

Optometry Coding & Billing Alert

ICD-10: Q10.- Has Your Congenital Eyelid Malformations Dx Answers

Get ready: Implementation date is still set for this October.

Unlike many of the ICD-10 code sets we've seen, the new diagnosis codes that will replace ICD-9's 743.x (Congenital anomalies of eye) series do not expand greatly on the original set. When the switchover happens, coders will look to ICD-10's Q10.- (Congenital malformations of eyelid, lacrimal apparatus, and orbit) series.

It's unclear why these codes aren't specific to right, left, both, or unspecified eyes, says **Maggie M. Mac, CPC, CEMC, CHC, CMM, ICCE**, AHIMA-approved ICD-10 CM/PCS trainer and president of Maggie Mac-Medical Practice Consulting in Clearwater, Fla. However, "the modifier for the CPT® code would probably pick up the anatomical site since many of the CPT® codes are unilateral and need an RT/LT/50," she says. "So, that information would be specific in the CPT® code rather than the ICD10 code.



Get ready: Physician group lobbying attempts did not succeed in adding a two-year ICD-10 delay to the federal spending plan passed Dec. 15, 2014. Barring any other unforeseen changes, that means come Oct. 1, your practice needs to be fully geared-up for ICD-10.

For more information on the ICD-10 conversion, as well as specific ICD-9 to ICD-10 code bridges, visit <https://www.aapc.com/codes/>.