

## TODAY'S MESSAGE

# ICD-10: HIGHMARK DELAWARE TESTING ENDEAVORS TESTING EFFORTS SHARED WITH NETWORK PROVIDERS!

As the ICD-10 compliance date draws near Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield Delaware (Highmark Delaware) is pleased to share internal and external testing efforts with you, our valued network providers. Work began on ICD-10 with initial assessments starting in 2010. This led to a vast series of compliance activities road mapped to Highmark Delaware's systems in alignment with operating procedures. We're pleased to say all implementation activities are completed with correlating systems testing conducted. Now, let's focus our attention on testing specifics:

### Internal Testing

Due to the magnitude of this implementation internal testing has been ongoing since 2010.

- Iterative function testing is currently in execution mode.
- Neutrality validation testing is in progress and will continue up to the ICD-10 compliance date, Oct. 1, 2015. Neutrality encompasses, but is not limited to: provider payment, benefit interpretation, medical policy application, and operational readiness.

### External Testing - Providers

Highmark Delaware has two unique external provider-based testing outreaches: Clinical Coding testing and End to End testing.

- Clinical Coding testing is a web-based tool affording coders the ability to practice ICD-10 coding scenarios; identify potential training and educational needs; and, benchmark against national vendor supplied scenarios.
- End to end (validation) testing is being conducted with a select group of providers. This testing effort tests the path of a submitted 837 X12 (claim) with receipt of 999 FA (functional or implementation acknowledgement), 277CA (claim acknowledgement) through to adjudication and ultimate receipt of an 835 payment/advice (or, ERA) determining ICD-10 code set behavior.

### External Testing – Trading Partners

Highmark Delaware is conducting end to end direct connect testing with several trading partners. Select trading partners submit an 837 X12 (claim) with ICD-10 codes to process through to adjudication. The trading partners receive the following transactions: 999 FA (functional or implementation acknowledgement), 277CA (claim acknowledgement) and 835 payment advice (or, ERA).

Highmark Delaware stated our vigilance in preparedness in many ICD-10 communications. A primary focus in our ICD-10 strategy included you, our valued network providers and trading partners. We sought to communicate relevant information via Plan Central, Today's Message and *Provider News*. We also integrated industry leader material into offset resources, like the Tool Kit; and, created the ICD-10 Library to house all pertinent ICD-10 material to support you in your transition effort.

Highmark Delaware encourages you to visit the ICD-10 Library frequently for related articles, FAQ, the Tool Kit, and websites of relevance like [www.CMS.gov/ICD10](http://www.CMS.gov/ICD10). The library is located on the Provider Resource Center under ICD-10/HIPAA.