

Comparison of ICD-9-CM and ICD-10-CM

Issue	ICD-9-CM	ICD-10-CM
Volume of codes	Approximately 13,600	Approximately 120,000
Composition of codes	Mostly numeric, with E and V codes alphanumeric. Valid codes of three, four, or five digits.	All codes are alphanumeric, beginning with a letter and with a mix of numbers and letters thereafter. Valid codes may have three, four, five, six, or seven digits.
Duplication of code sets	Currently, only ICD-9-CM codes are required. No mapping is necessary.	For a period of up to two years, systems will need to access both ICD-9-CM and ICD-10-CM codes, as we transition from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-CM. Mapping will be necessary so that equivalent codes can be found for issues of disease tracking, medical necessity edits, and outcomes studies.

Source: American Academy of Procedural Coders, Salt Lake City.