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THIS WEEK'S TOP INDUSTRY & AHIMA NEWS

THE LATEST ON ICD-10 FROM CAPITOL HILL

Yesterday, AHIMA received news that legislation that will include the two-year delay of ICD-10 is being drafted by Representative Pete Sessions (R-TX) for consideration by Congress.

Before Thanksgiving, the [Journal of AHIMA](#) reported that physician groups were asking lawmakers to legislatively delay ICD-10 until 2017. Language forcing a delay could be inserted into either a continuing resolution or omnibus bill to fund the federal government through 2015. The current funding bill expires on December 11.

AHIMA is asking HIM professionals to follow these steps to contact lawmakers and express their opposition:

1. Call Representative Sessions (TX-32) at (202) 225-2231
2. Ask for the health legislative aide
3. Use the following talking points:
 - Do not delay ICD-10. We need the code sets in 2015.
 - According to a recent report, small physician practices are expected to spend between \$1,900 and \$6,000 to transition to the new code set. This is much lower than previous reports. The study can be found at coalitionforICD10.org.
 - Physician practices do not use all 13,000 diagnosis codes available in ICD-9. Nor will it be required to use the 68,000 codes that are in ICD-10. The majority of the code increases are due to laterality, which is not currently available in ICD-9.
 - The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services offers a robust plan for physician practices to transition to ICD-10. The "Road to 10" can be found at roadto10.org.

In addition to calling, you can also send a message to Representative Sessions via Twitter at [@PeteSessions](https://twitter.com/PeteSessions).

4. Finally, call these congressional leaders and send them your advocacy message to via Twitter using the hashtag #ICD10Matters.

House Speaker Boehner (202) 225-6205 [@SpeakerBoehner](https://twitter.com/SpeakerBoehner)

Minority Leader Pelosi (202) 225-4965 [@NancyPelosi](https://twitter.com/NancyPelosi)



Registration is free for today's online [AHIMA Career Assist Virtual Career Fair](#), at 1-4 p.m. ET. Participating employers include Cleveland Clinic, IOD Inc., Advocate Health Care, Hennepin County Medical Center, eCatalyst Healthcare Solutions, and Jacobus Consulting, Inc.

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**DECEMBER
ADVANTAGE**

AHIMA COMMENTS ON ICD-10-CM/PCS CODE PROPOSALS

AHIMA has submitted comments to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the National Center for Health Statistics on ICD-10-CM/PCS diagnosis and procedure code proposals presented at the September Coordination and Maintenance (C&M) Committee meeting. The comments recommend that the implementation of new codes approved at the September C&M Committee meeting be delayed until October 1, 2016, after the code set freeze ends. Any new codes or code changes implemented on October 1, 2015 could complicate the transition process.

Read AHIMA's comment letters on [ICD-10-PCS procedure](#) and [ICD-10-CM diagnosis](#) code proposals. You can also access materials on [procedure](#) and [diagnosis](#) code issues discussed at the September C&M Committee meeting.

STUDY: WHEN IT COMES TO PORTAL USE, AWARENESS IS KEY

Dutch researchers surveyed patients with type 1 and type 2 diabetes mellitus from primary care practices and an outpatient hospital clinic, all using the same electronic health record with a Web portal. Among those not using the portal, almost 75 percent reported the primary reason was that they hadn't been told about it. Additional findings of the study suggest those who had not used the portal may underestimate its usefulness. Regular users specific information provided in the portal, such as lab results and visit recaps, was considered more useful than patients who hadn't yet used the portal.

[Read the study in the *Journal of Medical Internet Research*.](#)

AHIMA JOINS FORCES WITH CMS ON CLINICAL DOCUMENTATION

Next Wednesday, December 10, a webinar by Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) in collaboration with AHIMA will address the importance of detailed clinical documentation to the ICD-10 transition, how to train staff, and more. The webinar will be hosted by Angie Comfort, RHIA, CDIP, CCS, AHIMA senior director of HIM practice excellence, and Melanie Endicott, MBA/HCM, RHIA, CDIP, CCS, CCS-P, FAHIMA, senior director of HIM practice excellence for AHIMA. A portion of the webinar will be dedicated to Q&A. [Registration for the webinar](#) is free, but space is limited.

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION ON AHIMA'S NEW IG WORK GROUP

A new work group is being convened to identify, develop, and refine tools and resources that will assist organizations in their information governance (IG) implementation. If you or your organization has developed new or innovative IG approaches and tools, this is your opportunity to help forge a path to the future. (Examples include, but are not limited to, governance structures, role descriptions, data quality management approaches, information valuation approaches, preservation resources, legal hold approaches, retention tools, and disposition approaches.)

This work group's goal is to develop an evolving toolkit for IG in healthcare. It will meet twice monthly beginning mid-January 2015. To participate, send an e-mail and your resume to Lydia.Washington@ahima.org by December 19. If you are unavailable to participate in the IG work group, but would like to be a

Read the latest [online issue](#) of AHIMA's member newsletter, *AHIMA Advantage*, featuring a profile of a mother and daughter both working in HIM, the latest in career-preparation tools, and an update on the activities of the practice councils.

Advantage is also available as a mobile app for [Apple](#) and [Android](#) devices.



Anna Orlova, PhD, AHIMA senior director of standards, has been elected to the **Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise (IHE) International** board of directors. IHE International enables users and developers of health IT to achieve interoperability through the precise definition of healthcare tasks, the specification of standards-based communication between systems required to support those tasks and the systems testing to determine that they conform to the specifications.

[Learn more about the IHE.](#)



Visit AHIMA's [Engage Online Communities](#) for discussions and content

contributor to toolkit content, please e-mail your interest to the same address.

VIDEO: WHAT HIM PROFESSIONALS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT EBOLA



How do the issues related to the care of a patient with Ebola affect the work of HIM professionals? What are the implications for the privacy and security of patients' data? What has the emergence of Ebola taught us about how we use electronic health records? A new video at AHIMA on Demand, AHIMA's YouTube channel,

surveys the best practices pertinent to an outbreak like Ebola in the US as well as lessons learned. [Watch the video at AHIMA on Demand.](#)

on topics important to HIM professionals. Have a membership-related question? Visit the [AHIMA Membership and Business](#) community.

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



GET INVOLVED

LET CONGRESS KNOW WE NEED ICD-10 IN 2015



Show your support and join the [#ICD10Matters Twitter Rally, Wednesday, December 10](#), noon to 1 p.m. ET. Physician groups are pushing the current "lame duck" Congress to [delay ICD-10](#)

[until 2017](#) as part of a bill to fund the federal government through 2015. Show your support for the October 1, 2015, compliance date!

CSAs: Continue your efforts to [reach out to Congress](#). You can find other CSAs' best practices for ICD-10 advocacy, as well as replies from members of Congress to letters CSA leaders have sent in support of ICD-10 in [Engage](#).

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.*

SHARE YOUR EXPERTISE – CALLS FOR SPEAKERS



Proposals to present at [AHIMA's 87th Convention and Exhibit](#), September 26–30, 2015, in New Orleans, LA are **due on December 15**, less than two weeks away. Proposals offering training, information, and updates on issues vital to the industry, including research and analytical approaches as well as

day-to-day practice, are being accepted for the following programs:

- Clinical Coding Meeting
- Educational track presentations and panels
- Pre-Convention tutorials
- Poster showcase

Submit your abstract for the [Long-Term and Post-Acute Care Health IT](#)

[Summit](#), coming up in June 2015 in Baltimore, MD. Don't miss this opportunity to increase your visibility and reach a broad audience of healthcare professionals. **Abstracts due: January 23.**

Educators, submit your proposal to speak at the [Assembly on Education Symposium and Faculty Development Institute](#), taking place July 2015 in Austin, TX. More than 400 HIM educators will convene to consider academic topics that enable today's HIM students to become tomorrow's dynamic healthcare industry leaders. **Abstracts due: January 23.**

Answer the call for proposals for the [Data Summit: Beyond ICD-10](#), taking place in July 2015 in Baltimore, MD. This summit will bring all aspects of coded data together in an exciting, industry-leading program. **Abstracts due: February 2.**

BECOME AN AHIMA FELLOW IN 2014



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 tomorrow, Friday, December 5.

EDUCATION & NETWORKING

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

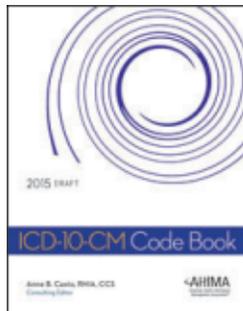


AHIMA's **Advanced ICD-10-PCS Skills Workshops** are designed for those who already have ICD-10-PCS coding experience, providing three days of in-depth, hands-on training in the ICD-10-PCS coding system and its application.

Register for these upcoming dates:

[January 14-16](#)
[El Segundo, CA](#)

NEW FROM AHIMA PRESS



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

Available for pre-order

Anne B. Casto, RHIA, CCS, consulting editor

PRICE: \$110
MEMBER PRICE: \$89.95
PRODUCT NUMBER: AC221014
ISBN: 9781584264408

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

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[REMOTE CLINICAL CODING AUDITOR](#)

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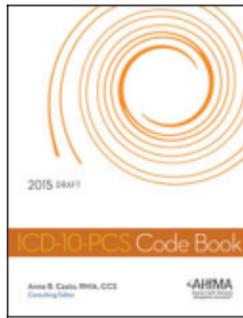
[January 28-30](#)
[Houston, TX](#)

[February 11-13](#)
[Atlanta, GA](#)

[March 4-6](#)
[Morrisville, NC](#)

Planning to pursue the AHIMA CHDA or CDIP credential? Test your knowledge with **AHIMA's all new CHDA and CDIP Online Practice Exams**. All questions are created by official item writers and test your abilities to their utmost.

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



Available for pre-order

Anne B. Casto, RHIA, CCS, consulting editor

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

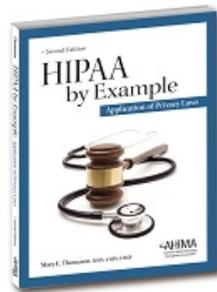


[Strategies for Electronic Document and Health Record Management](#)

By Darice Grzybowski, MA, RHIA, FAHIMA

PRICE: \$79.95
MEMBER PRICE: \$64.95
PRODUCT NUMBER: AB113013
ISBN: 9781584261995

BOOK OF THE MONTH



[HIPAA by Example](#)

By Mary C. Thomason, MSA, RHIA, CHPS, CISSP

PRICE: \$64.95
MEMBER PRICE: \$49.95
PRODUCT NUMBER: AB121113
ISBN: 9781584260783

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