



**news**

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## **ICD-10 Preparation Wins the Day**

*Journal of AHIMA article reflects on eight months of the new code set*

**CHICAGO – June 16, 2016** – Rigorous preparation for ICD-10 is a major reason why eight months in, the transition to new code set has been smooth for so many hospitals, physician practices, health plans, billing clearinghouses and coding professionals.

The June issue of the *Journal of AHIMA* takes a look at how the healthcare profession has transitioned to ICD-10 in the article, "[Analyzing Eight Months of ICD-10](#)"

"It is rewarding to see that so many stakeholders realized the benefits of preparation for ICD-10 and are now yielding the results of a largely smooth and efficient transition," said AHIMA CEO Lynne Thomas Gordon, MBA, RHIA, CAE, FACHE, FAHIMA. "The scale of problems that were predicted by many have not come to fruition. We appreciate the diligence that went into ICD-10 preparations and are pleased that the greater detail inherent in this modern code set will help reverse the trend of deteriorating health data, tell a more complete and accurate patient story and help meet 21<sup>st</sup> century health challenges."

The article links to a Feb. 24 blog post from Andy Slavit, acting administrator for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Slavit noted about 1.9 percent of total claims were rejected in the fourth quarter of 2015, which was slightly below the historical benchmark of 2 percent. In addition, the volume of Medicare claims submitted during that time matched historical baselines.

Recent legislation such as the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA) includes payments provisions that reward payment and value. The better data from ICD-10 should help providers comply.

**Also in this issue:**

The article, "[Coding Audits Evolve with ICD-10: Industry Experts Define New Benchmarks and Best Practices](#)," features excerpts from a virtual roundtable with four industry experts. Best practices from the roundtable can be applied to all hospital-based coding audit programs.

Read these articles and more in the June issue of the *Journal of AHIMA* or online at [journal.ahima.org](http://journal.ahima.org).

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**About AHIMA**

The American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) represents more than 103,000 health information professionals in the United States and around the world. AHIMA is committed to promoting and advocating for high quality research, best practices and effective standards in health information and to actively contributing to the development and advancement of health information professionals worldwide. AHIMA's enduring goal is quality healthcare through quality information. [www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org)

