

Welcome Guest | [Login](#) or [Register](#)

Connect to other sites within the UBM Medica Network

PHYSICIANS PRACTICE

YOUR PRACTICE YOUR WAY

Search For... [Physicians Practice](#)

TOPICS: [All Topics](#)

Home

Topics

Health IT

Healthcare Careers

Law & Malpractice

Medical Billing & Collections

Physician Compensation

Conferences

Buyer's Guide

Journal

ICD-10 Delay May Not Be Enough for Physicians

Blog | August 27, 2012

By [Aubrey Westgate](#)

Physicians and practice administrators can breathe a little easier. On August 24, HHS [officially announced the ICD-10 compliance date delay](#) from Oct. 1, 2013 to Oct. 1, 2014.

HHS said the decision to finalize the delay, [first proposed in April](#), is due to the fact that providers and other entities need “more time to prepare and fully test their systems to ensure a [smooth and coordinated transition](#) by all covered entities.”

Still, some physicians say that while they are pleased with the one-year delay, HHS should have done more.

"The AMA appreciates the administration's decision to provide a one-year delay in response to AMA advocacy, but [we have urged CMS to do more](#) to reduce the regulatory burdens on physician practices so physicians can spend more time with patients," said [AMA President Eric Topol](#), who added that CMS delay the move to

The movement toward ICD-10, which will require physicians and staff to contend with 68,000 codes — five times as many as they currently deal with — comes at the wrong time, Stack said, noting that physicians are already dealing with a variety of stressors, including transitioning to new delivery and payment models.

"The implementation of ICD-10 will create more challenges for physicians when our Medicare system is broken and cannot provide adequate funding to cover the cost of these additional administrative burdens," he said.

Medical Group Management Association and American College of Medical Practice Executives (MGMA-ACMPE) president Susan Turney said the organization also has concerns despite the delay.

The MGMA is "not confident that critical trading partners, including Medicare and state Medicaid plans, [will be ready in time](#) to conduct testing well in advance of the October 2014 compliance date," Turney said in a statement. "We urge CMS to significantly escalate its implementation efforts by pilot testing ICD-10, ensuring health plan, clearinghouse and vendor readiness, and developing comprehensive educational resources."

But Steve Sisko, a healthcare and business technology expert specializing in ICD-10, told *HealthcareIT News*, that if HHS had delayed the compliance date for more than one year, it could have harmful effects for the ICD-10 transition overall.

"A delay beyond one year would probably cause most people to [mothball the entire project](#), while the Oct 1, 2014 deadline keeps momentum going and maintains the value of work already done," he said.

And AHIMA CEO Lynne Thomas Gordon said that now at least, physicians and other entities have a deadline with which they can work toward.

"[ICD-10-CM/PCS implementation is inevitable](#), but today's news gives the healthcare community the certainty and clarity it needs to move forward with implementation, testing, and training," Lynne said in a statement.

What do you think of the one-year ICD-10 compliance date delay? Does it ease up on the burdens for physicians?

- ☐ Notify me when new comments are posted
- ☐ All comments
- ☐ Replies to my comment

Save

Please [Login](#) or [Register](#)

Already Registered? [Login Now:](#)

Login Email...

☒ Remember Me

Sign in

Register Today - It's Free!

Join our growing community of
healthcare professionals.

Register Now

SearchMedica Rx

Browse drugs by name:

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V
W X Y Z

Search for drugs:

Enter drug name here...



-- Advertisement--

FeatureLinks

EventsLook for trade shows & events in your local area, including MGMA, AHIMA, AMGA & more. [Learn More](#)**Cerner Ambulatory Meaningful Use**Cerner Ambulatory EHR is aligned with the Centers for Medicaid & Medicare Services. [Learn More](#)**Meaningful Use**Our free EMR is MU certified to help you qualify for \$44,000 in gov't incentives! [Learn More](#)**EMR vs. EHR: What the difference means for your practice**The difference between EHR and EMR is more than one letter. [Learn More](#)**PRACTICE NOTES BLOG**

Practice Notes is a space for commentary and news on practice management and healthcare policy. Opinions expressed by guest bloggers are their own, and do not necessarily reflect the views of Physicians Practice, its staff or editors, or that of its parent company, UBM Medica.

**COMPLETE MGMA12 COVERAGE**

Get full coverage of the MGMA12 Conference, held October 21-24 in San Antonio.

SPONSORED RESOURCES

[Patient Centered Medical Home](#)

[Meditech Program Management Office](#)

[What Every Doctor Should Know About Hospice](#)

[Negotiating a Better Contract with Health Insurance Companies](#)

[Reduce AR Days, Cut Cost, and Gain \\$135,000 in Increased Revenue](#)

[View All](#)

Questions about Stage 2 Meaningful Use?

CLICK HERE for a free webinar providing insights and expertise

"The Next Step in Meaningful Use: Responding to and Preparing for Stage 2"

PHYSICIANS
PRACTICE

ON DEMAND

athenahealth

PHYSICIANS
PRACTICE
YOUR PRACTICE YOUR WAY

Register Today — It's Free!

Join our growing community of healthcare professionals.

Register Now

© 1996 – 2012
UBM Medica, LLC,
a UBM company

UBM MEDICA NETWORK

Cancer Network

ConsultantLive

Diagnostic Imaging

Musculoskeletal Network

OBGYN.net

PediatricsConsultantLive

Physicians Practice

Psychiatric Times

SearchMedica

Medical Resources

ABOUT UBM MEDICA

Privacy Statement

Terms of Service

[Advertising Information](#)

[Editorial Policy Statement](#)

[Editorial Board](#)

[Contribute to the Site](#)

FIND US ON...
