



Uniform Business Office News

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ICD-10 Preparations Focus on Systems and Training

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Successful transition to ICD-10 will depend on effective training. In addition to an archived Webinar available on the TMA UBO Learning Center, CMS is offering online training.

The effective date for International Classification of Diseases, version 10 (ICD-10) conversion, is 1 October 2013. On that date, everyone in health care—including MTFs—who sends code sets to Medicare, Medicaid, TRICARE or any other health insurance company for reimbursement will be required to submit the claims with ICD-10-CM (diagnosis) for inpatient and outpatient claims or ICD-10-PCS (procedure) codes for inpatient claims. The Military Health System (MHS) currently uses ICD-9-CM, Volumes 1, 2, and 3 for diagnosis and procedure coding of health care encounters. MHS information systems in their current state cannot accommodate ICD-10 coding.

The MHS Integrated Project Team (IPT) and the Services have approved the MHS ICD-10 Training Plan and the ICD-10 Communications Plan created by the Training and Communications

sub-workgroup (T&C SWG). The plans are now in the process of being briefed to leadership. Pursuant to these plans, the TMA will develop and provide a package of standardized training materials tailored to the MHS that includes no-cost educational and training resources for coders, providers, and others. Methods of disseminating this information (e.g., via e-mail, Web sites, Webinars) are also being determined and will be announced as available in the bi-monthly TRICARE “ICD-10 Training and Communications” news flash that has been created to provide updates on what is going on in regards to ICD-10 in the MHS. This news flash is available from the TRICARE Web site at: <http://www.tricare.mil/tma/hipaa/icd10flash2011.aspx>. The August 2011 issue explores the possible misconceptions and realities of the transition to ICD-10 within the MHS.

Other ICD-10 training opportunities include an archived Webinar from the **TMA UBO Learning Center**. The Webinar provides an overview of how ICD-10 will impact billing

and coding. To view the Webinar and download the presentation materials, visit http://www.tricare.mil/ocfo/mcfs/ubo/learning_center/training.cfm. Scroll to the middle of the screen under “Past Webinars” to find the link to the Webinar. Questions may still be submitted via e-mail to ubo.helpdesk@altarum.org. Information on how to obtain AAPC-approved Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for upcoming Webinars is also posted there. More information about upcoming Webinars and the CEUs are on pages 5 and 6 in this newsletter. Additional training opportunities are also available on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Web site. CMS is offering transition to ICD-10 National Provider Calls to help prepare for the transition to ICD-10. These teleconferences are free of charge and are available at <http://www.cms.gov/ICD10/TEI10/>. Finally, the T&C SWG is investigating opportunities to host MHS ICD-10 training sessions during the 2012 MHS Annual Conference next January. Updates will be provided as available.

Annual Educational Conference Suspended

Opportunities to earn continuing education units (CEUs) will continue to be available at the TMA UBO Learning Center Training and the TPOCS Project Office via the new DHSS free e-mail alert system. (See articles on pages 5 and 6.)

In compliance with the Department of Defense (DoD) efficiency initiative, the TMA UBO Program Office has cancelled the annual educational conference. The TMA UBO Learning Center, however, will continue to provide monthly Webinars that provide opportunity for live questions and answers and that are recorded

for on-demand viewing. See the “UBO Learning Center” article in this issue or visit the TMA UBO Website at http://www.tricare.mil/ocfo/mcfs/ubo/learning_center.cfm for the Webinar schedule, presentation materials, and archived Webinars. FY 2012 Webinars have been approved for continuing education units (CEUs) as noted on the schedule (see “NEW – Webinars Approved for Continuing Education Units” in this issue).

If you have a specific question or can suggest a Webinar topic and/or speaker, please submit them to ubo.helpdesk@altarum.org. We welcome suggestions and ideas.

In addition, the TPOCS Project Office (PO) will provide training presentations via the new DHSS e-mail alert system (see article on page 5). Additional regional and site training opportunities will be provided by the TPOCS PO on request and if funded by the site or Service.

FY 2012 ASA Rates Implemented

The FY 2012 Inpatient Adjusted Standardized Amounts (ASA) Rates and Guidance for Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs) that provide inpatient care have been approved and are effective 1 October 2011. They are at <http://www.tricare.mil/ocfo/mcfs/>

[ubo/mhs_rates/inpatient.cfm](http://www.tricare.mil/ocfo/mcfs/ubo/mhs_rates/inpatient.cfm). These inpatient rates are used when billing for medical services furnished to inpatients at MTFs.

The ASAs are based on TRICARE rate charges for institutional and professional services using an indexing

methodology. The overall ASA change from FY 2011 to FY 2012 is a 3.1 percent increase. The ASA rate package has been released to the UBO Service Program Managers for dissemination.

TPOCS News

Electronic Claims Processing

The contract that allowed TMA to fund the electronic claims transmission charges for sites expired on 29 September 2011, but a new contract was in place as of 1 October 2011. Electronic billing claims charges and pharmacy transaction charges will be funded in FY 2012 for

those sites that currently process these claims electronically. The sites that have contracted out their billing and collections services will still have the ability to produce claims for electronic transmission to a clearing house using the TPOCS application. The TPOCS PO is working with

the new clearing house to get sites set up and transmitting electronic claims by 1 December 2011. Larger sites may be able to send electronic claims by 1 November 2011. If you have any questions, contact your UBO Service Program Manager, who will contact the TPOCS PO.

Upgrading to Common Access Card (CAC)

In accordance with JTF-GNO CTO 07-015 Revision 1, Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) Implementation, and DODI 8520.2, Public Key Infrastructure and Public Key (PK) Enabling, TPOCS must

be Common Access Card (CAC)–compliant by 31 December 2011 to enhance the security of the system. The TPOCS PO is on schedule to complete all testing and deploy this update by 2 December

2011. On that date, all users must have a CAC to access the TPOCS application. Anyone who needs to access TPOCS and who does not have a CAC should contact their Service Program Manager to apply for

TPOCS—Continued

CAC—Continued

a card. Information about the CAC is found at:

<http://www.cac.mil/Getting.html>.
Note: The approval process may

take several weeks.

HIPAA 5010 and Pharmacy NCPDP D.O Testing

TPOCS is currently testing claims for compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) 5010 and Pharmacy National Council for Prescription Drug Programs,

version D.0 (NCPDP D.0) standards. The TMA UBO Program Office is working closely with the TPOCS contract support team and the Defense Health Services Systems (DHSS) Program to

assure compliance by December 2011. For Version 5010 and Version D.0, the compliance date for all covered entities including Military Treatment Facilities is 1 January 2012.

2012 ICD-9 Codes Effective

The 2012 ICD-9 codes were uploaded to the Third Party Outpatient Collection System (TPOCS) and were ready for

download to standalone sites on 28 September 2011. The codes went into effect 1 October 2011. The codes do

not have to be loaded at the same time in the Composite Health Care System (CHCS).

New Web Link for TPOCS

You can now reach TPOCS information at:
http://www.health.mil/MHSCIO/programs_products/DHSS.asp.

Mark this site in your browser because the UBO Helpdesk and the MHS Helpdesk **cannot** give users access to TPOCS or CCE. Users must contact this

Defense Health Services Systems Web site and request a username and password for these systems through their helpdesk.

FY 2012 DoD/VA Resource Sharing Billing Calculator

The FY 2012 Department of Defense–Veterans Affairs (DoD/VA) Resource Sharing Inpatient Medicare Severity Diagnosis Related Group (MS-DRG) Billing Calculator has been released and is effective for admissions on or after 1 October 2011. The calculator, instructions, and policy

guidance can be found on the TMA UBO Web site at: www.tricare.mil/ocfo/mcfs/ubo/billing.cfm. The method for calculating inpatient billing, in general, accounts for the length of stay (LOS), MS-DRG, discharge status of each patient, and the area wage index of the MTF. These

constitute the institutional component of the TRICARE/CHAMPUS reimbursement. The calculations also include a 10% or other discount as provided for in DoD/VA sharing agreements.

FY 2012 DoD/VA Direct Sharing Pharmacy Calculator

The UBO Program Office released an update for the DoD/VA Direct Sharing Pharmacy rates effective 1 September 2011. These rates are based on the 6 June 2011 First Databank file release, and

the update contains over-the-counter (OTC) NDCs as well as formulary pharmaceuticals.

In addition, pursuant to Paragraph 10 of the Outpatient Billing Guidance for DoD/VA Direct Sharing Agreements

(dated 19 June and 17 August 2009), the UBO Program Office has completed, audited, and released the DoD/VA Direct Sharing Pharmacy Price Estimator Tool (PPET). The DoD/VA PPET is available at:

Pharmacy—Continued

<http://www.tricare.mil/ocfo/mcfs/ubo/billing.cfm#Inpatient>.

In Paragraph 10, DoD and VA agree in general to price medications at Average Wholesale Prices (AWP), less sixty percent (60%), plus a

\$9.00 dispensing fee. The current DoD/VA PPET update was developed from a full monthly (raw) release of the First Databank pharmacy file sent to the Defense Supply Center–Philadelphia (DSC-P).

(A “raw release” contains strictly AWP unit priced NDCs; it does NOT contain Prime Vendor Pricing (PVP) unit pricing or any applied AWP unit price discounts.)

Billing for Follow-up Care (CPT 99024)

As outlined in Title 32 Code of Federal Regulations Section 220.8, UBO rates for health care services rendered in an MTF are based on the rates used by CHAMPUS under Section 199.14 of the same title. As such, the 2011 Outpatient Itemized Billing (OIB) rate table set a rate for Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code 99024 (Postoperative Follow-up Visit) at \$41.21 based on the CHAMPUS allowable rate for the same time period. Although TRICARE allows a payment for this CPT code under certain circumstances, in the vast majority of cases 99024 is included in the surgical package and therefore

is not payable when billed separately. In previous years, UBO OIB rate tables have not included a charge for 99024.

Therefore, the Program Office is exploring a system solution to either remove 99024 from the rate tables or set the rate to zero. In the interim, the Program Office has issued the following guidance:

- As of 22 September 2011, MTFs may cancel any bills or claims for CPT code 99024.
- MTFs may write off or exclude charges for 99024 included in any bills or claims generated prior to 22 September 2011.

- If a bill including charges for CPT code 99024 has already been sent to a payer or patient and payment has been received, it is acceptable to keep the payment because it was a valid rate at the time the claim was generated. All charges for 99024 billed prior to the issuance of this guidance are both effective and appropriate.

As more information is determined or when the designated system solution is in place, an update will be provided to the UBO Service Program Managers.

CY 2011 Medical Affirmative Claims Rates to OMB

The CY 2011 Outpatient Itemized Billing (OIB) Medical Affirmative Claims (MAC) reimbursement rates must be approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and published in the *Federal Register*. The package was submitted to OMB in August 2011. Once it

is approved and published, the CY 2011 OIB rates will apply to MAC billing. MTFs should continue to use the CY 2010 (OIB) rates for most MAC cases until the CY 2011 OIB MAC reimbursement rates are approved and published by OMB. UBO Service Program Managers will be alerted when

the new rates have been published and the announcement will also be posted on the TMA UBO Web site. The inpatient MAC rates published on 21 March 2011 can be found at:

http://www.tricare.mil/ocfo/mcfs/ubo/mhs_rates/mac.

New DHSS Customer Relationship Management Tool

The Defense Health Services Systems (DHSS) has introduced the Customer Relationship Management (CRM) tool, a commercially available Electronic Mail List (a.k.a., “list server”) for attracting, informing, retaining, and serving stakeholders through timely, product-specific communications.

Anyone with a .mil e-mail address extension may sign up to receive up-to-date information about DHSS information technology products and services (any non .mil e-mail address submitted

will be rejected). Subscription topics include for example “TPOCS News and Events” that will provide e-mails from the TPOCS Project Office regarding: project news, (e.g., information regarding the two major upgrades to TPOCS in FY 2012—HIPAA 5010 and Pharmacy NCPDP D.0 (see article on page 3)—and upgrading TPOCS to be CAC-compliant (see article on page 2), events, and system outages (if applicable) to help subscribers optimally manage their time and resources. In addition and in light of the

cancellation of the 2012 annual conference (see article page 2), this medium will also be used to provide TPOCS training slides and updates on a recurring basis in 2012. Notifications may also include product enhancements, training opportunities, and other important changes to TPOCS and other DHSS products.

To subscribe, go to <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USMHS/subscriber/new>. The service is free, optional, and can be modified or cancelled at any time.

UBO Learning Center

The TMA UBO Program Office is pleased to announce the FY2012 Webinar schedule (may be subject to change). Changes, if any, to the schedule will be posted and presentation materials will be made available prior to the broadcasts on the UBO Learning Center at http://www.tricare.mil/ocfo/mcfs/ubo/learning_center/training.cfm.

UBO Learning Center Webinar Schedule

September 2011	UBO Compliance Program
October 2011	ICD-9 Codes Update and Impacts for Billing
November 2011	To be announced
December 2011	CMS-1500 Basics and 5010 Compliance Update for Billing
January 2012	2012 CPT® and HCPCS Codes Update
February 2012	SIT/OHI
March 2012	How to Assign and Use PATCATs
April 2012	MSA Daily Duties (part 1), and How to Run Reports/Notify Roster (part 2)
May 2012	How to Manage MSA
June 2012	CY2012 Cosmetic Surgery Rates and CSE v.8 Update
June 2012	CY2012 Outpatient Itemized Billing (OIB) Rates Update
July 2012	FY2012 Pharmacy Rates Update
August 2012	Using Correct Provider NPIs
September 2012	ICD-10 MHS Billing Impacts Update

UBO Webinars Approved for CEUs

The FY 2012 Webinars listed in the schedule (live and archived) have been approved by the **American Academy of Professional Coders (AAPC)** for one (1.0) Continuing Education Unit (CEU) credit each. Granting of this approval in no way constitutes endorsement by the AAPC of the program, content or the program sponsor. There is no charge for these credits, and participants may receive only 1.0 CEU per eligible Webinar (live or archived, not both).

To receive credit for the live Webinar, participants must login with their: (1) full name; (2) Service affiliation; and (3) e-mail address prior to the broadcast. They must also listen to the entire Webinar broadcast. For those whose sites restrict them from accessing the Webinars and who request a dial-in number to listen to the live Webinars, they must e-mail the UBO.LearningCenter@altarm.org within 15 minutes of the end of the live broadcast with "CEU request" in the subject line. At the completion of both of the live broadcasts and after attendance records have been verified—this process may take several business days—a Certificate of Approval with an Index Number will be sent via e-mail only to participants who logged or sent an e-mail as required. No post-test is required.

In the alternative, to receive credit for archived FY2012 Webinars (current archived FY2011 Webinars are ineligible), participants must: (1) view the Webinar; (2)

complete a post-test; and (3) submit their answers via e-mail to UBO.LearningCenter@altarm.org. A downloadable and savable post-test will be available within the link to the archived Webinar. That archive will be posted on the TMA UBO Learning Center shortly after both the live broadcasts have been completed (keep checking the Learning Center page for updates). If at least 70% of the post-test is answered correctly, participants will receive via e-mail a Certificate of Approval with Index Number. Participants who score 69% or lower will be notified and may review the archived Webinar and resubmit the post-test. Results may take up to five business days.

The original Certificate of Approval may not be altered except to add the participant's name and Webinar date or date the archived Webinar was viewed. CEU certificates should be maintained on file for at least six months beyond your renewal date in the event you are selected for CEU verification by AAPC. The TMA UBO Program Office will maintain attendance records of those to whom it sent Certificates. These instructions for CEU credit can be downloaded and saved from the UBO Learning Center at http://www.tricare.mil/ocfo/mcfs/ubo/learning_center/training.cfm#CEU. For additional information or questions, please contact the AAPC concerning CEUs and its policy.

Other organizations accept AAPC CEUs. Participants certified with the **American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA)** may self-report AAPC CEUs for credit at <https://secure.ahima.org/certification/ce/cereporting/>. The **American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE)** has previously awarded one (1) Category II ACHE educational credit hour per AAPC approved course toward advancement or recertification. Participants may self-report CEUs on their personal page at <http://www.ache.org/APPS/recertification.cfm>. The **American Association of Healthcare Administrative Managers (AAHAM)** will grant one (1) CEU for each revenue-cycle-related course for AAHAM-credentialed participants who self-report using AAHAM's on-line CEU tool. Participants may self-report CEUs during their recertification process at <http://www.aaham.org/Certification/ReCertification/tabid/76/Default.aspx>.

Contact the TMA UBO helpdesk at (703) 575-5385 or UBO.helpdesk@altarm.org with any questions. **We encourage you to recommend training topics and speakers that would help you in your daily tasks. Let us know how we can help you do your job easier and better.**

Deborah Bush—Respected Colleague and Friend



Deborah K. Bush

The TMA UBO Program Office remembers Ms. Deborah Bush, Army Medical Services Account Program Manager, a respected colleague and dedicated professional.

Ms. Bush's valuable insights (too numerous to name) to the Uniform Business Office contributed to the overall success of its programs. Ms. Bush was a teacher, she

was an expert, she was profound! It was a pleasure to have Ms. Bush on our team; she leaves us far better than she found us.

Share Good News or a Bright Idea!!

Send us your MTF's best practices and stories, including real-life experiences, successes, and how you have overcome challenges.

If your MTF and UBO Program Office have a good news story, accomplishment or tip(s) to share, e-mail us your story at:

UBO.helpdesk@altarum.org

Include your name, MTF location and contact information.

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