What should I do if the ICD-10 code I use is flagged as 'Removed'?

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ICD-10 codes are routinely updated, revised, and sometimes, discontinued by the American Medical Association (AMA).

If one is discontinued, it will be based on the date of service.

- For example, if you are using ICD-10 N18.3 for a patient and see in the image below that the code has been discontinued as of 10/01/2020. It will still be a valid code for dates of service up to 9/30/2020, but beginning 10/01/2020 it will be invalid.
- To use a form of the code, you must specify an additional digit.

Within the DrChrono EHR, the ICD code search will flag discontinued codes with a "Removed since YYYY-MM-DD" message.

ICD-10		Description
N18.3	+	
P		kidney disease, stage 3 (moderate) 2020-10-01
N18.3 unspe		c kidney disease, stage 3
N18.31: Chronic kidney disease, stage 3a		
N18.3	2: Chroni	c kidney disease, stage 3b

When you receive the "removed" or "discontinued" message for a claim after the discontinuation date, you will need to select a different, more specific code for the claim to be accepted by the payer.