ICD-10 is coming October 1, 2014! Will you be ready??

Every US health care provider covered by HIPAA will be required to submit claims for reimbursement using the new ICD-10 code sets starting October 1, 2014. This includes all hospitals, primary care & specialty practices, long term care facilities, home health agencies, mental health providers, EMS agencies, physical therapists, etc.

You are not alone. Vermonters are already working together.

A collaboration of insurance payers, professional associations, and others has come together to coordinate preparation, training and systems testing across Vermont. The Vermont Medicaid office is working with BlueCross/BlueShield of VT, MVP, Cigna, the VDH Office of Rural Health & Primary Care and 25 professional associations and trade groups in Vermont to help you be prepared.

Take our ICD-10 readiness survey. Watch for an emailed link soon!

Starting in August, 2013, we began working with professional associations to assess the readiness of health care practices and organizations across Vermont. Summary data will be provided to each association and its members this fall.

Coordinated training schedules will be available soon. Stay tuned.

We anticipate offering discounted prices for in-person and online training courses for coding staff, clinicians and others by nationally certified ICD-10 trainers. Schedules will be posted here and by professional associations when available.

Thorough preparation is critical to your bottom line. Take action now:
1) Review the resources from CMS: www.cms.gov/Coding/ICD10
2) Identify someone at your organization to lead your conversion to ICD-10.
3) Start communicating with staff now about financial, IT, workflow & coding impacts.
4) Budget for billing system upgrades, testing and staff training expenses in 2013-14.
5) Plan for contingency funds to cover any reimbursement disruptions in late 2014.
6) Participate in coordinated trainings in 2013-14 to save money, time and hassle.

For information about VT insurer preparations and testing opportunities, contact:
- DVHA/Medicaid: dvha.vermont.gov/for-providers/icd-10/ or email: VT-ICD-10@hp.com
- BCBSVT: bcbsvt.com/provider/resources/icd-10
- MVP: mvphc.com/provider/ICD-10_updates_and_faq.html
- Cigna: cigna.com/customer_care/healthcare_professional/newsletters/April_2013/icd-10-0413.html

For information about training opportunities, contact:
John.Olson@state.vt.us Office of Rural Health & Primary Care, VT Dept of Health, (802) 951-1259