

Produced by the ICD-10 Integrated Project Team (IPT) & TRICARE Management Activity (TMA) Information Management (IM)

### Clinical Documentation Improvement: “Piecing the Puzzle Together”

*ICD-10 will bring a dramatic increase in the number of diagnosis and inpatient procedure codes and along with them a need for increased specificity in coding and documentation.*

*Improving clinical documentation practices is one piece of the puzzle to implementing ICD-10 and will promote a more complete patient record. Army, Navy and Air Force are helping to piece the puzzle together by implementing Clinical Documentation Improvement*

*(CDI) programs. These programs will ensure that every Military Treatment Facility (MTF) will have the ability to provide the best treatment and service to patients through clinical documentation.*

**578**  
Days Remaining to  
ICD-10 Conversion  
As of 3/1/2013

#### **Army’s Key to Success**

Mr. Royce Staley, Deputy Director of Patient Administration Systems and Biostatistics Activity (PASBA), states, “CDI in support of ICD-10 implementation is imperative to ensure specificity in coded data. Documentation requirements for ICD-10 vary from the International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision (ICD-9) in many cases such as obstetrics, fracture care, cerebral vascular accidents and myocardial infarction. CDI will promote effective communication between our healthcare providers and coding professionals. While it is still permissible to assign nonspecific codes (e.g. O28.9 – Unspecified abnormal findings antenatal screening of mother), it is critical to report specific codes (e.g. O28.4 – Abnormal radiological finding antenatal screening of mother) to ensure we are providing meaningful data on patient care and severity.

“Army has ICD-10 implementation teams and a robust workforce of AHIMA-approved ICD-10 coding trainers (250+) at our MTFs. Documentation training prior to ICD-10 implementation is one of the Army’s largest challenges due to the numerous locations and providers worldwide. The key to success will be to ensure that everyone understands that documentation improvement is a continuous process which will be required to continue past October 1, 2014.”

#### **Navy is Developing a CDI Framework**

Dr. Joseph Ronzio, Department Head, Health Information Management (M3B13) Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, leads the initiative for Navy Medicine to meet the compliance date for ICD-10. Dr. Ronzio explains, “To do this, Navy Medicine is currently focusing efforts on CDI and Education & Training (E&T). CDI work has begun with the goal of addressing problems associated with ICD-9 by performing audits, reviewing metrics, and conducting root cause analyses for inadequate clinical documentation. This groundwork in ICD-9 will better prepare Navy Medicine for ICD-10. In addition, Navy Medicine is developing a formal CDI Framework that will provide MTF Commanding Officers with the tools to implement a CDI program or advance an existing program.



The CDI Program will address the basic elements in CDI that include: (1) Scope, Goals, and Objectives; (2) Roles and Responsibilities; (3) Tools and Forms; (4) Metrics, Monitoring, and Reporting; (5) Communication and Accountability; (6) Prioritized Opportunities.

“E&T resources support CDI efforts in addressing pertinent needs within Navy Medicine, such as improving the quality and completeness of clinical documentation. The E&T Program seeks to manage the training provided to staff, assess and evaluate the effectiveness of the training delivered to coders and providers, and support the development of new policies and content associated with training material. It also facilitates the future development of training content as we move towards ICD-10.”

### **Air Force Embraces the Challenge to Enhance CDI**

Col Margaret Carey, Chief, Clinical and Business Analysis Division, explains, “The Air Force Medical Service (AFMS) CDI initiative will augment the successful transition to the ICD-10 code sets. The Air Force Medical Operation Agency (AFMOA) is working diligently to communicate with providers, clinical staff and coders.

“AFMOA’s main message is that ICD-10 implementation provides an opportunity to enhance clinical documentation, with the ultimate goal of improving patient care. The goal is to ensure that providers and clinical staff successfully integrate the enhanced documentation requisite with minimal impact on workflow processes.

“Initially, the web-based ICD-10 education program will be utilized to train AFMS providers with a focus on ICD-10 requirements for clinical documentation. AFMS medical support professionals will assist providers and clinical staff with tools and training that will enable enhanced documentation and include a thorough feedback loop for lessons learned and action plans for challenges.

“Enhanced clinical documentation will result in the following: improved continuity of care resulting in positive patient outcomes, precise information for health care analysis for management of our population’s health, and accurately reflect the providers’ work and the effort of care in the services rendered.

“The expected challenges include a temporary decrease in productivity, standardized workflow processes, and making sure that our training strategy is communicated to those involved in patient care, either directly or indirectly.

“The Air Force embraces the challenges of enhancing clinical documentation and will continue to work with the MHS and our Sister Services to meet the needs of our customers as we make this transition.”

*The Services’ CDI strategies support the MHS in reaching the full benefits of ICD-10. Golden Rule: If it’s not documented by the provider, it cannot be coded or billed.*

**For more information, please contact:**

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### **Find the ICD-10 and CDI terms**

I K X Y D T T U J U J Y N H Z  
G G U R C F N U Z H M O P T J  
T N E M E V O R P M I J Y Z I  
S H W C E Y O M D T R V L C N  
M M K U L L N R A V V I B F G  
U N E T N I B T N T C P T W T  
Q P R R A B N N D D T J E I Y  
T M K A R E A I T T S G G Z Q  
N W L Y M V W E C R O F R I A  
B H D U Y A N Q W A V F O V C  
F K C W F G I I N I L K U E N  
G O D C I M V C G N E L D S E  
D N C L J Y Y U W I I H H W Z  
Y W Y S Z N X E W N E H L A Y  
P T J G T L L X I G G N M T Y

AIRFORCE	ICDTEN
CLINICAL	ARMY
DOCUMENTATION	NAVY
IMPROVEMENT	TRAINING