E-ALERT / AUGUST 21, 2014

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THIS WEEK'S TOP INDUSTRY & AHIMA NEWS

HEALTHCARE ORGANIZATIONS URGED TO REINSTATE QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAMS

While healthcare organizations are implementing clinical documentation improvement (CDI) programs to review for clinical conditions, it's equally important they incorporate quality assurance (QA) programs to address the quality of all healthcare documentation. The absence of a QA program in electronic health record documentation processes can compromise patient care and safety, revenue cycle management, and risk management. To help, AHIMA and the Association for Healthcare Documentation Integrity (AHDI) created a resource kit, "Clinician-Created Documentation: Reinstating Quality Assurance Programs to Safeguard Patients and Providers." The kit provides a variety of tools to educate the C-suite while implementing or reinstating a QA program.

Access the kit or learn more in a press release.

CONCERNS OVER FITNESS DEVICES AND PRIVACY

Senator Charles Schumer (D-NY) has called for the Federal Trade Commission to compel makers of fitness and health related mobile apps and devices to "clearly explain to users how their data is being used, and allow consumers to opt-out of data sharing." He also wants companies to adopt measures that conceal users' identify and protect their information in the event of a security breach. In a statement, the senator said the data personal fitness devices and apps collect "on your health, sleep, and location, should be just that — personal." That this information could be sold without the user's consent "is a true privacy nightmare." Read more in a press release.

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AHIMA ELECTION 2014: RESULTS ARE IN

As announced yesterday in a Special E-Alert to AHIMA members, results are in for the 2015 AHIMA Board of Directors and the Commission on Certification for Health Informatics and Information Management (CCHIIM). The 2014 AHIMA Ballot results are:

Early bird registration for AHIMA's 86th Convention & Exhibit has been extended to September 26. Register now to join us September 27-October 4 in San Diego, CA.

Advertisement

This summer, healthcare

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Erin E. Head, MBA, RHIA, CHTS-TR
Rosann M. O'Dell, DHSc, MS, RHIA, CDIP

GUIDE HELPS CONSUMERS NAVIGATE THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

Knowing that even the best informed patient or caregiver can find the complex healthcare system, AHIMA has developed a reference guide on how to adequately prepare for a doctor or hospital visit and assess and understand the health records created during care.

The guide has been posted on myPHR.com, AHIMA's patient-facing website offering resources for accessing and effectively using health information. While the guide is developed for consumers, AHIMA officials say they also hope HIM professionals will recommend the guide and make it available to the patients and caregivers they encounter during their work and everyday life.

Access the guide or learn more at the *Journal of AHIMA* website.

POLICY BRIEF LOOKS FOR REASONS BEHIND SLOW INTEROPERABILITY

Lack of a business case, cost, lack of standards adoption and interoperability of systems, and concerns about privacy, security, and liability are some of the reasons why very few providers are sharing electronic information, according to a policy brief written by Janet Marchibroda, director of the Health Innovation Initiative at the Bipartisan Policy Center, and produced through a partnership between *Health Affairs* and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The report cites stage 3 of meaningful use as "a significant opportunity to advance the interoperability of EHR technology and electronic information sharing among providers," and highlights recent goals and recommendations for information sharing toward higher-quality, more cost-effective care.

Read the brief.

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.

industry representatives and federal regulatory agency representatives met in Washington, DC, for the fourth meeting of the **eHealth Initiative (eHI)** Executive Advisory Board on Privacy and Security. The group discussed data access and use, as well as the challenges of maintaining privacy and security as information moves across the healthcare ecosystem.

Download the meeting report from the eHI website.

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.

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

NEW JOBS ON CAREER ASSIST: JOB BANK

HIM Director
North California

APPLICATIONS CLOSE FRIDAY FOR COMMISSIONERS AT-LARGE

The Commission on Certification for Health Informatics and Information Management (CCHIIM) seeks highly qualified nominees for consideration and potential appointment to CCHIIM as at-large commissioners. The application closes tomorrow, Friday, August 22. If you have questions, contact heather.rich@ahima.org.

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.

ATTEND THE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY SESSION AT CONVENTION

If you are attending AHIMA's Annual Convention and Exhibit, plan to attend a volunteer session on Tuesday, September 30, from 3:15-4:15 p.m. Get an introduction to the appointed and elected opportunities available at the national level, submit a nomination form, and more.

EDUCATION & NETWORKING

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

WEBINARS

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

August 21
An Introduction to Information Governance

Clinical Documentation Improvement Specialist
Tulsa, OK

Clinical Documentation Improvement Specialist
Nationwide

MANAGER, ACCREDITATION/PATIENT SAFETY
Georgia

CDI Supervisor
Northern Florida

View more available positions.

the HIM MARKETPLACE

ishare AHIMA MEMBER REFERRAL PROGRAM

Got five minutes? Learn what's waiting for you at **AHIMA's 86th Convention & Exhibit, September 27–October 2, in San Diego, CA**. Register by September 26 to save $200 with early bird savings.

Annual Clinical Coding Meeting
September 27-28
San Diego, CA
Register now and save $200

Invaluable education and training, cutting edge speakers, and important networking opportunities await you at AHIMA's Annual Clinical Coding meeting. The agenda features topics such as CDI, compliance risks, ICD-10 readiness, EHRs, and more. Extend your stay and attend AHIMA's 86th Convention & Exhibit, September 27-October 2 to expand your education and networking opportunities.

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

Privacy and security officers must balance confidentiality, privacy, and security issues of healthcare reform, technology advances, and workflow accommodations with regulatory disparity and laws such as HIPAA and the Final HITECH Omnibus Rules. Join us for this advanced-level meeting to stay abreast of the hottest privacy and security trends today.

AHIMA Academy for ICD-10-CM/PCS

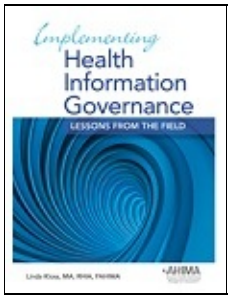
November 17–19, Chicago, IL

December 1–3, Las Vegas, NV

AHIMA Academy for ICD-10-CM Only
November 17–18, Chicago, IL

August 26
ICD-10-PCS and Physician Coders - Bridging the Gap

NEW 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

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