

Request for Input from Interested Stakeholders Regarding the Freezing of ICD-9-CM and ICD-10-CM/ICD-10-PCS and Related Issues

The ICD-9-CM Coordination and Maintenance Committee is interested in obtaining input on any or all of the following issues:

1. Should ICD-9-CM updates be frozen prior to the October 1, 2013 implementation of ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS?
 - a) If yes, should the last update to ICD-9-CM be effective October 1, 2011 (FY 2012) or October 1, 2012 (FY 2013)?
 - b) What is the advantage of this date?
 - c) What is the disadvantage(s) of freezing the update process?
 - d) Do you have any other comments related to freezing the ICD-9-CM classification?
2. Should ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS be frozen prior to the October 1, 2013 implementation of ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS?
 - a) If yes, what should be the last update to ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS (FY2012 or FY2013)?
 - b) What is the advantage(s) of this date?
 - c) What is the disadvantage(s) of freezing the update process?
 - d) Do you have any other comments related to freezing the ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS classifications?
3. At what point should the updating of ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS begin again (e.g., October 1, 2014 (FY 2015))?
 - a) What is the advantage of this date?
 - b) Do you have any other comments related to re-starting the updating process for ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS?
4. What ICD-10 coding products are vendors developing (e.g., ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS code books, encoders, automated mapping applications based on the General Equivalence Mappings)?
5. Currently the CMS abbreviated code titles are limited to 24 characters. With the longer ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS code titles, should consideration be given to expanding these code titles? If so, how long should the ICD-10 based titles be?

The ICD-9-CM Coordination and Maintenance Committee plans to hear comments on these issues at the September 16, 2009 meeting (9:00 – 11:00 am). We encourage you to attend the meeting and provide these comments and/or to submit written comments on the above issues to Pat Brooks (patricia.brooks2@cms.hhs.gov) and Donna Pickett (dfp4@cdc.gov).