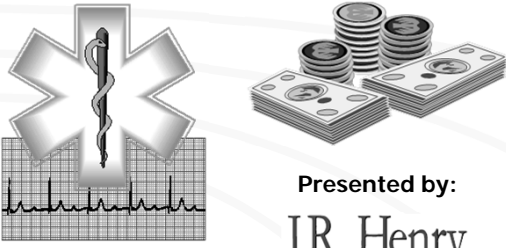


Mandatory ICD-10 Conversion

Mandatory ICD-10 Conversion



Presented by:
J.R. Henry
CONSULTING INC.

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Disclaimer

- The consultant is not an attorney and does not provide legal advice. The information contained in this presentation is not intended and should not be construed as legal advice or direction.
- The consultant plans to share knowledge and practical experience with the attendees.
- All attendees are advised to obtain professional legal advice from an attorney before implementing any material change in their billing, administrative or operational policies or any other matter which is governed by law or regulation.

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Novitas Solutions

- Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) for two jurisdictions:
 - JL Coverage Area
 - DC, DE, MD and PA
 - JH Coverage Area
 - AR, CO, LA, MS, NM ,OK, TX and Indian Health
 - Emergency Health for Undocumented Aliens

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Novitas Solutions

- PA & TX have had a number of ambulance companies who were convicted of submitting millions of \$\$\$ in fraudulent ambulance claims
- Repetitive transports (Dialysis, etc.)
 - Philadelphia area – 2010 - 2013
 - Dallas and Houston areas 2010 - 2012

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Novitas Solutions

- Efforts to identify and stop the fraud include:
 - Ambulance Service License Moratorium
 - Prior Authorization Process for Repetitive Transports
 - Special LCD (L32252) issued in July, 2012 which mandated the use of only ~250 ICD-9 codes

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Novitas Solutions

- Emergency / Non-Emergency Categories
- Limited set of ICD-9 Codes
- Novitas refuses to recognize CMS approved “Condition Codes”
- Novitas advice: use “the most appropriate code”
- Some emergency transports and many NET’s were not billable to Medicare

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Mandatory ICD-10 Conversion

Mandatory Conversion to ICD-10

- **Effective Date:** for dates of service on or after: **October 1, 2015**
- **Affects all health care providers in the US**
- **Additional codes were added**
- **Some codes have much more specificity**
- **Novitas Solutions has published a list of “suggested” codes for ambulance services**

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ICD-10 Diagnosis Codes

- **Diagnosis codes are required on each electronic claim**
- **Unlike other providers, the codes do not determine the level of payment for ambulance transports**
- ***Don't let this conversion drive you crazy!***
 - ***Simply select the most appropriate codes!***

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Novitas Solutions – LCD ICD-10 Conversion

- **LCD # – L35162**
- **Article – A54574**
- **Effective Date – October 1, 2015**
- **New Coding Requirements**
 - Each ambulance transport claim requires dual diagnosis

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Novitas Solutions – LCD ICD-10 Conversion

- **A primary code must be selected from two “Groups” as identified in Novitas Article # A54574**
 - Group 1: Transports to acute care and interfacility transports for specialized care = 285 codes
 - Group 2: “Post Treatment” Transports to transfers to home, nursing facility, SNF, Rehab, etc.) = 82 codes

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Novitas Solutions – LCD ICD-10 Conversion

- **Many of the “suggested” primary codes are more general in nature**
- **Many of the codes seem to be more appropriate for EMS environment**
- **Examples: Heart Failure, ETOH, Cannabis abuse, COPD, Pain unspecified, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, dehydration AND.....**

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ICD-10 Conversion

Diagnosis / Condition	ICD-10
CHRONIC PAIN	G89.18
WEAKNESS	R53.1
INJURY, UNSPECIFIED	T14.90
DIFFICULTY IN WALKING	R26.2
OTHER LACK OF COORDINATION	R27.8

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Mandatory ICD-10 Conversion

Novitas Solutions – LCD ICD-10 Conversion

- Novitas has also indicated that we are not limited to use only the “suggested” codes
- They indicate that you can select the most appropriate codes from the entire ICD-10 list
- But.....

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Novitas Solutions – LCD ICD-10 Conversion

A secondary code must be selected
from a list of four (4) codes as
identified in Novitas LCD # L35162

Although, not stated by Novitas, I believe this will be the primary focus of future audits!

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ICD-10 CODE	DESCRIPTION
Z74.01	BED CONFINEMENT STATUS Unable to get out of bed without assistance, unable to ambulate or sit in a chair / WC
Z74.3	NEED FOR CONTINUOUS SUPERVISION (includes cardiac/hemodynamic monitoring enroute)
Z78.1	PHYSICAL RESTRAINT STATUS (denote patient safety, danger to self or others / monitoring other and unspecified psychosis)
Z99.89	DEPENDENCE ON OTHER ENABLING MACHINES AND DEVICES (includes IV's, active airway management and multiple machines / devices (LVAD, CPAP, ECMO, etc)

DOCUMENTATION IS THE KEY

- PCR must contain objective and comprehensive assessment of the patient's condition at the time of transport
- PCR must support selected code!
- Don't try to falsely upcode!
- Be honest and truthful when coding!

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ICD-10 Required Code for transports which are not medically necessary

ICD-10 CODE	DESCRIPTION
Z76.89 with Modifier GY	Persons encountering health services in other unspecified circumstances (to be used when a patient is transported by ambulance but did not require services of an ambulance crew

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Novitas Solutions – LCD ICD-10 Conversion

Paramedic assessment coding may require three (3) codes

- 1) Primary Code
- 2) Dispatch Condition Code
- 3) One of the four (4) secondary codes

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Mandatory ICD-10 Conversion

Novitas Solutions – LCD ICD-10 Conversion

All other modifiers and HCPCS
codes remain unchanged!

PCS requirements unchanged!

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BEST PRACTICES ICD-10 CONVERSION

- Review, train and discuss with internal or external billing staff
- Use information contained in Novitas LCD and corresponding article
- *I do not recommend that your ambulance crews perform any coding functions – leave it to trained billers!*

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BEST PRACTICES ICD-10 CONVERSION

- Conduct new and regular documentation training for all volunteers and staff members
- *Be careful in how you deliver the message!*
- *Don't mandate unnecessary treatment or provide mandatory PCR language!*

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BEST PRACTICES ICD-10 CONVERSION

- Review and upgrade billing software (ICD-10 list?)
- Review and update compliance plans and programs
 - Self Audits / External Audits
 - Education and Training
- Stay informed about changes and new rules!

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J.R. Henry
CONSULTING INC.



J.R. Henry, EMT-P
535 Perry Highway
Pittsburgh, PA 15229
(412) 736-4163 (412) 291-3434 (fax)

jrhenry@emsconsult.org

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Questions ??? Contact jrhenry@emsconsult.com