



## AHIMA Council Addresses Secondary Uses of Health Data

Throughout the years, HIM professionals have been tasked with collecting and reporting healthcare data to support a variety of secondary uses, including administrative requirements, quality measurement, population health monitoring, and clinical research. As the healthcare industry strives to improve quality and reduce cost through advances in technology, the need for healthcare data has increased dramatically. As a result, AHIMA launched the Quality Initiatives and Secondary Data Practice Council in 2008 to help advise AHIMA on the HIM issues and best practices connected to the increased demands for healthcare data.

### **Supporting Members like You**

The Quality Initiatives and Secondary Data Practice Council holds monthly conference calls to discuss the current industry environment and identify member needs. The council also dedicates many hours to review proposed regulations and standards, provide input to AHIMA's public comment responses, brainstorm proposed resources for AHIMA members, and represent the HIM profession in related industry groups. The Council reports the results of its efforts to the AHIMA Board of Directors twice each year, providing an overview of both internal and external initiatives that are complete or are in progress.

"The secondary use of healthcare data continues to expand across different provider and HIM practice settings. The diverse backgrounds and commitment of the members of this council provides an important resource to AHIMA members to navigate the standards and regulations that are increasing the demand and availability of this data," says Linda Hyde, RHIA, co-chair of the practice council.

### **Practice Council Members**

The Quality Initiatives and Secondary Data Practice Council is composed of volunteers that have a breadth of expertise in the collection and use of data for quality/patient safety monitoring, clinical research, and population health.

- Linda Hyde, RHIA, Co-chair (Massachusetts)
- Matthew Schuller, MS, RHIA, Co-chair (Illinois)
- Kim Baldwin-Stried Reich, MBA, MJ, RHIA, CPHQ (Illinois)
- Janet Bierlein, RN, BSN, CCA, CPHQ (Michigan)
- Mary Bessinger, RHIA, CCS, MBA, CPHQ (Texas)
- Lisa Brooks Taylor, RHIA (Alabama)
- Sara Cottington, BS, RHIT, CPHQ (Iowa)
- Vicki Delgado, RHIT, CTR (New Mexico)
- Brian Dolan, MHSA, RHIA, CPHQ, CHDA (Missouri)

- Betty Dunagan, RHIA (Texas)
- Kathleen Green, RHIT (Tennessee)
- Lisa Hart, MPA, RHIA, CPHQ (Ohio)
- Patience Hoag, RHIT, CHCA, CCS, CCS-P (Arizona)
- Laurine Johnson, MS, RHIA, CPC-H (Pennsylvania)
- Starla Ledbetter, MHSA, RHIA, PMP (California)
- Junius Logan, RHIT (Washington)
- Peg Mason, RHIT, CPHQ (Iowa)
- Virginia Mullen, RHIA (California)
- Meredith Nahm, PhD (North Carolina)
- Wendy Scharber, RHIT, CTR (Minnesota)
- Patricia Seidl, RHIA, CCDM (Wisconsin)
- Michelle Shimmel, RHIT (Nebraska)

### **Contribute Your Expertise**

Are you interested in contributing your expertise as a member of the Quality Initiatives and Secondary Data Practice Council or other AHIMA committee? Volunteer online using the AHIMA [Application to Serve](#), or contact [Crystal Kallem](#), AHIMA's staff liaison to the council, for more information.

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