

**Bulletin #15-09**

**TO:** Participating hospitals in New Jersey  
**FROM:** Michael S. Zollenberg  
Director, Network Service  
**DATE:** October 1, 2009  
**SUBJECT:** New ICD-9 codes and DRG Grouper impacts

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have published new ICD-9 diagnosis and procedure codes that are effective October 1, 2009.

As a result, we are working with our vendor to update our DRG Grouper software to process claims for inpatient services using the new ICD-9 codes for providers who have a DRG-based payment methodology. Until that update is complete, inpatient claims with dates of service on or after October 1, 2009, that require a DRG assignment and contain new ICD-9 procedure and/or diagnosis codes may not group correctly.

We have implemented procedures that will help reduce the impact of these new ICD-9 codes during this time. These procedures will remain in effect until the software update is complete, which we expect to occur after the first week of November. Once our DRG Grouper software has been updated, we will review all inpatient claims processed with new ICD-9 codes to that point and adjust them as necessary. **Please note that no action is necessary on your part to have these claims reprocessed.**

Again, this is a potential issue only for inpatient claims that require a DRG assignment and are billed with the new ICD-9 procedure and/or diagnosis codes that become effective October 1, 2009. This issue does not affect claims billed with current ICD-9 codes or ones that are not dependent on a DRG assignment.

Thank you for your understanding during this transition. If you have any questions regarding this update, please contact your Hospital/Ancillary Services Coordinator.