Change is Coming in 2014! ICD-10 will replace ICD-9 for Diagnosis Coding
Diagnosis Codes
Clinicians select “ICD-CM” codes to describe a patient’s diagnoses, symptoms, and clinical findings.

ICD-CM = ICD-Clinical Modification. Used in the USA for clinical coding, it is derived from ICD and contains greater clinical detail as necessary for clinical care.
Clinical Coding

**Diagnosis Codes**
Clinicians select “ICD-CM” codes to describe a patient’s diagnoses, symptoms, and clinical findings.

**Service Codes**
They then select “CPT” codes to describe the services provided to care for the identified clinical conditions.

**CPT** = Current Procedural Terminology, a registered trademark of the American Medical Association. CPT is developed by the AMA. The “CPT” trademark acronym is used in this presentation only for general education purposes. CPT official content is available for purchase from the AMA.
ICD-CM diagnosis codes determine the medical necessity for provided CPT services. Therefore, accuracy and specificity of diagnosis coding is essential for appropriate service payment.
Diagnosis codes also determine over 50% of quality measures reflecting provided care. These quality measures are used to rank hospitals and provider groups according to quality and safety scores.

Specific diagnosis codes better reflect high quality complex care.
ICD-10 drafted for disease classification internationally by the World Health Organization. Much of the world has already implemented clinical coding based on ICD-10.

ICD-10-CM federal implementation deadline. MiChart will implement ICD-10-CM in June.

1979
ICD-9-CM implemented in the USA. It is now out of date and has no more capacity for needed new codes.

1999

2003
ICD-10-CM drafted but not implemented for clinical coding in the USA. The system has been in testing for the past decade.

10/2014
Current ICD-9-CM codes comprise up to 5 characters. Other than a limited number of codes starting with “v” or “e”, all characters are numbers. This system includes about 14,000 codes.

Some ICD-9-CM codes are simply out of date: 493.00 “Extrinsic Asthma” and 493.10 “Intrinsic Asthma” are included, but there is no ICD-9-CM code for moderate persistent asthma.
ICD-10-CM Structure

Expanding from 5 to 7 characters, and with greater use of alpha characters, ICD-10-CM allows about 5 times the number of codes, with greater capacity to describe disease specificity, severity, and complexity.

68,000 Codes
The section of ICD-9-CM used to report inpatient procedure facility expenses will be expanded and renamed ICD-10-PCS (Procedure Coding System), adding 72,000 more codes.

ICD-10-PCS  
72,000 Codes

ICD-10-CM  
68,000 Codes

140,000 Total Codes
Sample ICD-10-CM Code

ICD-10-CM codes are built from a 3-character category core with additional characters providing details that fully reflect the patient’s complexity and severity:

- L89   Pressure ulcer
- L89.0 Pressure ulcer of elbow
- L89.01 Pressure ulcer of right elbow
- L89.013 Pressure ulcer of right elbow, stage 3
- L89.013D Pressure ulcer of right elbow, stage 3, subsequent encounter

L89.013D
Because ICD-10-CM and –PCS allow increased detail in coding, they can better support the medical necessity of highly complex care.

To realize this potential, providers must document details that support specific ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS codes.
You can practice documenting to support ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS by including the following in your diagnostic and procedural descriptions:

- Anatomic location
- Laterality (R/L)
- Etiology
- Acute v. chronic
- Initial v. subsequent encounter
- Routine or delayed recovery
- Disease combinations (manifestations, complications)
- Sequelae (late effects)
- Impending (threatened) conditions
- Complications of care
E-Learning, specialty specific tip sheets and further communications about ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS will be coming in 2014!

To learn more, explore the official CMS ICD-10 website: http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/
or the UMHS ICD-10 transition website: http://www.med.umich.edu/i/icd10/

Developed by UMHS Revenue Cycle Compliance and Education: http://www.med.umich.edu/i/rce_