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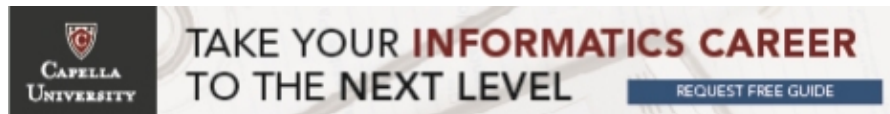
THIS WEEK'S TOP INDUSTRY & AHIMA NEWS

ICD-10 CONVERSION COSTS MUCH LOWER THAN REPORTED

New data published on the *Journal of AHIMA* website suggests that the estimated costs, time and resources required for physician offices to convert to ICD-10 are "dramatically lower" than initial estimates. In addition, the evidence also suggests that physicians and their office staff, vendors, and health plans have made considerable progress on ICD-10 implementation with fewer resources than previously estimated. According to the article, ICD-10 conversion for a small practice costs in the range of \$1,900-\$5,900, in stark contrast to a 2014 update of a widely referenced 2008 report by Nachimson Advisors to the American Medical Association, which estimated costs between \$22,560 and \$105,506.

[Read the full article at the *Journal* website.](#)

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CORRECTION TO THE NOVEMBER 6 E-ALERT

Due to technical difficulties, some readers reported trouble accessing the AHIMA resource in the November 6 *E-Alert* "Setting the Facts Straight About ICD-10: What Physicians Need to Know About the Transition," which addresses common provider misconceptions about ICD-10. The document has been re-uploaded to a new location. If you were not able to access the resource, please use the [new link](#).

ICD-10 MS-DRG V32 DEFINITIONS MANUAL AND MCE POSTED

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has posted the ICD-10 MS-DRG v32 Definitions Manual and Medicare Code Editor (MCE) files to its website. These files represent the ICD-10 version of the MS-DRGs v32, which are based on ICD-9-CM codes. The ICD-10 MS-DRGs v33 will be implemented on October 1, 2015, subject to formal rulemaking as part of the Inpatient Prospective Payment System proposed rule.

[Access the files at the CMS website.](#)

HHS ISSUES GUIDANCE ON PRIVACY IN AN EMERGENCY



[Abstract proposals](#) for AHIMA's 87th Convention & Exhibit, September 26-30, 2015, in New Orleans, LA, are due **December 1**.

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The Cleveland Clinic has announced it will use the supercomputer Watson,

In light of recent concerns about Ebola in the United States, the Department of Health and Human Services issued a reminder this week that "protections of the [HIPAA] Privacy Rule are not set aside during an emergency." But, the agency says, HIPAA is also "balanced to ensure that appropriate uses and disclosures of patients' health information still may be made when necessary to treat a patient, to protect the nation's public health, and for other critical purposes." If a public health emergency were declared, certain provisions would be waived, including:

- Requirements to obtain a patient's agreement to speak with family members or friends involved in their care
- The requirement to honor a request to opt out of the facility directory
- The requirement to distribute a notice of privacy practices
- Patients' right to request privacy restrictions
- Patients' right to confidential communications

[Read the guidance.](#)

STATUS UPDATE: SOCIAL MEDIA IN HEALTHCARE AND HIM

Thoughtful social media strategies can educate the public and reflect positively on the healthcare organization's brand, says Joanna Belbey, a social media compliance specialist for the IT security company Actiance. But organizations also need to mitigate risks around security, compliance, and enablement and productivity. In conjunction with the *Journal of AHIMA's* November/December eCompliance issue, the *Journal* website features a Q & A with Belbey about the role of social media and telemedicine in healthcare, and how to manage the risks. [Read the Q&A.](#)

DESPITE PRIVACY AND SECURITY WORRIES, SUPPORT FOR EHRs

The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology has released results of a survey conducted between 2012 and 2013 to determine public perception of medical records' privacy and security, the impact on how patients interact with providers, and how their concerns affect their support for electronic health records (EHRs). Of those surveyed, most were "very or somewhat concerned" about the privacy (75 percent) and security (69 percent) of their medical records. But less than one in 10 reported withholding information from providers due to those concerns. The level of concern was about the same for paper and electronic records, and most respondents reported relatively high support for EHRs despite concerns.

[Download the report at HealthIT.gov.](#)

GET INVOLVED

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF AHIMA'S FREE CAREER PREP WORKBOOK

Whether you're looking for your first job or a job change, download AHIMA's members-only [Career](#)

made by International Business Corporation, better known as **IBM**, to fight cancer. Watson famously won the TV game show *Jeopardy!* in 2011. Now Watson's computing power will be used to "deliver chains of evidence to suggest diagnoses or treatments to help physicians better understand causes and determine the best treatments for their patients," according to [Information Week](#).



Visit AHIMA's [Engage](#) online communities in November; it could be worth your while. Use the Engage site's networking, sharing, and discussion features enough and you might earn a chance to win a \$75 prize.

Throughout the month of November, AHIMA is charting 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 start talking.

If you have a membership-related question, visit the Engage [AHIMA Membership and Business](#) community.

And don't forget, Engage has a mobile app. Download it from [iTunes](#) or the [Google Play](#) store, or scan the QR code below.



[Prep Workbook](#). Save the file to your computer, then follow the steps to map out your career, prepare for the perfect job, start searching, and ultimately accept the job you deserve.



ATTEND AHIMA'S VIRTUAL CAREER FAIR - DECEMBER 4



AHIMA's free online Career Assist Virtual Career Fair on December 4, 1-4 p.m. ET is a great way to engage with employers one-on-one about your background and experience, and their current and future career opportunities. Space is limited, so [register now](#).

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](#).

EDUCATION & NETWORKING

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS



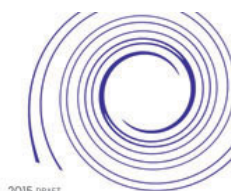
Register for the last **AHIMA Academies for ICD-10-CM/PCS** in 2014

[December 1-3
Las Vegas, NV](#)

[December 2-4
Orlando, FL](#)

AHIMA's **Advanced ICD-10-PCS**

NEW FROM AHIMA PRESS



[ICD-10-CM
Code Book,
2015 Draft](#)



Available for pre-order

Anne B. Casto, RHIA, CCS, consulting editor

PRICE: \$110

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



NEW JOBS ON CAREER ASSIST: JOB BANK

[Remote Florida Inpatient Coder](#)

Skills Workshops are designed for those who already have ICD-10-PCS coding experience, providing three days of in-depth, hands-on training in the ICD-10-PCS coding system and its application.

Final 2014 Date:

[December 10-12](#)

[Orlando, FL](#)

2015 Dates:

[January 28-30](#)

[Houston, TX](#)

[February 11-13](#)

[Atlanta, GA](#)

[February 25-27](#)

[Miami, FL](#)

[March 4-6](#)

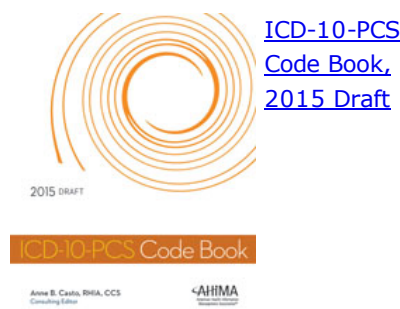
[Morrisville, NC](#)

[March 25-27](#)

[Tampa, FL](#)

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

MEMBER PRICE: \$89.95
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Available for pre-order

Anne B. Casto, RHIA, CCS, consulting editor

PRICE: \$110
MEMBER PRICE: \$89.95
PRODUCT NUMBER: AC222014
ISBN: 9781584264392



[Strategies for Electronic Document and Health Record Management](#)

By Darice Grzybowski, MA, RHIA, FAHIMA

This book provides practical examples, case studies, and industry tips for successful use of electronic document management systems as a vital component of the electronic health record.

PRICE: \$79.95
MEMBER PRICE: \$64.95
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