PROVIDER QUICK POINTS
PROVIDER INFORMATION

BlueCross BlueShield
Minnesota

ICD-10 Provider Partner Testing Summary

The ICD-10 federal compliance date of October 1, 2015, is just around the corner. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and Blue Plus (Blue Cross) is prepared and ready for ICD-10. All Blue Cross business processes and technical systems impacted by ICD-10 will be compliant and ready to accept and adjudicate ICD-10 claims.

ICD-10-CM [International Classification of Diseases, 10th Edition, Clinical Modification] and ICD-10-PCS [International Classification of Diseases, 10th Edition, Procedure Classification System] will replace ICD-9-CM in all healthcare settings–provider and payer–for inpatient and outpatient diagnosis; and inpatient procedure documentation and reporting. ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS include changes in organization and structure, incorporate much greater detail and specificity and have been updated to be consistent with current clinical practices.

Summary of Testing Efforts

Blue Cross has performed extensive internal testing of all changes made to systems and processes over the course of 3 years. The first round of provider testing took place starting in October 2013 and paused when the ICD-10 compliance date was delayed by Congress in April 2014. Provider testing recommenced in February 2015 and was completed by August 1, 2015.

During provider testing, we focused our efforts on the 28 providers that requested testing with us during the open testing window. These providers, although few, represented well the various claim submission routes by the larger provider network. Nearly 50% of our claims volume comes in through the vendors and clearinghouses used by our testing partners. The testing included institutional and professional submitters, chiropractors, DME suppliers, large care systems, independent practices, critical access facilities, independent labs, behavioral and mental health providers, ambulance, homecare and hospice and others. We also have tested claims entered manually by providers through the Availity portal on-line entry tool.

In addition to the many thousands of claims Blue Cross tested internally, we adjudicated nearly 1,400 claims from community providers during the provider partner testing efforts. These claims were carefully selected based upon the types of high risk cases identified by the Minnesota ICD-10 Collaborative members. The test cases had been submitted previously as production ICD-9 claims so that any impact of ICD-10 could be identified.

Provider testing showed that Blue Cross is well prepared to meet the mandate. All identified discrepancies in payment have been attributed to issues not related to ICD-10 such as member benefit changes, provider coding differences or errors in submission (such as NPI differences), and provider contract set up changes due to different service dates.

Resources

As a reminder, Blue Cross has made the following educational materials related to the new ICD-10 code structure available under the ICD-10 compliance link at **providers.bluecrossmn.com.**

ICD-10 diagnosis codes – the job aid
ICD-10 procedure codes – the job aid
Quick reference guide – diagnosis codes
Quick reference guide – procedure codes
Structure of an ICD-10 code

In addition, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has ICD-10 educational materials for providers available at the following webpage. These educational materials can help guide the medical documentation practices which are needed to support the specificity of ICD-10 coding: **http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/ProviderResources.html**

Questions?

If you have questions, please contact provider services at **(651) 662-5200** or **1-800-262-0820**.