

IBM InfoSphere MDM Reference Data Management Hub

*Providing healthcare organizations with tools
to centrally manage code sets*



Highlights

- Enhance the productivity and efficiency for coding healthcare procedures and claims by centrally managing industry-standard healthcare reference data code sets such as ICD-9 and ICD-10 and the differences between them
 - Streamline the on-boarding, change and distribution of reference data standards while applying enterprise policies for audit and review, security and approval
 - Manage the mappings between reference data standards and use these mappings to easily translate from one code format to another
 - Help improve regulatory compliance through formal governance of enterprise reference data
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Understanding the reference data problem

Reference data is data that is used to categorize other data. Represented as code tables or lookup tables, reference data is used within every application in an organization. Examples range from industry classifications such as International Classification of Diseases (ICD) code sets to internal lookup tables such as gender codes, state, province or territory codes and so on. These code tables are often managed within the scope of an individual application, and both the format and set of values for a particular lookup table can vary widely across an enterprise. Data-driven companies must carefully manage reference data because it is so widely shared across system boundaries.

Efficient and accurate reference data management is particularly important for the tightly regulated healthcare industry. Not only does the healthcare sector have complex industry-specific code sets and standards, but it is undergoing rapid change, including the move from the ICD-9 to the ICD-10 coding and classification system for diagnoses and procedures. Reference data underlies and governs healthcare payments and transactions, so the integrity of reference data codes or mappings can directly impact a healthcare organization's bottom line.

The benefits of a centralized governance model for reference data include:

- Increased productivity and efficiency for coding healthcare procedures and claims
- Improved reimbursement timeline by reducing the significant overhead in adjudicating claims that are presented with the incorrect procedure or diagnostic codes





Streamlining reference data management

Many organizations today use manual, ad hoc, spreadsheet-based processes to reconcile the differences between reference data in individual applications. Manual processes are inherently error-prone and often result in inconsistent reference data—a root cause of data quality issues in claims and reimbursement processes.

IBM® InfoSphere® Master Data Management (MDM) Reference Data Management Hub enables organizations to streamline the storage, management and distribution of reference data across the enterprise, allowing internal systems to share reference data more efficiently. Centralizing stewardship, auditing, security and workflow tasks helps to:

- Reduce risk and data inconsistency
- Provide formal processes that let business users manage their reference data
- Improve the overall quality of data used
- Minimize the need for the IT department's involvement in day-to-day reference data changes

Unlike many solutions on the market that address the management and mapping of only one type of reference data code set (for example, ICD-9 and ICD-10), InfoSphere MDM Reference Data Management Hub is a generalized solution that can manage not only healthcare code sets, but the myriad of other code tables and reference data found in applications across the enterprise.

Transitioning from ICD-9 to ICD-10

ICD is a coding methodology designed by the World Health Organization (WHO) to help diagnose and record diseases around the world. As new diagnostic tools and a wider array of subclassifications become necessary, these code sets are periodically updated. The ICD-10 standard has approximately four times the number of codes previously used in ICD-9.

The US government has mandated that all entities covered by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) conduct healthcare transactions on or after October 1, 2014 using only the ICD-10 diagnosis and procedure codes.

While these new codes will dramatically expand the healthcare industry's ability to record, track and diagnose health issues, they will also intensify the reference data management requirements for healthcare organizations. InfoSphere MDM Reference Data Management Hub can help healthcare providers address these changing requirements.

Making a successful transition to ICD-10 requires healthcare organizations to map existing ICD-9 codes to the new ICD-10 standards—but this is a complex task. In some cases, there is no direct match between the existing ICD-9 code and an equivalent ICD-10 code. Sometimes a single ICD-9 code may need to be represented by multiple ICD-10 codes.

InfoSphere MDM Reference Data Management Hub enables nontechnical staff to directly import the ICD-9 and ICD-10 reference data sets into the hub via a user interface (UI) that supports the creation of the complex one-to-many or many-to-many mappings between these standards. Data stewards can also use the UI to import equivalency mappings (such as General Equivalence Mappings or GEMs) directly into the hub and create new mappings that align to the organization's internal practices and policies. These mappings can then be used to translate between the different code sets—a necessary step when applications cannot be easily transitioned to ICD-10. In addition, InfoSphere MDM Reference Data Management Hub facilitates business intelligence (BI) analysis and reporting by reconciling different versions of the ICD codes.

Helping to speed implementation with user-friendly features

InfoSphere MDM Reference Data Management Hub is designed for business users: the intuitive UI and flexible data model help to speed implementation and setup. It is built on the proven InfoSphere MDM platform and includes a new reference data domain and stewardship user interface, as well as the following key features:

- **Centralized repository** to manage and distribute internal and external reference data for the entire organization as well as mappings between the standards.
- **Governance and stewardship features** including versioning, lifecycle states, formal review and approval processes, structured import and exports, data hierarchy visualization and structured search results.
- **Multiple methods for managing the distribution of reference data** to applications, including batch, on-demand publishing to XML and CSV formats, and a web services interface for publishing to IBM WebSphere® MQ and other platforms.

InfoSphere MDM Reference Data Management Hub employs role-based user interfaces for the review, approval and publishing of all changes in reference data. It includes workflow and version-control features that support formal review and approval processes and lifecycle management for the reference data. It also provides querying capabilities. For example, the platform's service-based interface allows users to query an ICD-9 code and receive the corresponding ICD-10 code, or it can export ICD-10 codes back to the querying system.

InfoSphere MDM: A smarter solution for healthcare organizations

IBM InfoSphere MDM solutions for healthcare deliver a unified, trusted version of the truth about an organization's critical entities—including patients, members, providers and customers. Armed with this single view, healthcare organizations can make well-informed decisions and help improve business processes and outcomes such as better patient care, lower costs, lower risk, better regulatory compliance and greater agility.

For more information

To learn more about IBM InfoSphere MDM Reference Data Management Hub, please contact your IBM representative or visit: ibm.com/software/data/infosphere/mdm/reference-data-management-hub



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Software Group
Route 100
Somers, NY 10589

Produced in the United States of America
September 2012

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