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ICD-10 Deadline Extended

Today US Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced the compliance date for transitioning to ICD-10 will be extended. Although the new deadline for ICD-10 compliance has not been announced, news of the extension is likely to be well received by providers and entities concerned about the various administrative burdens they face in the near future.

The current industry standard (ICD-9) utilizes approximately 14,000 different diagnosis codes. ICD-10 will utilize over 68,000 diagnosis codes. The federal government's original implementation deadline for ICD-10 was October 2011. However, the deadline was extended another two years in 2009, making October 2013 the date covered entities were anticipating for the transition, until today's announcement from the US HHS.

We will provide updates on any significant developments regarding the ICD-10 deadline extension. If you have questions regarding ICD-10 compliance standards, please contact Jay Packer, Marina's Director of Legal Services at jpacker@marinabilling.com or (562) 809-3521.