

# Weekly Compliance Corner's 18-Nov-11

## ICD-10 Update



**Anthelio Health is committed to the confidentiality and security of our customers' and their patients' information.**

**These weekly reminders are designed to refresh your memory about your valuable role in privacy and security under HIPAA and other federal and state laws.**

**Should you have any questions or concerns pertaining to the privacy and/or security rules, please contact the Anthelio Health Regulatory Compliance Department at 214-257-7114.**

**Thank you,**

**Paula Ciotti**

On January 15, 2009, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released two Federal rules that have had major impact to all of us in healthcare – the adoption of the ICD-10 code sets and implementation of updated standards for electronic healthcare and pharmacy transactions. Both of these rules came with compliance dates: the updated transaction standard must be live by January 1, 2012; and the ICD-9-CM nomenclature used to report healthcare diagnoses and procedures would be replaced by ICD-10 as of October 1, 2013.

Since that time, everyone in the healthcare industry, including Anthelio and Anthelio's customers, have been preparing for these changes. In fact, due to concerns about providers' readiness for the ICD-10 transition, several months ago the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) stated that the effective dates would not be delayed. (CMS' Office of E-Health Standards and Services has authority to enforce compliance with HIPAA transactions and code set standards).

Nonetheless, this past Tuesday the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association (AMA) voted to "vigorously work to stop the implementation of ICD-10 and to reduce its unnecessary and significant burdens on the practice of medicine." AMA is a national professional association of over 216,000 physician members, so it will be interesting to see what effect, if any, this resolution will have on the effective date of the ICD-10 transition.

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Anthelio Health does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of any of the information contained in this reminder. Nothing contained in this reminder is or should be construed as legal advice. Readers should consult with their own legal advisor prior to using or relying on the information contained in the reminder.

In another twist to the implementation of these two rules, yesterday CMS released a statement saying that they would not enforce compliance of the updated transaction version until March 31, 2012. While the effective date remains the same, this means that if CMS finds a covered entity not in compliance during this 90-day discretionary period but finds evidence of a good faith effort to become compliant, CMS will not initiate enforcement action.

This is not the last we've heard about these two rules, so stay tuned as we bring you all the latest news from Washington, DC!

There will be no Compliance Corner next week. To all Anthelions, your families and friends, and all our customers, have a very happy and safe Thanksgiving.

