

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

June 4, 2014

The Honorable Marilyn Tavenner
Administrator
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Administrator Tavenner:

We write regarding your notice of May 1, 2014, revising the compliance date for use of ICD-10 to October 1, 2015. While CMS and a number of providers stated they were fully prepared for ICD-10 implementation this year, as originally scheduled, others raised concerns about both CMS and provider readiness. As such, the new compliance date reflects the provisions of Section 212 of the Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014 which prohibited ICD-10 adoption prior to October 2015.

To ensure successful adoption of ICD-10 next October, CMS must take the necessary steps to ensure the Agency, providers, and contractors are all fully prepared to maintain the integrity of federal programs.

To that end, we are seeking additional information and ongoing communication with you in advance of ICD-10 implementation next year. First, we request ongoing information on progress in reaching meaningful milestones toward full ICD-10 readiness. Such information includes:

- ICD-10 provider outreach and educational efforts;
- Opportunities for stakeholder participation in ICD-10 readiness planning;
- Sharing of best practice strategies to facilitate industry ICD-10 readiness; and
- A description of the end-to-end testing that will be conducted, either directly with providers or indirectly via clearinghouses or others, and how often this testing will occur to ensure adequate time to incorporate findings in advance of implementation.

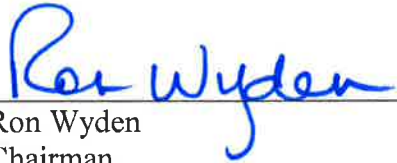
Second, we understand CMS has decided to delay end-to-end testing until next year. We request information on the rationale behind this decision and the timeline for the new testing.

Third, we request CMS provide us, on a regular basis, progress reports of ICD-10 activities associated with both the Medicare and Medicaid programs that have been completed and are in progress. For those activities in progress, please provide us with the expected timeline for completion.

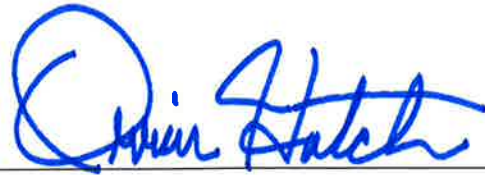
Fourth, as you conduct outreach, education, and testing, we would also like to know more about participation levels by the various stakeholders, including any concerns you may have about a lack of engagement by any segments of the health care community and your proposed action plan to obtain engagement by those segments.

We look forward to working with the Agency as it prepares for ICD-10 adoption to ensure all stakeholders are making significant progress toward a successful implementation.

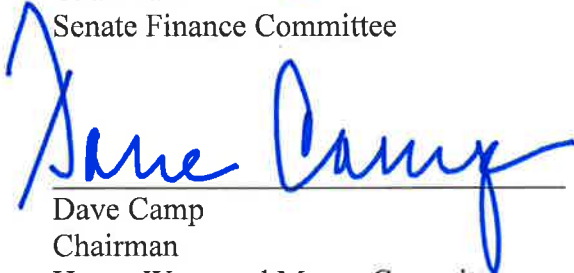
Sincerely,



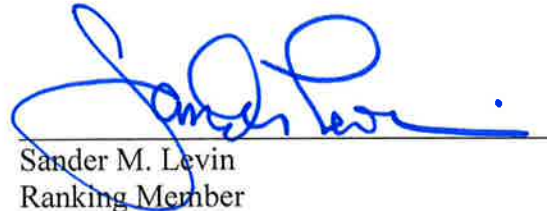
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