

A meeting of the ICD-10 Forum was held on Friday, July 23, 2010.

Dr. Michael Brown's presentation, "ICD-10, One CIO's Perspective" is attached.

The Consortium hosted a sold out presentation by Ray Campbell, Executive Director and CEO of the Consortium, entitled "Understanding the Final 'Meaningful Use' Rule" on Monday, August 3, 2010 at Consortium offices. Registration for 2 new dates, August 11th and August 24th, are now open on the Consortium's Web site, www.mahealthdata.org.

Also, on October 5, 2010, at the DCU Center in Worcester, MA the Consortium will hold its HealthMart 2010 Conference and Trade Show: How to Achieve Meaningful Use. With many breakout sessions, speakers and vendors, the event should be of interest to healthcare professionals. Both attendee and vendor registration is now available on our Web site, www.mahealthdata.org.

Welcome and Introductions

Michele Alexanian called the meeting to order, made announcements of the above mentioned events and introduced the morning's speaker, Dr. Michael Brown, CIO of the Harvard University Health Services. She mentioned Dr. Brown's background which includes a medical degree, a degree in cellular biology and a Masters in Healthcare Administration from the Harvard School of Public Health.

ICD-10: One CIO's Perspective

Dr. Michael Brown, CIO, Harvard University Health Services

(Dr. Brown's handout is attached.)

Some highlights of the presentation are below:

- Some aspects of the Harvard University Health Service (HUHS) that shaped Dr. Brown's thinking on the ICD-10 conversion are that it deals only with ambulatory care, it has had electronic medical record keeping utilizing point and click.
- Codes are entered with the point and click, and reviewed by coders and billers.
- Billing is outsourced to Athenahealth which also reviews coding with a robust software review.
- HUHS is a staff model HMO with primarily a capitated system.
- The billing company, Athenahealth, ensures claims compliance and validity.

- There is a question of “What is sufficient?” regarding populating the electronic medical record with the ICD-10 ambulatory codes.
- Can the system be too specific and big to work?
- The training of physicians, other clinicians, coders and billers will not be trivial.

Discussion

- The importance of having an individual perform an audit function of codes being used and then speaking with physicians to rectify the matter.
- That many practices will be for profit which makes having the most accurate code important.
- Whether now is the appropriate time to migrate to SNOMED codes?
- The dearth of medical coders and possible remedies.

Next Steps

There will not be a meeting of the ICD-10 Forum in August, 2010.

The next ICD-Forum is scheduled for September 24, 2010; 9:00 – 10:30AM.
Notification of the topic as well as registration information will be sent via e-mail.

The “Whatever you want it to be” workgroup will convene after Labor Day. Notice will be sent to the group’s members.

If you have a suggested topic or speaker for the Forum, or if you wish to join the Workgroup, please contact Michele Alexanian at malexanian@mahealthdata.org.