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THIS WEEK'S TOP INDUSTRY & AHIMA NEWS

NATIONAL COORDINATOR DESALVO TAKES ON HHS ACTING HEALTH SECRETARY ROLE

Last week, the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC) announced its head, Karen DeSalvo, MD, MPH, MSc, has been asked by Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Sylvia Mathews Burwell to become acting assistant secretary for health and lead the federal government's Ebola response team. An October 28 update clarifies, DeSalvo will serve in this role while "maintaining her leadership of ONC," and ONC will continue to follow the policy direction DeSalvo has set. ONC says Lisa Lewis, chief operating officer, "will provide day to day leadership at ONC."

[Read more at the HealthIT Buzz blog.](#)

'TRANSFORMING CLINICAL PRACTICE INITIATIVE' AIMS TO MODERNIZE CARE

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced last week it will spend \$840 million over four years to help doctors modernize their practices, improve patient care, and continue the move from a volume-based reimbursement system to a system based on better outcomes and lower costs. According to a press release, applicants for the "Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative" funding could include group practices, healthcare systems, and medical provider associations. Funding could be used for such strategies as giving doctors better access to patient information; expanding patients' options for communication with their clinicians; improving coordination of care; and using electronic health records to keep tabs on quality and efficiency.

[Read the press release.](#)

RURAL CODER PROGRAM STARTS IN HIGH SCHOOL

In the latest installment of the *Journal of AHIMA's* Web series "HIM Frontlines," an HIM professional spearheads a grow-your-own coder education program in rural Liberal, KS, where the closest community college with a coding program is three hours away. In 2012, the Kansas legislature passed a bill offering tuition reimbursement for high school students enrolled in dual credit courses with college-level classes. That bill opened the door for high schools to work with community colleges in creating programs for high school students interested in pursuing a career in coding.

[Read more at the Journal of AHIMA website.](#)

CONSUMERS EXPRESS HOPES AND FEARS ABOUT WEARABLE



Why do we need ICD-10 now? Tweet your reasons to Congress **TODAY** during our [#ICD10Matters Twitter rally](#), between noon and 2 p.m. CT.

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Starting this **Saturday**,

HEALTH DEVICES

A recent report, "Health wearables: Early days," by the healthcare arm of consultant PwC, finds that, even though consumers think wearable health technology such as fitness bands and health monitors will improve athletic ability and lengthen lives, only one in five owns such a device; about half don't use it every day, and about 10 percent have stopped using it altogether. Concerns include price, privacy, and "that they won't actually use" the device. A related PwC study, "Wearable Future," found that consumers' concerns about wearable tech in general include that it will "hurt our ability to relate to other humans," make us "too dependent on technology," and "turn us into robots."

Access the reports, "[Health wearables: Early days](#)" and "[The Wearable Future.](#)"

LEADING THE DOCUMENTATION JOURNEY: NEW WHITE PAPER ON AHIMA'S 2014 CDI SUMMIT

An AHIMA white paper published in the AHIMA Foundation's online research journal *Perspectives in Health Information Management* presents findings and discussion from the Clinical Documentation Integrity (CDI) Summit in August 2014 in Washington, DC. The 2014 Summit took place after a Congressional action delayed the implementation of ICD-10-CM/PCS code sets until October 2015. CDI is considered an important step in continuing the momentum toward successful implementation. The white paper discusses opportunities, challenges, and risks related to clinical documentation, and includes findings and AHIMA's recommendations for actions to develop and maintain accurate and timely documentation.

[Access the white paper.](#)

GET INVOLVED

FINAL WEEKS - SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACT FOR AHIMA'S 2015 ANNUAL CONVENTION



AHIMA is seeking proposals for its 87th Convention & Exhibit, September 26–30, 2015, in New Orleans, LA. You have until December 1 to [submit an abstract](#) for the Clinical Coding Meeting, educational tracks and panels, pre-convention tutorials, or poster showcase.

GET CONNECTED ONLINE AT AHIMA'S VIRTUAL CAREER FAIR

November 1, visiting AHIMA's [Engage](#) online communities could be worth your while. Use the Engage site's networking, sharing, and discussion features enough during the month of November, and you might earn a chance to win a \$75 prize. AHIMA will chart the most active users on the site. The top five will each receive a \$75 discount off any AHIMA product in the AHIMA online store. Visit engage.ahima.org to get started.

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



EVENTS ON THE 'ROAD TO 10'

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services is 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



Network and chat live with HIM employers about their current and future opportunities during AHIMA's online Career Assist Virtual Career Fair, December 4, 1-4 p.m. ET. Attend from the convenience of your home, office, or favorite coffee shop, using your computer, tablet, or handheld device. [Register](#) for free.

physician groups in your area. *Note: AHIMA-certified professionals who attend are eligible to self-report attendance for one CEU.*

LEARN THE CAREER QUESTIONS YOU NEED TO ASK



Register for the Career Prep Webinar "[Considering Career Advancement Through Education? Questions You Need to be Asking!](#)" on November 12 at noon CT. Ryan Sandefer, chair and assistant professor at The College of St. Scholastica, will discuss the impact of education on earning potential, educational pathways, and more.



According to a study in *PLOS*, published by the **Public Library of Science (PLOS)**, healthcare research using Google Trends often lacks sufficient documentation of search methodologies and rationales that would allow other researchers to determine the consistency of results as well as Google Trends' reliability as a research tool. The authors say in *PLOS* these lessons are instructional for other tools that are not "intrinsically designed for research that may emerge in an era of Big Data."

PARTICIPATE IN 'FUTURE PLANS' STUDY



HIM leaders in acute care hospitals, integrated delivery systems, or academic medical centers, please participate in the "[HIM Future Plans](#)" study, conducted by AHIMA and the AHIMA Foundation with KLAS. The study aims to help healthcare professionals become better informed about the industry and make the best decisions possible for their organizations. Participants will receive a complimentary copy.

[Access the study.](#)

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 in 2014. The last application deadline for this year is December 5. [Learn more and apply.](#)

NEW JOBS ON CAREER ASSIST: JOB BANK

[CDI/UM Supervisor](#)
Tampa Bay Area, FL

[Healthcare Coding Manager](#)
Portland, ME

[Registered HIM Specialist](#)
Mobile, AL

[Medical Coder](#)
Iowa City, IA

[Health Information Management Director](#)
San Antonio, TX

EDUCATION & NETWORKING

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

UPCOMING WEBINARS



Experience the **AHIMA Academy for ICD-10**, 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](#)

Take your skills and competency to the next level. AHIMA's three-day, hands-on **Advanced ICD-10-PCS Skills Workshops** are designed for individuals who have had basic ICD-10-PCS education, allowing attendees to enhance and refine their abilities. Workshops are instructor-led, using complex cases commonly encountered in an inpatient setting.

2014 Dates and Locations:

[November 12-14](#)
[Chicago, IL](#)

[December 10-12](#)
[Orlando, FL](#)

2015 dates and locations are coming soon. Check ahima.org/events for updates.

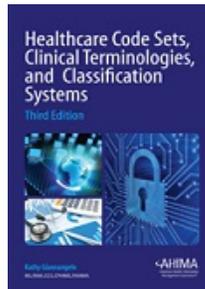
Upcoming Exam Prep Workshop:



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

December 2
[Analytics to Fuel Your ICD-10 Engine](#)

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 content on ICD-9-CM, ICD-10-CM/PCS, CPT, HCPCS, CDT, SNOMED CT, LOINC, and 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

View [more](#) available positions.



[Certified in Healthcare Privacy and Security \(CHPS\)](#)

December 1–3

Las Vegas, NV

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

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