E-ALERT / AUGUST 7, 2014

AHIMA

THIS WEEK'S TOP INDUSTRY & AHIMA NEWS

2014 AHIMA ELECTION POLLS OPEN NOW THROUGH AUGUST 18

Online voting began this Monday, August 4, for seven new leaders who will advance the association's work in the HIM profession in 2015. Voting is open through August 18 at 11:59 p.m. CT. All active members may vote for one President/Chair-elect, three Directors, and three Commission on Certification for Health Informatics and Information Management (CCHIIM) Commissioners. (Student members are not eligible to vote.) Access the ballot at ivote.ahima.org. You will need your AHIMA ID and password to log in.

The candidates' photos, brief biographies, responses to the 2014 AHIMA Nominating committee's questions, position statement videos, and more are available in the following locations:

- The AHIMA Membership and Business Community on Engage

- AHIMA's YouTube channel

- The August *Journal of AHIMA* (member log-in required)

FINAL HOSPITAL INPATIENT PAYMENT REGULATION ISSUED

This week, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a final rule mandating improvements in the quality of care that limit payment for hospital acquired conditions and readmissions. In a release, CMS says the rule, which updates Medicare payment policies and rates for inpatient stays at general acute care and long-term care hospitals for FY 2015, builds on the administration's efforts to improve hospital patient outcomes and slow long-term healthcare cost growth. The rule also reminds hospitals of the Affordable Care Act requirement to post or otherwise make their charges available to patients and the public. Read the full release or download the pre-publication PDF.

FROM THE CDI SUMMIT: TWO WORDS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE

This Monday, at AHIMA's 2014 Clinical Documentation Improvement (CDI) Summit, August 4-5 in Washington, DC, cardiologist Jon Elion, MD, FACC, associate professor of medicine at Brown University, told a standing room only crowd, "Clinical documentation improvement is all about the quality, not just about the reimbursement." Elion's presentation, "Stories from the Front Line," offered several insights into a physician's way of thinking about clinical documentation.

DON'T FORGET

The free webinar **Results and Implications of the First Survey of Information Governance (IG) Practices in Healthcare** takes place August 14. Register now.

Also, be sure to download AHIMA's Information Governance Benchmarking White Paper, and visit Engage to discuss your IG questions and current practices.

Elion said physician clinical documentation training can be reduced to two words: "due to." Adding those two tiny words to his documentation, Elion said, made his notes much more clinically meaningful. Read more at the *Journal of AHIMA* website.

Also, read "Making the Business and Professional Case for Information Governance" on the Summit's keynote presentation.

THREE ICD-10-CM/PCS MYTHS DISMANTLED

These are facts, says AHIMA's senior director of coding policy and compliance, Sue Bowman, MJ, RHIA, CCS, FAHIMA: Replacing ICD-9-CM is not optional. Having more codes does not make it harder to find the right code. And, the US Department of Health and Human Services maintains that SNOMED CT is not an alternative to ICD-10, and ICD-11 cannot be implemented instead of ICD-10.

As the industry gears up to comply with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' July 31 announcement that the ICD-10 compliance deadline will be October 1, 2015, Bowman calls on fact-based evidence in the August *Journal of AHIMA* to dispel three misconceptions about ICD-10-CM/PCS that continue to perpetuate. Read the full article.

WITNESSES TELL CONGRESS HIPAA NEEDS TO CHANGE

Technology and healthcare leaders called recently to the House Energy & Commerce Committee's "21st Century Cures" hearings cited HIPAA regulations that they see as needing to change with the times. As reported by *Morning Consult*, witnesses said HIPAA is not clear on how doctors can share information in the age of accountable care organizations; penalizes the volume of breach data, when today's doctors may carry thousands of files on a laptop; and puts barriers in front of cloud computing. Committee Chair Representative Fred Upton (R-MI) has said the committee hopes to start working on a "21st Century Cures" bill, which could include HIPAA changes, by the end of 2014.

Read the full article or access video and testimony from the hearing.

GET INVOLVED

APPLY TO JOIN AN AHIMA COMMITTEE OR COUNCIL

Apply now for appointed volunteer positions on AHIMA committees and councils in 2015. Review available opportunities in the Volunteer Center on Engage. Are you a new graduate? You may be interested in the New Graduate Leadership Council. All applications are due September 30.

BECOME AN AHIMA FELLOW

Fellows of AHIMA are members who have earned recognition for their significant and sustained contributions to the profession. Don't miss your chance to become a FAHIMA. The next fellowship application deadline is August 29.

survive and thrive through the process of earning a PhD.

Read more at the *Journal of AHIMA* website.

ADVANCE YOUR CAREER

Register for the free August 20 Career Prep Webinar, "3 Tricky Truths to Avoid Undermining Your Career Advancement." Whether you're just starting out or in the workforce now, learn how how to focus your entrance into the profession, advance to the next level, or improve your next annual evaluation.

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.

SUBMIT YOUR E-POSTER - DEADLINE EXTENDED

Kick off your health informatics or information management career by showcasing your research skills. The AHIMA Foundation invites students and recently graduated professionals to enter an e-poster by August 15, for a chance to be displayed at the 2014 AHIMA Convention and Exhibit in San Diego, CA.

You can also access Engage from our mobile app. Scan the QR code below, or visit iTunes or the Google Play store to download.

THANK YOU, EDUCATORS!

Thank you, attendees of last week's Faculty Development Institute/Assembly on Education Symposium in Chicago, for your generous donations totaling over $3,000 for AHIMA Foundation programs. Thanks also to Angela Kennedy, EdD, MBA, RHIA, who donated two Dooney & Bourke tote bags to the contributor drawing. Learn how to support the Foundation.

NEW JOBS ON CAREER ASSIST: JOB BANK

Coding & CDI Manager
Western MI

Inpatient Coding Quality Review and Education Consultant (Coding Audit)
Remote and travel

Inpatient Facility Coding Consultants (Remote) with Large Teaching Hospital Coding Experience
Remote

ICD-10 Coding Manager

EDUCATION & NETWORKING

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS   **WEBINARS**

[Annual Clinical Coding Meeting](#)
September 27-28
San Diego, CA
Register now and save $200

Join other coding professionals in beautiful San Diego at AHIMA's Annual Clinical Coding meeting. The agenda addresses topics such as clinical documentation improvement, compliance risks, ICD-10 readiness, electronic health records, and more. After the meeting, hit the beach, the San Diego Zoo, or any number of other area attractions.

[Privacy and Security Institute](#)
September 27–28
San Diego, CA
(In conjunction with the [AHIMA Convention & Exhibit](#))

Privacy and security principles must permeate all aspects of the healthcare industry, where ever health information exists. Participants will learn from a line-up of experts investigating critical industry privacy and security topics. Join us for this advanced-level meeting to expand your knowledge and stay abreast of the "hottest" privacy and security trends today.

[AHIMA's 86th Convention and Exhibit](#)
September 27–October 2
San Diego, CA

Webinars start at 1 p.m. ET and last 60 minutes.

August 19
[CMS Pay for Performance Methodology](#)

August 21
[An Introduction to Information Governance](#)

August 26
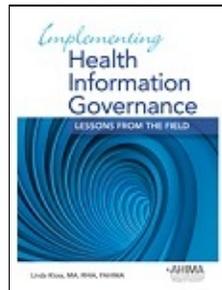[ICD-10-PCS and Physician Coders - Bridging the Gap](#)

FROM AHIMA PRESS

[Implementing Health Information Governance: Lessons from the Field](#)
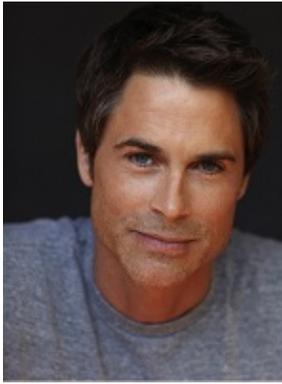
Available for pre-order

By Linda Kloss, MA, RHIA, FAHIMA

This book outlines lessons from healthcare organizations that have already made progress in formalizing information governance and it offers tested practices for aligning governance to the organization's goals, organizing and staffing governance and enterprise management, building on what is working, and guiding incremental improvement.

PRICE: $59.95
MEMBER PRICE: $49.95
PRODUCT CODE: AB100213

Actor Rob Lowe, an advocate for cancer awareness, will present the closing keynote address. In addition to leading roles on TV's *The West Wing; Parks and Recreation*; the films *The Outsiders* and *St. Elmo's Fire,* among others spanning 31 years, Lowe is the author of two memoirs, *Stories I Only Tell My Friends* and *Love Life*.

Visit our EVENTS CALENDAR for more upcoming events.