

## Talking to Your Vendors About ICD-10 and Version 5010: Tips for Medical Practices

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If you are covered by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), you need to prepare for two firm deadlines to comply with mandated changes:

**January 1, 2012** — for full compliance with Version 5010 standards if you conduct electronic transactions either directly or through a clearinghouse or billing service

**October 1, 2013** — for full implementation of ICD-10 code sets

These transition dates are definite. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) established the deadlines in two final regulations issued on January 16, 2009, and confirmed them on March 5, 2009. HHS does not plan to extend the deadlines.

If you submit electronic claims, you need to have completed internal testing of Version 5010 systems in time to begin external testing with your payers, clearinghouses, billing services, and other business partners by

### **January 1, 2011.**

An important step in preparing for these changes is to talk with any software vendors, clearinghouses, or billing services you use to be sure they are ready to provide the support you need. Your vendors will need to have products and services ready well in advance of the compliance deadlines to allow adequate time for testing.

Your vendors can provide you with details about what you need to comply with Version 5010 standards, which replace the Version 4010/4010A standards currently used for electronic transactions. Unlike Version 4010/4010A standards, Version 5010 accommodates the ICD-10 code sets that become effective in 2013.

### **Start the Conversation with Your Vendors**

Talk with your vendors now to be sure that you can count on them to:

- Have fully functional, compliant products and services ready in plenty of time to allow thorough Version 5010 and ICD-10 testing
- Help you avoid potential reimbursement issues

### **Compliance Timeline**

#### **JANUARY 1, 2010**

Payers and providers should begin internal testing of Version 5010 standards for electronic claims

#### **DECEMBER 31, 2010**

Internal testing of Version 5010 must be complete to achieve Level I Version 5010 compliance

#### **JANUARY 1, 2011**

Payers and providers should begin external testing of Version 5010 for electronic claims  
CMS begins accepting Version 5010 claims

Version 4010 claims continue to be accepted

**DECEMBER 31, 2011**

External testing of Version 5010 for electronic claims must be complete to achieve Level II Version 5010 compliance

**JANUARY 1, 2012**

All electronic claims must use Version 5010  
Version 4010 claims are no longer accepted

**OCTOBER 1, 2013**

Claims for services provided on or after this date must use ICD-10 codes for medical diagnosis and inpatient procedures  
CPT codes will continue to be used for outpatient services

Visit [www.cms.gov/ICD10](http://www.cms.gov/ICD10) for ICD-10 and Version 5010 resources from CMS.

Resources related to this topic on website [www.practicesupport.com](http://www.practicesupport.com) include:

[ICD-10 Implementation](#)