

Produced by Defense Health Agency (DHA), Business Information Management

Transition to ICD-10: Mission Accomplished!

The MHS ICD-10 transition has spanned 5+ years, which has included two 1-year national delays. The MHS ICD-10 Integrated Project Team (IPT) was formed in 2010 to include stakeholders from across the Military Health System (MHS). Through the consistent and expert contributions of all ICD-10 IPT stakeholders, the MHS enterprise successfully completed our transition to ICD-10.

Everyone's contributions (your contributions) -- from the ICD-10 IPT and the corresponding sub-working group stakeholders, through executive governance, and at the MTFs -- were fundamental to the overall success of the MHS transition to ICD-10. The various IPT sub-working groups included: Training and Communication, Forms and Publications, Requirements and Implementation, and Private Sector Care (i.e. TRICARE Health Plan's transition to ICD-10). The ICD-10 IPT provided communication, situational awareness, coordination, and collaborative actions that demonstrated a true "can do" relationship among the Services and DHA. The MHS ICD-10 transition efforts emphasized end-user business processes and minimum essential changes as guiding principles for ensuring transition was as smooth as possible. The MHS' extensive transition preparations proved so successful and minimally disruptive that many perceived it as a "non-event", though we know the transition took many years, a lot of work, and a lot of resources.

To help the MHS successfully get across the transition compliance date threshold on 1 October 2015, the MHS ICD-10 IPT created and stood up a Virtual Ready Room (VRR). The VRR was a forum of functional and technical stakeholder subject matter experts (SMEs) from across the enterprise to provide targeted post-implementation monitoring, collaboration, prioritization, and escalation of ICD-10 issues. The VRR met daily for approximately two months, beginning the week before the national 1 October 2015 compliance date, then gradually reduced its tempo. The VRR ultimately stood down in February 2016 after MTF end-user reports of issues slowed significantly, and after the Medical Deputies Action Group (MDAG) declared "mission accomplished" for the MHS ICD-10 transition on 9 February 2016.

On 6 April 2016, the Medical Business Operations Group (MBOG) officially deactivated the IPT. Everyone's contributions and participation made this MHS-wide transition a success. Thank you.

Future Inquiries:

Now that the ICD-10 IPT has been shut down, please direct all future ICD-10 related inquiries to the DHA Medical Coding Program Office or the Uniform Billing Office (as appropriate).

DHA Medical Coding Program Office: dha.ncr.business-spt.mbx.mcpointo@mail.mil

Or visit <http://health.mil/About-MHS/Defense-Health-Agency/Business-Support/Medical-Coding-Program-Office>

Uniform Billing Office: UBO.Helpdesk@altarum.org