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## THIS WEEK'S TOP INDUSTRY & AHIMA NEWS

### HOW ICD-10 COULD HELP TRACK EBOLA

With concern about Ebola growing worldwide, a recent infographic from the Coalition for ICD-10 highlights the benefits to public health of coding morbidity and reporting disease data in ICD-10, rather than in ICD-9, which lacks a specific code for Ebola. ICD-10, used throughout the world's industrialized nations and slated for implementation in the US on October 1, 2015, assigns code A98.4 to Ebola. The Coalition says ICD-9's lack of specificity makes it more difficult to monitor outbreaks, share data internationally, and report public health emergencies the World Health Organization in real time.

[Access the infographic.](#)

### ONC NAMES LUCIA SAVAGE CHIEF PRIVACY OFFICER

Several news outlets have reported that the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC) has named Lucia Savage, JD, as its new chief privacy officer. Savage currently serves as Senior Associate General Counsel at UnitedHealthcare. *FierceHealthIT* reports that, at UnitedHealthcare, Savage "was in charge of a team that worked with data transactions related to health information exchanges, health care transparency projects and other data-driven projects." Her first day at ONC will be October 20.

Savage's predecessor, Joy Pritts, served as the first chief privacy officer for the ONC; Pritts stepped down in July.

[Read the full \*FierceHealthIT\* article.](#)

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### DIGGING OUT OF DATA HOARDING

According to the article "Digging Out from Data Hoarding" in the October *Journal of AHIMA*, stories about hoarding abound in HIM departments. And like with the hoarders on TV's "Dr. Phil," records managers fear that the files they've purged will be valuable down the line. Complicating the issue, the era of electronic health records allows mounds of information to be stored on computer servers—out of sight and hidden from scrutiny. But just because the data hoard is unseen doesn't mean it doesn't have detrimental effects for healthcare organizations.



Submissions are being accepted now for AHIMA's 87th Convention & Exhibit, September 26–30, 2015, in New Orleans, LA. [Learn more and submit your abstract](#) by December 1.

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The Optum Enterprise CAC Platform and CDI 3D deliver superior efficiency, productivity and compliance for improved outcomes.

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## EVENTS ON THE 'ROAD TO 10'

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services is

[Read the full article in AHIMA's HIM Body of Knowledge.](#) (Log-in with your AHIMA ID and password required.) And watch the video "[Where Is Your Organization Hiding the Data?](#)" at AHIMA's YouTube channel, AHIMA on Demand.

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## STUDY TO EXAMINE ICD-10'S STRATEGIC VALUE; VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

The AHIMA Foundation is preparing to conduct a study on the strategic value of ICD-10. The study will analyze dual coded data to compare and contrast diagnosis and procedure data for patient encounters to determine where there is increased granularity; how the increased granularity of ICD-10 codes provides additional or new insights from ICD-9 data to support healthcare reform initiatives; and the potential impact on hospital readmissions, complications, risk adjustment systems, and more.

The Foundation seeks interested members who have dual-coded data to participate. To volunteer, e-mail [michelle.dougherty@ahimafoundation.org](mailto:michelle.dougherty@ahimafoundation.org) or [learn more](#) at the Foundation website.

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## AHIMA HOUSE OF DELEGATES IDs FUTURE TRENDS IN HIM

The AHIMA House of Delegates, which guides the HIM profession by advancing best practices through advocacy, environmental scan, and thought leadership, met on September 28 during AHIMA's 86th Convention & Exhibit. Using the six domains of the [Academic Curricula Competencies](#) and SBAR (Situation-Background-Assessment-Recommendation) process, delegates spent working sessions identifying five trends per domain that will affect HIM over the next five to 10 years and voted on the top three priorities, which will be available in November. The Board of Directors will use these trends along with an upcoming environmental scan report to shape strategy.

Find the [trends, domains, SBAR, and notes](#) on Engage.

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## GET INVOLVED

### RALLY FOR #ICD10MATTERS ON TWITTER



On October 30, join AHIMA's #ICD10Matters Twitter rally. Any time between noon and 2 p.m. CT, tweet at Congressional leadership and your members of Congress using the hashtag #ICD10Matters to remind them ICD-10 must be implemented in 2015. All you need is a [Twitter account](#) and this list of [Congressional Twitter handles](#).

In the meantime, you can [call](#) or [write](#) your members of Congress and let them know you support the October 1, 2015, compliance date for the transition to ICD-10, and oppose any future efforts to delay the codes sets legislatively.

offering [free live, regional events](#) to help physicians, clinicians, healthcare professionals, office managers, billing managers, and coders—particularly those working in smaller offices and rural areas—plan and prepare for the October 2015 transition to ICD-10.

AHIMA supports these events and invites you to [view the schedule for your part of the country](#) and share it with the small physician groups in your area.



Visit AHIMA's [Engage Online Communities](#) for discussions and content on topics important to HIM professionals. Have a membership-related question? Visit the [AHIMA Membership and Business](#) community.

And don't forget to download the Engage mobile app. Scan the QR code below, or visit [iTunes](#) or the [Google Play](#) store to download.



A coalition including several physician groups

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## START OR EVEN JUMPSTART YOUR CAREER



Looking for a challenging, in-demand job in HIM? AHIMA's Career Assist Virtual Career Fair, to be held online December 4, 1-4 p.m. ET, will offer the opportunity to meet with large, small, regional, and national employers during this online event to discuss current and future HIM career opportunities. [Register](#) for free.

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## LAST WEEKS TO APPLY FOR THE NEW GRAD LEADERSHIP COUNCIL



Are you a recent graduate looking to get more involved with AHIMA? Do you have ideas for engaging with other graduates and spreading the word about HIM? [Apply for the New Graduate Leadership Council](#) through the Volunteer Center in Engage by October 31.

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## LEARN ABOUT SOCIAL MEDIA FOR ADVOCACY



If you missed this week's webinar, "Using Social Media for Advocacy," not to worry. You can still learn how to use social media as an advocacy tool to reach the public and the press. Access the [recording](#); supporting documents are in the [State Leaders and House of Delegates](#) community on Engage.

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## THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFT



The AHIMA Foundation thanks the [donors](#) who contributed during AHIMA's Convention & Exhibit. Thanks to your donations, the Foundation was able to raise over \$38,000 in philanthropic support for education, research, scholarships, and the Health Information Relief Operation (HIRO) Fund.

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## EDUCATION & NETWORKING

**CONFERENCES AND EVENTS**

**ON-DEMAND WEBINARS**

and others sent a letter to the Department of Health and Human Services on Wednesday of this week, calling for an overhaul of the **meaningful use (MU)** program and a new emphasis on interoperability. On Tuesday, the **American Medical Association (AMA)** also sent a letter to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Service and the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology offering what it calls a "blueprint" to improve meaningful use. A roundup of these stories is available on [iHealthBeat](#).

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## NEW JOBS ON CAREER ASSIST: JOB BANK

[Inpatient Coding Quality Review and Education Consultant \(Coding Audit\)](#)

Combination of remote and travel

[DRG Analyst/Auditor](#)

Travel/ Your Home Office, AL

[Coding Compliance Consultant](#)

Southwest Virginia & Northeast Tennessee

[REMOTE INPATIENT CODING SPECIALIST WITH BENEFITS](#)

Nationwide, no travel

[Outpatient Coder / Clinical Data Specialist](#)

New York, NY

View [more](#) available positions.

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**AHIMA Academies for ICD-10**

Experience a dynamic training program that teaches proficiency in the ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS coding systems and prepare to train other coding professionals in these systems.

**Upcoming Academies:**

(CM only)  
November 17-18  
Chicago, IL

(CM/PCS)  
November 17-19  
Chicago, IL

December 1-3  
Las Vegas, NV

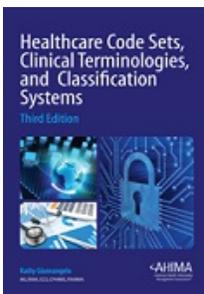
December 2-4  
Orlando, FL

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Visit our [EVENTS CALENDAR](#) for more upcoming events.

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**NEW FROM AHIMA PRESS**



[Healthcare Code Sets, Clinical Terminologies, and Classification Systems, Third Edition](#)

*Available for pre-order*

By Kathy Giannangelo, MA, RHIA, CCS, CPHIMS, FAHIMA

This book includes ICD-9-CM, ICD-10-CM/PCS, CPT, HCPCS, CDT, SNOMED CT, LOINC, and

**ICD-10-PCS and Physician Coders – Bridging the Gap**

Physician coders, learn more about ICD-10-PCS by comparing the two coding systems and providing suggestions for better coordination with facility coders.

**Systems-Based Model for the Instruction of ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS Coding**

This educational focus embraces clinical pathways plus documentation interpretation in tandem with coding rules. In the transition to ICD-10 this webinar is designed to illustrate a training program that will create extremely competent coders and empower capable coders to become subject matter experts.

**An Introduction to Information Governance**

A must for all new and experienced health information professionals interested in learning more about information governance in healthcare. Discover why information governance is needed in healthcare now, and how health information professionals can play a leading role in making the transition.

DSM-5, and even a chapter on ICD-11, providing students and practitioners in health information management and informatics with an overview of each system.

**PRICE: \$89.95**

**MEMBER PRICE: \$74.95**

**PRODUCT NUMBER: AB201913**

**ISBN: 9781584261049**

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