

Practice Management Insight

A report on events affecting behavioral health & substance abuse providers

August 2015

Is Your Vendor Ready for ICD-10?

With only two months to go before the ICD-10 implementation date and the American Medical Association (AMA) recommending a month of ICD-10 testing, behavioral health and substance abuse agencies are scrambling to make sure their practice management software vendor is ready for the transition.

One vendor has already finished their preparations and has begun the testing process, OrionNet Systems.

“OrionNet Systems is finished coding for ICD-10 and has begun testing,” said Clyde Wafford, president of OrionNet Systems. “Existing entries will be automatically populated with the corresponding ICD-10 value so it’s more convenient for our members.”

This week, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and American Medical Association (AMA) released clarifications on their guidance for the ICD-10 medical diagnosis codes that take effect Oct. 1.

OrionNet Systems has also created a list of the most used ICD-9 codes from the last few years and their corresponding ICD-10 codes to assist their members with the transition.

“Agencies will still have to learn and study the codes,” said Clyde Wafford. “But OrionNet Systems will make the transition as simple as possible for our members. Now it is about making order out of the disorder.”

CMS and AMA have confirmed that there will be no delay in the Oct. 1 implementation of the ICD-10 code set for Medicare or any other organization.

“It’s getting down to the wire,” said Clyde Wafford. “Software vendors should either be testing or agencies should prioritize getting a new vendor to avoid costly reimbursement delays.”

[More Information](#)



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- [National Immunization Awareness Month](#)
Center for Disease Control & Prevention
- [Children’s Eye Health and Safety Month](#)
Prevent Blindness
- [Psoriasis Awareness Month](#)
National Psoriasis Foundation
- August 1-4
[Behavioral Healthcare Executive Summit](#)
Addiction Professional Magazine
- August 4-6
[IHS National Behavioral Health Conference](#)
Phoenix, AZ
- August 9-15
[National Health Center Week](#)
National Association of Community Health Centers, Inc.
- August 9
[International Day of the World’s Indigenous People](#)
United Nations
- September 17-18
[Zarrow Mental Health Symposium](#)
Cox Business Center—Tulsa, OK



Going Beyond the Bar: Health Home Updates in ThinkHealth

OrionNet Systems is setting the bar for ICD-10 compliance and going beyond it to include other services. When OrionNet Systems rolls out ICD-10, they will also be rolling out some Health Home changes as well to their ThinkHealth practice management software.

“On the ThinkHealth desktop, we are adding another item to our already extensive list of features for Health Home services,” said Clyde Wafford, president of OrionNet Systems. “This Health Home Dashboard will include various features that will make services easier for Health Home providers.”

Health Homes is an optional Medicaid State Plan benefit that provides an opportunity to build a person-centered system of care that achieves improved outcomes and better services...

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The Future is All about 'The Card'

Financing services in the near future is the top concern of behavioral health professionals. According to Becky Vaughn, vice president of addictions for the National Council for Behavioral Health, that worry is quite justified.

While financing in the past has typically been centered on public funding, block grants or self-pay clients, the future is all about the card—the insurance card, that is.

[More Information](#)

11 strategies for change in the war on drugs

We’re experiencing the worst drug problem the U.S. has seen in some time and quite possibly of all time, said Frank Greenagel, LCSW, LCADC, executive director of College Recovery, adjunct professor with the Rutgers School of Social Work and first lieutenant of the Pennsylvania Army National Guard, to a packed session at the National Conference on Addiction Disorders (NCAD) in St. Louis on Sunday morning.

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AUGUST

- **Children’s Eye Health and Safety Month**
- **National Breastfeeding Month**
- **National Immunization Awareness Month**
- **Psoriasis Awareness Month**



Back to School!

Are You Ready?



Taking a Stand against the ADvantage Waiver Recoup

Many Oklahoma agencies received a letter from the OHCA (Oklahoma Health Care Authority) about the ADvantage Waiver Program and their ruling to recoup money going back for 2 years, which has many Oklahoma agencies worried.

The ADvantage Waiver Program is for the frail elderly and adults with physical disabilities age 21 and over who do not have mental retardation or a cognitive impairment.

[More Information](#)

What college students want in recovery

Of all the colleges and universities in the country, only about 150 offer or are starting up collegiate recovery programs. Thinking of starting one up at your university? University of North Texas Collegiate Recovery Program Director Robert Ashford shared some advice at Monday’s National Conference on Addiction Disorders (NCAD) in St. Louis.

Ashford highlighted three ways to start a program. In his words: from the bottom up, from the top down, and bottom up top down.

[More Information](#)

The business case for building an integrated model of care

The business case for integration is in the cost savings as well as patient and provider satisfaction.

But making such a change can be hard. According to Corey Campbell, project manager of the Human Service Center, a behavioral healthcare organization in Peoria, Ill., change and the resistance to it is the number one obstacle to integration between traditional healthcare and behavioral health.

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