



MYTH #1

Might as well forget about ICD-10 and start preparing for ICD-11.

FACT

ICD-11 final draft will be released by the WHO in 2017, and a clinically modified version for the United States is 5-10 years after that. It took 15 years for ICD-10-CM to be released in the United States after development was started by the WHO in 1983. Additionally, first implementing ICD-10 will help ease the transition to ICD-11, when that time comes.

MYTH #2

Conversion will bankrupt providers.

FACT

Research by AAPC, 3M Health Information Systems, and others show that transition costs for practices are between \$1,900 and \$6,000, much lower than the hundreds of thousands of dollars ICD-10 opponents claim.

MYTH #3

The increased number of codes in ICD-10-CM/PCS will make the new coding system impossible to use.

FACT

Providers will only use subsets of ICD-10 codes, just as they use subsets of ICD-9-CM codes with which they are already familiar. The number of codes provides a larger dictionary of descriptors for recording of patients' conditions and injuries for future clinical reference.

MYTH #4

It is already out of date.

FACT

Just as with ICD-9-CM, annual updates by the Coordination and Maintenance Committee will keep it current.

MYTH #5

Unnecessarily detailed medical record documentation will be required when ICD-10-CM/PCS is implemented.

FACT

Medical record documentation does need to change, but not just due to new coding requirements. As we move towards more quality based payments, documentation must be robust enough to justify them.

MYTH #6

The largest obstacle will be providers' additional documentation.

FACT

While providers are learning to be more specific and detailed, many inpatient institutions are already reaping the benefits of the additional documentation, especially those that have been practicing dual coding over the past few years.

MYTH #7

It'll never happen. Congress will stop it again at the last minute.

FACT

In addition to Senate hearings showing strong support in favor of ICD-10 implementation on October 1, 2015, The American Medical Association (AMA) and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced a joint effort to train providers for ICD-10. The partnership further acknowledges the reality of the upcoming implementation date.

MYTH #8

No other countries use ICD-10.

FACT

Twenty-five countries have been using ICD-10 beginning in 1994 and the United States is one of the last developed nations to adopt it.

MYTH #9

Doctors do not support the transition to ICD-10.

FACT

Once exposed to the new code set, most doctors are in favor of using the new codes as they discover they are better able to report the patient's clinical condition.

MYTH #10

Coders will never obtain the same level of productivity.

FACT

AAPC studies show that once trained and coding in the new system for 40-80 hours, productivity resumes to normal levels.



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