

The Hawthorn

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New ICD-10 Codes for 2016

For the first time since 2012 the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and other governing bodies have agreed to substantive changes to the set of codes required for filing medical claims. Prior to 2012 new code changes were introduced on an annual basis, but this practice was suspended during the time providers and carriers were preparing to implement ICD-10. Now that ICD-10 has been in effect for a full year the governing bodies are adding, revising and deleting a large set of ICD-10 codes.

In the United States ICD-10 codes are managed by CMS and three other governing bodies: The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), the American Hospital Association (AHA), and the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA).

Effective October 1, 2016 these governing bodies are introducing 1,943 new codes, revising 422 codes, and

deleting 305 codes. In the family of codes for diabetes, for example, 260 codes are being added, including codes that combine diabetes with other diseases, such as kidney disease, hypertension and heart failure. Changes will also affect coding for ischemia, or acute infarction of the intestines, along with more specific codes for pancreatitis. Another major coding change will differentiate between post procedural hemorrhage and hematoma.

Claims filed after October 1, 2016 will require the use of these new codes where they are applicable, and Hawthorn is encouraging physicians and practice managers to become familiar with the new codes that are related to their practice specialties.

Please call us directly if you need assistance or have any questions.



HAWTHORN
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Addressing Complexity with Certainty