



Texas Department of Insurance

Division of Workers' Compensation

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Memorandum

To: Texas Workers' Compensation System Participants

From: Matthew Zurek, Executive Deputy Commissioner Health Care Management & System Monitoring

Date: March 10, 2015

Subject: Reminder: Texas Workers' Compensation Transition to ICD-10 Code Sets

Beginning **October 1, 2015**, the Texas workers' compensation system will transition to the use of the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Edition, Clinical Modification and Procedure Coding System, (ICD-10) from the 9th Edition, ICD-9 for medical billing, processing and reporting in alignment with federal regulations. These federal regulations adopt standard medical data codes sets that apply to the Medicare system, which is regulated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Although there have been previous delays in the implementation of the ICD-10 code sets, the Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) reminds all system participants we will continue to follow the timeframe set by CMS.

Texas Labor Code §413.011(a) requires the Commissioner of Workers' Compensation to adopt the most current reimbursement methodologies, models, and values or weights used by CMS, including applicable payment policies relating to coding, billing and reporting, and may modify documentation requirements as necessary to meet the requirements of Section 413.053.

Health care providers, insurance carriers, clearinghouses, and billing services that participate in the Texas workers' compensation system must be prepared to comply with ICD-10.

All health care services provided on or after October 1, 2015 must be billed with ICD-10 diagnosis codes or ICD-10 procedure codes as appropriate pursuant to Texas Labor Code Section 413.011(a). This includes medical bills submitted electronically or paper forms.

Health care services provided before October 1, 2015 must continue to be billed with ICD-9 diagnosis and procedure codes. Practice management systems and bill review management must be able to accommodate both

ICD-9 and ICD-10 codes until all medical bills for service dates before October 1, 2015 have been processed.

It is important to prepare now for the ICD-10 transition. There are many professional, clinical, and trade associations offering ICD-10 information, educational resources, and checklists. Call or check the websites of your associations and other industry groups to see what resources are available. You may also visit the CMS website for the resources at <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/Index.html> . In addition, the DWC will also offer guidance on the transition of ICD-9 to ICD-10 diagnoses codes through educational and informational outreach. If you have any questions regarding the information provided in this memo, contact DWC Comp Connection for Health Care Providers at 800-252-7031, option 3 (for the Austin area, dial 512-804-4000) or e-mail medben@tdi.texas.gov.