

3M™ Coding and Reimbursement System Plus (CRS+): Frequently asked questions

What's new?

3M CRS+ is the “next generation” coding system from 3M Health Information Systems. 3M customers who are currently using the 3M™ Coding and Reimbursement System (CRS) for Microsoft® Windows® or 3M CRS for the Web can easily upgrade to 3M CRS+ and take advantage of its powerful new features.

Q: What is 3M Coding and Reimbursement System Plus (CRS+)?

A: 3M Coding and Reimbursement System Plus (CRS+) is a new version of the 3M™ Coding and Reimbursement System (CRS), featuring a visually dynamic coding environment that provides more flexibility for coders and easily accessible data.

3M CRS+ delivers an enhanced user experience including an immediate display of reimbursement details for multiple DRGs, a 3M-hosted reporting tool and many other new productivity features.

Inherent in its design is a low cost of ownership with minimal impact to an organization's IT department. It's ideal for any facility using the current 3M CRS that wants to improve coding processes, prepare for and work to minimize the impact of ICD-10, and have easy access to coded data.

3M CRS+ offers the following list of features:

- The “running DRG” feature can help improve productivity as coders view multiple DRGs in a continuously computed state
- Multiple DRG display and calculation (system calculates and displays any combination of up to five licensed grouping methodologies)
- New user interface to help improve coder productivity by displaying complications and co-morbidities (CCs) and major complications and co-morbidities (MCCs)
- The “ICD-10-PCS Dynamic Code Builder” (*patent pending*) streamlines ICD-10-PCS coding by allowing the coder to move freely between 3M's key-word logic and an ICD-10 table-driven approach, leveraging the “code also” features embedded in the logic as ICD-10-ready software

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- Easy-to-use reporter tool providing standard reports that:
 - Gauge ICD-10 impact on coders and reimbursement
 - Measure case mix index (CMI)
 - Detect productivity issues by individual coder and case type to realign workloads and provide targeted education
 - Identify insufficient documentation and view common clinical threads
- Additional compliance edits
- Technology platform that offers:
 - Application on premise, web-based for easier maintenance
 - A database hosted by 3M with web reports and no additional hardware requirements

Q: What is the running DRG capability?

A: The coders immediately see the DRG as they complete the coding path. The DRG is always in a computed state, expanding the coder's awareness of the coding and its financial impact. This new feature improves productivity by reducing the number of clicks to complete the record.

Q: How will 3M customers receive updates and enhancements to 3M CRS+?

A: 3M CRS+ is a web-based application that uses a 3M CRS Update Manager utility. This utility allows for the download and installation of updated content from a 3M server to your network server. The update timing and process follow the standard 3M CRS release schedule.

Q: Why would a customer want 3M CRS+?

A: 3M CRS+ is the next generation of 3M CRS and provides significant additional value with its expanded coding features and reporting. All future major enhancements will be provided on this web-based technology platform. It also addresses the following needs:

- Easy access to coded data for efficient reporting to your organization's leadership
- More flexibility in deriving procedural codes
- ICD-10 impact reporting (financial, coder productivity)
- Store/report on multiple groupers (useful for state reimbursement programs)
- Expanded compliance functionality (a full compliance edits library)
- Ability to view and report on severity of illness (SOI) and risk of mortality (ROM)
- An affordable solution with minimal maintenance requirements

Q: Is 3M CRS+ an outpatient tool as well?

A: New features such as the display of multiple grouping methodologies and the running DRG are for inpatient records only, but 3M CRS+ still incorporates the same inpatient and outpatient groupers available in 3M CRS. **The 3M™ APCfinder™ Software and 3M™ EAPGfinder™ Software** operate just as they do today. Outpatient data is also being stored and reported.

Q: How long is implementation?

A: For an existing 3M CRS customer, the installation process can be done in a matter of days, as long as the current hardware requirements are met. For new customers, the timeframe is the same as a standard installation of 3M CRS with additional functions/features.

Q: Are there any interface or system configuration changes required for this transition?

A: There are no new interfaces; however, 3M expects the minimum data set to be passed to the 3M CRS+ software. Third-party vendors have been advised of this requirement. There are no new hardware specifications.

Q: How will this impact the MEDITECH multi-group interface?

A: The MEDITECH multi-group interface provides multiple groupers back to MEDITECH in a format it can accept. The multi-group interface does not provide an interactive display of the DRGs and does not include reimbursement (except for the primary grouper, which is typically Medicare).

3M CRS+ does not replace the need for the multi-group interface. A customer who uses MEDITECH with the multi-group interface can upgrade to 3M CRS+, which will allow the display of multiple DRGs and reimbursement. However, the outbound interface packet to MEDITECH will retain the multi-group interface format already in place.

Q: Is 3M offering any training for 3M CRS+?

A: Yes. On-demand training modules are available. The new enhancements are very intuitive and fit into existing workflows. As a result, 3M CRS+ is designed for easy learning.

Q: What parts of 3M CRS+ are hosted by 3M Health Information Systems?

A: The reporting tools and associated database are hosted by 3M. The 3M CRS+ web software is installed on premise on your network server.

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Q: What do customers need to do technically to prepare for product use?

A: Follow the existing hardware and software requirements shown on the configuration sheet for the 3M™ Coding and Reimbursement System for the Web and confirm the specifications are met and the minimum data set is provided via the input packet.

Q: What kinds of reports are included in 3M CRS+?

A: Sample reports provided in 3M CRS+ include:

- CMI
- DRG Summary
- Coder Productivity
- HAC DRG Summary
- Code Summary
- APC Claim Summary
- Code Listings
- And many others

Q: Does the reporting tool require training?

A: Some minimal training is offered, although the reporting tool itself is very powerful and user-friendly with its data drill-down capabilities. 3M CRS+ provides standardized reports with no *ad hoc* reporting capabilities.

Q: Can customers export data out of 3M CRS+ to another system?

A: There is no ADT feed nor outbound interfaces from the database used by 3M CRS+. The reports can be exported in a Microsoft® Excel® format for further manipulation.

Q: Is 3M CRS+ web-based only?

A: Yes. All major future enhancements to 3M CRS will be on this web-based platform.

Q: What differences will coders experience when they move to 3M CRS+?

A: The improved graphical user interface (GUI) with its views and associated workflows were designed for consistency with previous 3M CRS versions, so that coders can more easily upgrade to 3M CRS+ without special training or a difficult learning curve.

Call today

For more information on how 3M software and services can assist your organization, contact your 3M sales representative, call us toll-free at **800-367-2447**, or visit us online at **www.3Mhis.com**.



Health Information Systems
575 West Murray Boulevard
Salt Lake City, UT 84123 U.S.A.
800 367 2447

www.3Mhis.com

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