

Namibian Association of Medical Aid Funds

Established in terms of the Medical Aid Funds Act 1995 (Act 23 of 1995)



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EXTERNAL MEMORANDUM

29 March 2021

Dear Esteemed Client,

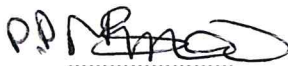
NOTICE FOR EXTENDED IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINES OF PHASE 1 OF ICD-10 AND RESCHEDULING OF PHASE 2 IMPLEMENTATION.

1. It is within your notice that regulation 6 (g) of the Regulations made under section 44 of the Medical Aid Funds Act, 1995 (Act No. 23 of 1995) obliges suppliers of medical services to include item code numbers relating to services rendered on a statement of account to a member of a registered Medical Aid Fund.
2. Emboldened by our commitment to complete the requisite coding structures, by letter dated 20 April 2020, we conveyed the rollout and timelines for the implementation of the International Classification of Disease and Related Health Problems, ICD-10 into phases.
3. Phase 1 commenced 01 June 2020, where suppliers of medical services with a practice number were encouraged to commence using ICD-10 codes to familiarise themselves with the coding system, although the use thereof was not mandatory. In Phase 1, the correct or incorrect use of ICD-10 code was not material for a valid claim.
4. To step up to phase 2, at least 70% of all claim lines submitted must have had an ICD-10 code included on the statement of account, however, the latest claims data analyzed that only 16.79% of all claims lines submitted contained an ICD-10 code.
5. The implementation of phase 2 was scheduled to commence on 01 April 2021 however, owing to requirements of phase 1 not being met, the high number and type enquiries

received, indicates that the industry is not ready to progress to the implementation of phase 2, where inclusion of a valid ICD-10 code number will be an essentialia for a valid account for reimbursement by registered Medical Aid Funds.

6. At the meeting held 16 March 2021 the Management Committee approved extended timelines for the implementation of phase 1 and rescheduled the implementation of phase 2.
7. The extension and rescheduling are intended to allow Namaf to develop an ICD-10 user guide, convene a further stakeholder engagement on ICD-10 and rollout targeted training as per the attached training plan to assist in getting the industry ready for the implementation of phase 2. A stakeholder engagement, on ICD-10 Webinar is scheduled 28 April 2021.
8. Please note that ICD-10 codes does not replace the current Namaf procedural coding systems, but in fact compliments the current coding systems in place to provide an overview of the entire healthcare event.
9. Kindly indicate interest of participation by no later than Wednesday, **31 March 2021**. Additional dates will be communicated when the above training courses will be presented again.
10. Do not hesitate to contact us via email corporatecomm@namaf.org.na should you require any additional information and/or wish to engage Namaf on the implementation of ICD-10.

Sincerely,



Stephen Tjiuoro
Chief Executive Officer

