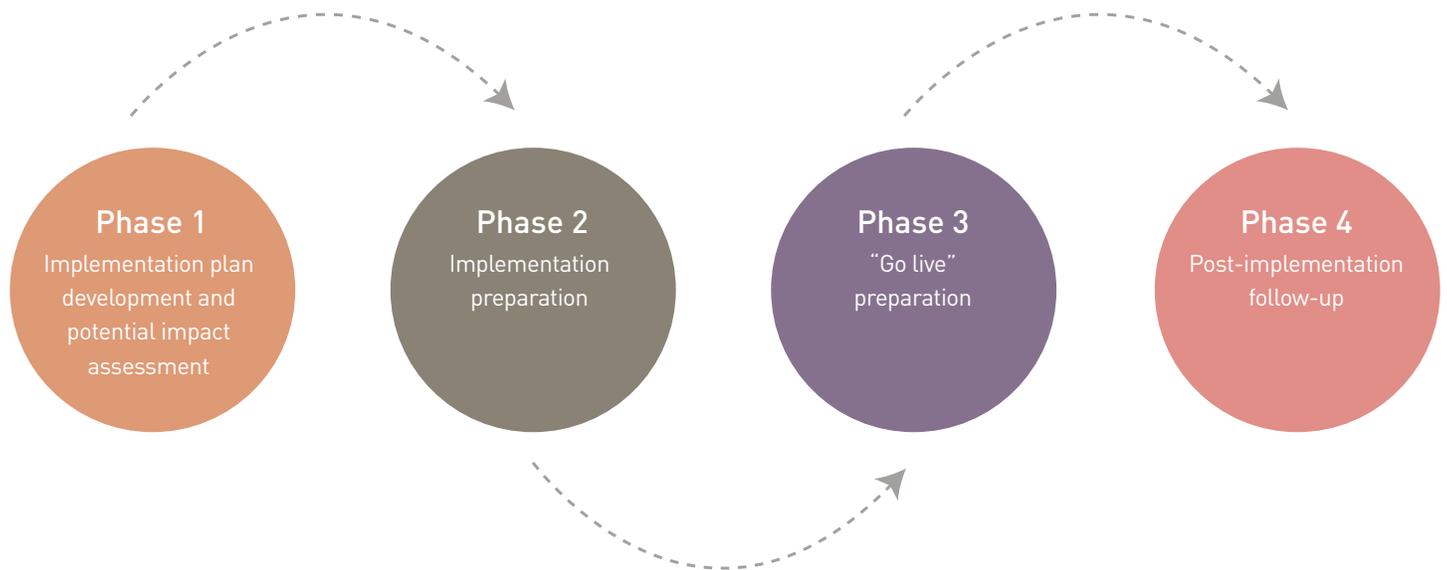
- An increased ability to track diseases, through better specificity and detail;
- Accurate reflections of current technology and medical treatment;
- An increase in diagnosis codes makes it easier for physicians and coders to choose the right code; enhance coding accuracy and specificity to classify anatomic site, etiology, and severity;
- Provide payers and program integrity contractors with opportunities for more effective detection and investigation of potential fraud or abuse;
- Improvement in clinical, financial, and administrative performance.

Diagnosis Code Comparison

Comparison	ICD – 9 – CM	ICD – 10 – CM
Features	3-5 characters in length	3-7 characters in length
	Approximately 14,000 codes	Approximately 69,000 available codes
	First digit may be alphabet (E or V) or numeric; digits 2-5 are numeric	First digit is alphabet (all letters used except “U”), the second digit is always numeric, and the remaining five digits can be of any combination.
	Limited space for adding new code	Flexible for adding new code
	Lacks detail	Very specific
	No laterality	Laterality (left vs. right)
Format ^[3]		

Comparison	ICD – 9 – CM	ICD – 10 – CM
Single Match Coding	401.1 - Benign Essential Hypertension	I10 - Essential (primary) hypertension
	724.3 - Sciatica	M54.30 - Sciatica, unspecified side
Multiple Match Coding	477.9 - Allergic Rhinitis Cause Unspecified	J30.0 - Vasomotor rhinitis
		J30.9 - Allergic rhinitis, unspecified
	493.90 - Asthma Unspecified	J45.909 - Unspecified asthma, uncomplicated
		J45.998 - Other asthma

Implementation Strategy



ICD-10 Transition - Challenges for Providers

- Identifying the correct ICD-10 code;
- Educating yourself on new coding standards and diagnosis recommendation;
- Creating the documentation according to diagnosis;
- Identifying the key metrics of your practice: turnaround time & monthly cash-flow;
- Training your medical staff and coders;
- Documenting and scanning of 8 to 10 pages super bill.

Possible Impacts:

- Increase in turnaround time;
- Decrease in monthly cash flow;
- Time and effort of documentation;
- Disruption of clinical workflow;
- Possible diversion from patient care.

Physician Cost – Revenue Comparison

Nachimson Advisors^[4] (2014) has calculated the approximate total expense of various aspects of the adoption to ICD-10 for different sizes of provider practices, along with their staff strength as shown in the following image:

Practice Size	Small Practice	Medium Practice	Large Practice
Physicians	3	10	100
Medical Coders	2	1	58
Administrative Staff	-	6	54
Total	5	17	222

Breakdown of ICD-10 Expenses by Function:

Charges	Small Practice	Medium Practice	Large Practice
Training	\$2,700-\$3,000	\$4,800-\$7,900	\$75,100
Assessment	\$4,300-\$7,000	\$6,535-\$9,600	\$19,320
Vendor/Software Upgrades	\$0-\$60,000	\$0-\$200,000	\$0-\$2,000,000
Process Remediation	\$3,312-\$6,701	\$6,211-\$12,990	\$14,874-\$31,821
Testing	\$15,248-\$28,805	\$47,906-\$93,098	\$428,740-\$880,660
Productivity Loss	\$8,500-\$20,250	\$72,649-\$166,649	\$726,487-\$1,666,487
Payment Disruption	\$22,579-\$100,349	\$75,263-\$334,498	\$752,630-\$3,344,976
Total	\$56,639-\$226,105	\$213,364-\$824,735	\$2,017,151-\$8,018,364

- MTBC provided free ICD-10 Coaching Services
- IT Expenses were minimum and with no disruption in Cash-Flow by using our IT Tools

ICD-10 Compliance and Beyond

- Improved ability to measure the quality and safety of patient care;
- Improved ability to carry out public health surveillance across the world;
- Maximize the benefits of EHR adoption;
- Improved efficiencies and reduced administrative costs;
- Minimizing the need for payers for medical records;
- Detailed data for better analysis of a disease;
- Ability to accommodate advance medicine.

Role of MTBC in ICD-10 Transition

Our ICD-10 transition covered the entire ICD-10 lifecycle from initial assessment to testing, and post-transition/implementation support. In order to have a successful transition, it is critical that your practice management, billing and EHR vendor helps your practice execute the changes needed to your practice's processes and systems. MTBC's Medical Billing, Practice Management (PM) and Electronic Health Record (EHR) provides:

- ICD-9 to ICD-10 mapping tools (Diagnostic Tools & Smart Apps) for successful transition;
- ICD-10 updates to all billing and coding rules and medical billing procedures to help coding staff;
- Educational Webinars and Coaching Sessions on ICD-10;
- Updates on ICD-10 conversion within MTBC's PM and testing with clearinghouse and payers on ICD-10;
- Coordination of transition across key impacted areas (payers, labs, reports, etc.);
- Tips & guidelines to reduce productivity loss during ICD-10 changeover (workflows, timelines etc.);
- Beta Testing to bring our clients on board and train them over WebEHR and PM System;
- Dual coding to get used to the ICD-10 coding standards and accept the new implementations as well.

Core Solutions of MTBC

1. Diagnostic Tools - Benefits

- Tools offer both forward (ICD-9 to ICD-10) and backward conversion (ICD-10 to ICD-9);
- Fully integrated solution allows quick creation of claims;
- 24/7 connectivity with database allows providers to send claims directly from their devices;
- Reduces paper cost and administrative tasks of documentation and scanning;
- Provides history of previous claims on one page.

2. iEHR- Benefits

- Convenient navigation and workflow;
- Built in ICD-9 to ICD-10 converter;
- View appointments and eligibility feature;
- View payment details;
- Template creation and usage.

3. Stand Alone Converter App – Benefits

- One step ICD-10 conversion of codes;
- View detailed description against each ICD-10 code;
- View all available ICD-10 alternatives against each ICD-9 code.

Definitions

Diagnostic Tools

Diagnostic tools on MTBC's Practice Management System, Web EHR and smart devices allow our physicians and their staff to conveniently enter the claims. With tools, conversion from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-CM becomes easier.

It provides an option to search either by description or by code.

iEHR

MTBC iEHR allows providers to conveniently enter claims through handheld devices on the go.

It is fully integrated with MTBC's Web-Based Scheduler and Practice Management System.

Stand Alone Converter App

MTBC's innovative application for ICD-10 transition is an extraordinary tool for physicians to convert ICD-9 diagnostic codes to ICD-10 version of Comprehensive Coding.

This handy, time-saving tool includes all the ICD-9 codes and their respective ICD-10 codes. You can always be sure that you're making the most appropriate code conversion.

Effortless Transition

MTBC is providing free ICD-10 coaching services to help you effortlessly transition to ICD-10. Our coaches will help you in:

- Evaluating your reporting requirements;
- Trainings and demo on ICD-10 applications/developments;
- Verifying the compliance results;
- Providing educational resources.

Feature Comparison – MTBC Apps

MTBC APPLICATIONS		
E-Claim Module	iBill	Stand Alone App
FEATURES	FEATURES	FEATURES
ICD-9 to ICD-10 Converter	ICD-9 to ICD-10 Converter	ICD-9 to ICD-10 Converter
Membership Required	Membership Required	N/A
Integration with Web Based Scheduler	Integration with Web Based Scheduler	N/A
Integration with Practice Management System	Integration with Practice Management System	N/A
Claims Entry	Claims Entry	N/A

MTBC ICD – 10 implementation Checklist

Title	Status
Top Payers & Clearing Houses	
Medicare	✓
Medicaid	✓
Emdeon	✓
Anthem	✓
HCFA 02/12 (upgraded version of ICD-10)	✓
Tricare	✓
Beta testing for Clients	✓
Changes in IT Infrastructure	
ICD-10 Diagnostic Tools	✓
iEHR	✓
Stand Alone Converter App	✓
Support & Services	
Providers Training	✓
Collective & Individual Training	✓

End Notes

1. <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD9ProviderDiagnosticCodes/Downloads/2015-03-18-Impact-ICD10-Transition.pdf>
2. <http://www.todayswoundclinic.com/articles/wound-healing-through-medical-data-get-ready-icd-10-cm-classification-improvements>
3. <http://www.aapc.com/ICD-10/conversion-mapping.aspx>
4. <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/news/news/2014/2014-02-12-icd10-cost-estimates-increased-for-most-physicians.page>