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Welcome to Certification Connection

Created exclusively for HIM certified professionals, each quarterly issue of *Certification Connection* contains information on professional development, industry news, continuing education, announcements, upcoming events, and other tools for your success. If you know a certified professional who should be receiving *Certification Connection*, please forward this newsletter to him or her to [subscribe](#).

Get Connected Online at Virtual Career Fair August 27

Are you seeking new career opportunities? Attend AHIMA's first-ever Career Assist Virtual Career Fair, Tuesday, August 27, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. ET. You'll have the opportunity to meet with large, small, regional, and national employers during this online event. It's a great way for you to engage directly with employers about their current and future health information management career opportunities. You can hold one-on-one chats with employers while getting a snapshot of their profile and track and follow up with your connections. You can even log in prior to the event to view employer booths and open opportunities. It's free to attend and convenient—from the comfort of your home or office. Take the next step and [register today](#).

Are You a Military Veteran?



Do you know that AHIMA certification exams are approved for reimbursement for active duty military and veterans by the US Department of Veterans Affairs under the Servicemen's Readjustment Act (more commonly known as the GI Bill)? AHIMA has launched a campaign to increase awareness of this opportunity, encouraging pursuit of certification to prepare for future employment. If you'd like more information, [gibill.va.gov](#) offers complete information on the benefits available through the GI Bill.

Scholarship to Bring Kathleen A. Frawley's Vision to Life

AHIMA mourns the [unexpected passing](#) of AHIMA President Kathleen A. Frawley on June 28. Frawley was passionate about health information management and a dedicated AHIMA leader. She was proud of AHIMA's 85-year history, and also was excited about the future of the HIM profession. The theme of her presidency, "Dream Big...and Believe," will be her legacy, as she reminded us all to believe in ourselves and to believe in AHIMA. To honor Frawley's contribution to the advancement of the profession, the AHIMA Foundation has established the Kathleen A. Frawley Memorial Endowed Scholarship fund to support the Student Merit Scholarship program. The goal is to raise \$85,000 in gifts by the 85th AHIMA Convention and Exhibit this October in Atlanta, GA. [Make an online contribution](#). Learn more about the scholarship and other ways to give at [ahimafoundation.org/kathleen](#).



Apply to be a CCHIIM Commissioner

The Commission on Certification for Health Informatics and Information Management (CCHIIM) is a standing commission of AHIMA, empowered with the sole and independent authority in all matters pertaining to both the initial certification and ongoing recertification of HIIM professionals. CCHIIM is seeking highly qualified nominees for consideration to be appointed CCHIIM At-large Commissioners. [Applications due July 19](#).

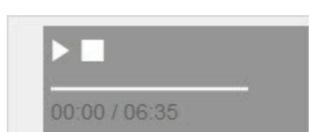
Survey Uncovers New Career Paths for Transcriptionists

New speech and language processing technologies have dramatically changed the traditional work of medical transcriptionists. In the results of a survey released last week by AHIMA and the [Association for Healthcare Documentation Integrity](#) (AHD), 87 percent of medical transcriptionists indicated that in order to transition to documentation roles in electronic health records (EHR), new skills and knowledge gaps need to be identified. A separate survey of transcription managers and supervisors showed an overwhelming need to identify transition plans and career paths for traditional medical transcriptionists.

The survey found that chart integrity auditor and EHR technician/HIM analyst constitute the top two transitional job titles for transcriptionists. Other promising career paths are coding professional and healthcare documentation technology trainer.

AHIMA and AHD are working to create model job descriptions for the transition areas identified in the survey and other resources to help transcriptionists make the transition, which will be featured in future AHIMA publications.

Audio Extra: What the Day-to-Day is Like for a CDS



That is the question the *Journal of AHIMA* asks in the July online Audio Extra. Clinical documentation specialists (CDS) are filling a growing need. Amy L. Gardner, RHIT, CDIP, at Valley Hospital Rockwood Health System in Spokane Valley, WA, [discusses with the Journal](#) what a typical day is like for professionals in this role, the skills needed to perform well in this position, and advice for communicating with physicians.

Perspectives: How Do We Teach ICD-10?

The summer issue of the AHIMA research journal [Perspectives in Health Information Management](#) includes the results of a study on the implementation of an anatomic pathology information system in a tertiary care teaching hospital, the methodology adopted, and the challenges that were encountered. "ICD-10-CM/PCS: Transferring Knowledge from ICD-9-CM" by Jaime N. Sand, MA, RHIT, CCS, and Patt Elison-Bowers, PhD, looks at multiple challenges in the areas of how to train the new workforce, what might be the most efficient method of providing that training, how much retraining of the current workforce with ICD-9-CM training will be required, and how to meet the national implementation deadline of 2014 in the most efficacious manner. This research sought to identify if there was a difference between a group of participants with no knowledge of ICD-9-CM and those with some knowledge of ICD-9-CM in scores on an ICD-10-CM/PCS quiz. [Read the complete article](#).

Interested in submitting to *Perspectives*? Review the [guidelines](#).

Celebrate 85 Years of AHIMA and HIM History

[AHIMA's 85th Convention & Exhibit October 26-30 Atlanta, GA](#)

This will be the last AHIMA Convention & Exhibit before the ICD-10 implementation deadline. Join us for these educational opportunities and more:

- Pre-convention workshops Saturday, October 26 and Sunday, October 27, including the return of the popular workshop: "What Is Your Thinking Style? Using Ned Hermann's Whole Brain Model for Effective ICD-10 Implementation."
- More than 25 educational tracks focusing on hot topics like CDI, ICD-10, privacy and security, EHR, healthcare innovation, leadership, consumer engagement, informatics, information governance, emerging technology, and performance improvement.
- The opportunity to learn the latest products, services, technologies and innovations to assist healthcare professionals in these times of rapid change from more than 225 exhibitors.

Visit AHIMA at the AHD Annual Convention & Expo

If you are attending the Association for Healthcare Documentation Integrity (AHD) Annual Convention & Expo, July 31-August 3 in Lake Buena Vista, FL, be sure to stop by the AHIMA's booth, number 312. A discount code for the [CCA Exam](#) will be available exclusively for AHD attendees. We will also have information about [AHIMA's HIM Career Map](#), and on August 3 AHIMA Director of HIM Excellence Julie Dooling, RHIA, will deliver a presentation titled "Health Information Exchange—An Evolving Territory."

A New AHIMA.org is Coming

As you may have heard, AHIMA's online presence is getting an upgrade. We're bringing a new look, feel, and experience to the [ahima.org](#) site, the HIM Body of Knowledge™ (BoK), and our online communities. The new Association site ([ahima.org](#)) will be unveiled in August.

Among other features, you'll enjoy faster and more comprehensive searches; clearer and more relevant results regarding HIM news, updates and resources; and overall greater integration with other AHIMA websites. On the visual side, the site's look will better reflect AHIMA's brand, with a new color scheme and layout that's easier on the eyes and more accommodating to navigation. Finally, the site will be color-coded to guide you to the right areas of the site and help you find the specific content you need more easily.

Watch *Certification Connection* and other AHIMA communications for updates on the new online AHIMA.

Strengthen your career in health administration.

Learn about certificate programs ▶

Events

July 20-24
[Assembly on Education Symposium/Faculty Development Institute](#)
 Baltimore, MD

July 30
[EHR Archiving and Destruction](#)
 Webinar

August 5-6
[Clinical Documentation Improvement Summit: Leading the Documentation Journey](#)
 Washington, DC

August 7-8
[Certified Documentation Improvement Practitioner \(CDIP\) Exam Prep Workshop](#)
 Washington, DC

August 15-17
[AHIMA's ICD-10 Clinic: One Stop Center for High Performance](#)
 Las Vegas (Henderson), NV

September 10
[Maintaining Patient Privacy in the Social Media "Wild West"](#)
 Webinar

September 16-17
[Health Information Integrity Summit](#)
 Alexandria, VA

October 26-27
[Certified Health Data Analyst \(CHDA\) Exam Prep Workshop](#)
 Atlanta, GA

October 26-30
[85th AHIMA Convention and Exhibit](#)
 Atlanta, GA
 Twitter: [#AHIMA85th](#)

View a complete listing of all [AHIMA events](#) and [webinars](#).

Featured on the AHIMA Career Assist: Job Bank

[Onsite DRG/Inpatient Coder](#)
 New York City Area, NY

[ICD-10 Training Manager](#)
 Southeast Florida

[Regional HIM Director](#)
 Palm Harbor, FL

[HIT Instructor](#)
 Creston, IA

[Coding Reimbursement Specialist I](#)
 Fon du Lac, Wisconsin

View [more](#) available positions.

Journal of AHIMA Video Extra



Can I Help You?
[Customer service tips for HIM professionals](#).

Educational Perspectives

The new *Educational Perspectives in Health Informatics and Information Management* launched this month. [Read the first issue](#).



The [Communities of Practice](#) is a benefit of AHIMA membership. For information on becoming a member, [click here](#).

