

MEMORANDUM

DATE: 23rd January 2019
TO: Health Service Providers; Insurers
FROM: Bermuda Health Council
RE: Claims Requirement Updates 2019 - Transition to ICD-10

The Bermuda Health Council in collaboration with health system partners is working to enhance claims processes within the local health system with a focus on coding standardization. We are aware that several providers are using ICD-9 for disease classification coding on claims. ICD-9 is an antiquated data standard which provides limited data of a patient's medical conditions. Also ICD-9 contains outdated terms that are inconsistent with current medical practice.

ICD-10 being the current international standard, the local health system must move towards adopting it as its standard.

Please be advised of the following:

- All local Health Insurers currently accept ICD-10 as a coding standard for both local and overseas health claims
- ICD-9 is becoming antiquated internationally with limited resources of support
- A number of local stakeholders are currently using ICD-10
- ICD-10 adoption will facilitate better health data and allow for a more detailed overview of our local health system
- ICD-10 standardization will support future implementation of a shared electronic health record

Please take note that the Bermuda Health Council is proposing that the health system transition to ICD-10 as the mandatory coding standard for claims reimbursement starting **1st April 2019** with an effective date **1st August 2019**.

This means that all local health insurers will accept ICD-10 coding as the standard for all paper based and electronic claim reimbursement. All health service providers not using ICD-10 are required to familiarize themselves with codes specific to their area of practice.

A transition guide will be developed to include training, resources and other information. Please provide any written feedback to this notice to healthcouncil@bhec.bm by **9th February 2019**.

Sincerely,



Lynniece Warren
Program Manager
Health Regulation