

**Affected Programs:** BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, SeniorCare, Wisconsin AIDS Drug Assistance Program, Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program, Wisconsin Well Woman Program

**To:** All Providers, HMOs and Other Managed Care Programs

## ForwardHealth Will Not Issue Interim Payments for Claims Delayed Due to Lack of ICD-10 Readiness

ForwardHealth will not be issuing interim payments for claims delayed due to lack of readiness for the transition to *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision* (ICD-10). Stakeholders are reminded that they are responsible for their own ICD-10 readiness to prevent delays in claim payments after ICD-10 implementation on October 1, 2015.

In alignment with recent Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance, ForwardHealth will not issue interim payments for claims delayed due to lack of readiness for the transition to *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision* (ICD-10). Stakeholders are reminded that they are responsible for their own ICD-10 readiness to prevent delays in claim payments after ICD-10 implementation on October 1, 2015. Stakeholders that use a billing service or clearinghouse are reminded to contact that entity regarding its ICD-10 readiness.

Readiness includes being prepared to indicate the most appropriate, valid, and specific ICD-10 codes on submissions to ForwardHealth with dates on and after October 1, 2015. ForwardHealth will enforce the validity of ICD-10 diagnosis codes (i.e., the highest number of characters required by the code set) for all claim and prior authorization (PA) request submissions. For dates on and after October 1, 2015, if a stakeholder uses an ICD-10 diagnosis code that is not valid on a submission to

ForwardHealth, ForwardHealth will deny the claim or return the PA request. Providers will need to resubmit denied claims and returned PA requests with valid ICD-10 codes in order for them to be processed.

### Information and Resources

As a reminder, the ICD-10 Code Set Transition home page of the ForwardHealth Portal is the repository for ForwardHealth ICD-10 information and will continue to be for post-implementation information. Refer to this page for the following:

- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Quick Links
- Direct link to submit ICD-10 questions to ForwardHealth
- ForwardHealth's enforcement of validity of the ICD-10 diagnosis codes
- ForwardHealth publications for ICD-10
- Frequently Asked Questions About ForwardHealth's Transition to ICD-10

The *ForwardHealth Update* is the first source of program policy and billing information for providers.

Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, SeniorCare, and Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program are administered by the Division of Health Care Access and Accountability, Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). The Wisconsin AIDS Drug Assistance Program and the Wisconsin Well Woman Program are administered by the Division of Public Health, Wisconsin DHS.

For questions, call Provider Services at 800-947-9627 or visit our website at [www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/](http://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/).

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