

# News & Views

March 2007



## President's Message

Dear NHIMA Members:

Our spring conference is drawing near. It is in Ogallala on April 19 and 20 this year. I hope to see many of you there. The Spring Conference is also our annual meeting. The annual report will be published on the NHIMA web site before the meeting in April. Members attending the meeting should print their copy prior to the meeting as copies will not be furnished there.



The conference theme is Saddle Up and Get "EHR" Done. With the theme, the focus is obviously on e-HIM and the EHR. This fits right in with the "e-HIM" strategic initiative in our NHIMA Strategic Plan for 2006-2008. The Strategic Plan will also be published on the NHIMA web site for review/printing by our members. Once again, our NHIMA Strategic Plan is in alignment with the AHIMA Strategic Plan. Our four primary strategic initiatives and action plans are as follows:

### e-HIM

- Promote our HIM profession to be involved in state and regional task forces
- Evaluate the feasibility of adding e-HIM Chair and EHR Roundtable to the NHIMA structure
- News & Views articles on various e-HIM topics
- One educational opportunity at each NHIMA conference
  - *Measure/Outcome: Spring Conference 2007 theme is Saddle Up and Get "EHR" Done 4/07*

### EDUCATION

- Assist HIM programs in finding placements in clinical experiences for HIM students in our state
- Mentor HIM students and new graduates
- Open communication between academic world and work environment

### OUTREACH

- Promote EHR education to nursing and other health care related fields
- Continue to support Consumer Education Coordinator
- Participate in community interoperability projects
- Advocate for implementation of personal health records
- Support full implementation of CCHIT to achieve its mission (list of CCHIT approved vendors)
- Publicize the value of HIM and achievements of HIM professionals to the industry and the public
- Promote value of certification in HIM

### SUCCESS BY ASSOCIATION

- Coordinate continuing education between AHIMA and NHIMA on EHR, e-HIM, ICD-10 to achieve excellence in state programming
- Research core services and determine areas addressed and areas not addressed
- Promote the benefits of membership to AHIMA and NHIMA
  - *Measure/Outcome: Free Privacy Guide 9/06*
  - *Measure/Outcome: Coding Workshop free to NHIMA members 11/06*
  - *Measure/Outcome: Have Dan Rhodes attend a conference*
- Evaluate governance on the NHIMA Board
- Consider feasibility of a Coding Roundtable position or an e-HIM position
- Adopt revised bylaws regarding definition of "active" member
  - *Measure/Outcome: Approved at the 2/2/07 NHIMA Board Meeting*

The achievements or planned actions to date with this new NHIMA Strategic Plan are italicized. As you can see, we have already had a couple of outcomes and have a few more outlined. The NHIMA Board will develop measures and outcomes on an ongoing basis. The Strategic Plan is a dynamic document that the Board reviews and updates at each Board Meeting. e-HIM/EHR training and education and the value of certification/membership will be major focuses over the next two years. We feel we have a good start on delivering some outcomes and measures of success. Our Strategic Plan helps guide our activities and helps keep us aligned with AHIMA's initiatives.

Again, I hope to see many of you at the 2007 Spring Conference and Annual Meeting in Ogallala. The program should provide great information on EHR and legal record issues. There is also a networking reception after the conference on Thursday. Should be a great time and very educational!

Best regards,

*Donna A. Keller, RHIT*

Donna Keller, RHIT  
NHIMA President

## We want to hear from you

As you all know, NHIMA sponsors two conferences per year – a spring conference and a fall conference. The Board will be exploring the possibility of transitioning to one large NHIMA Conference per year. We want to know your opinion on this issue. There will be a polling question posted on the Geographic: Nebraska CoP from March 5 to April 15. Please log on and give us your feedback.

## Welcome to New NHIMA Members

Star Hoepfner  
Mahnaz Oveisi

Shannon Schwartz  
Tomeka Scott  
Trisha Kelsay

Christine Winter  
Shanda Meeks

## NHIMA Scholarship

To download the Scholarship Fund Policy and Application Form, go to [www.nhima.org](http://www.nhima.org). Applications are due May 1.

## Member News

Congratulations to Stephanie Taylor. Her son, Noah Shane Taylor, was born January 20, 2007 at 12:35 p.m. He was 9 pounds 15 ounces and 21" long.



## NHIMA Distinguished Member Award Policy

**TITLE: DISTINGUISHED MEMBER AWARD**

Number: 3.14 Effective: 2/4/05

**PURPOSE:** To nominate an NHIMA member for outstanding NHIMA.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Place the nomination for Distinguished Member Award form in News and Views publication prior to the Spring Conference.
2. May also place the nomination for Distinguished Member Award form in with the NHIMA ballot mailing.
3. Nominations are sent to the NHIMA President.
4. After nominations received, contact Board of Directors to vote on the results received.
5. President-Elect orders plaque for Distinguished Member with name and date. This may take several weeks. Flowers may be given at NHIMA business meeting to the distinguished recipient and will also need to be ordered.
6. Announce Distinguished Member Award winner at the end of the Annual NHIMA Business Meeting held during the Spring Conference and present plaque (if available). Flowers may be given to the distinguished recipient at the NHIMA Business Meeting.

*See the last page of this newsletter for the Nomination Form – due March 31<sup>st</sup>.*

## Mark Your Calendar! NHIMA Spring Conference in Ogallala - April 19-20, 2007

### April 19, 2007

- 7:30 Registration Roundup
- 8:00 Welcome - *Ranae Race, RHIT*
- 8:15 Buffalo Bill & Friends  
*Buffalo Bill aka Bruce Richman*
- 9:00 Life After HIPAA  
*Pat Henrickson, MS, RHIA, CHP, CPHQ*
- 10:15 Break
- 10:30 Revenue Cycle & the EHR  
*Chris Meyers, RHIA*
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:15 NHIMA Annual Business Meeting  
*Donna Keller, RHIT, NHIMA President*
- 2:15 Break
- 2:30 Are You Ready for the Reporting Roundup?  
*Julie Smith, RN, BSN, MHA*
- 3:30 Lessons Learned: Implementing a Clinic EMR  
*Ranae Jestila, MT,ASCP,SH*  
*Pam Vulgamott, RN,MBA*
- 5:00 Networking Reception  
*Refreshments & Hors d'oeuvres*
- 6:00 *Dave Knight, Cowboy Poet*
- 7:00 Mansion on the Hill (tour available)

### April 20, 2007

- 7:30 Registration
- 8:00 Legal Issues of the EHR/EMR  
*Kristine Gates, JD*
- 9:30 Present on Admission/Severity DRG's  
*Rachelle Solko, RHIA*
- 10:15 Break
- 10:30 Remote Coding: Tips & Tricks  
*Cathy Brownfield, RHIA, CCS*
- 11:00 Health Information Exchange: The Panhandle Planning & Implementation  
*Kim Woods, RN, BSN, CPHIT*
- 12:00 Closing Remarks – *Ranae Race, RHIT*
- 12:15 Trails End



For complete brochure, go to  
[www.nhima.org](http://www.nhima.org)

**The NHIMA Membership List is no longer printed in News & Views. However, the NHIMA membership list can be emailed to NHIMA members. Request your list by emailing the NHIMA Central Office at [kim@consulthi.com](mailto:kim@consulthi.com).**

## Looking Ahead to the NHIMA Election...

Between 3/20/07 and 4/9/07, the NHIMA election will be held electronically just like the AHIMA National Election. To be sure you can vote without problems and to get email reminders, be sure your AHIMA profile is up to date – most importantly, your email address. If you have questions, contact the Central Office at [kim@consulthi.com](mailto:kim@consulthi.com).

## NHIMA ELECTION – Getting started...

Log on to the Communities of Practice and locate the link entitled "Nebraska State Election" located in the top upper left hand corner your personal page in the CoP. The section is located right under the "Member Search," and Update Profile icons.

Eligible voters (Active, Senior, and Honorary AHIMA members holding a valid AHIMA credential as of March 19, 2007) can vote online.

The official voting period begins at 12 a.m. CST on March 20, 2007 and continues until 11:55 p.m. CST on April 9, 2007.

Click on the "Vote Now" button at the bottom of the page to go the ballot page. You will find the names of all the candidates and all the categories for voting. To view a candidate's bio and position statement, click on the name. When you are finished viewing the candidate's biography, click on the "x" in the top right corner to close the window. To vote for a candidate, click on the appropriate checkbox (circle) next to the candidate's name to vote for that person. For the positions of the President-elect, Secretary and Director, you will only be permitted to vote for "one" candidate. You may select no more than "three" candidates for the Nominating Committee positions. When you are finished, click the "Vote" button. The system will confirm your vote and take you back to your personal page. Please note, you can only vote once. If you do not vote for all positions, you cannot go back to vote on those positions.

Exercise your membership privileges. Let's make history by casting votes in record numbers! Cast your vote today!

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the AHIMA website. The page title is "Marilyn's Personal Page". In the top left corner, there is a navigation menu with the following items: Home, My Communities, Member Search, Update Profile, and Nebraska State Election. The "Nebraska State Election" link is circled in red. Below the navigation menu, there is a section titled "Online Voting" with a "Vote Now" button. To the right of the "Vote Now" button, there is a "Practice Kit" section with a "Vote Now" button. Below the "Vote Now" button, there is a "My Communities" section with a table of communities and their last updated dates.

| Name   | Members | Last Updated      | News  |
|--|---------|-------------------|---|
| ahima  | 47930   | Today             | Visit the AHIMA CoP for news and the latest e-News.   |
| AHIMA Board of Directors                               | 37      | Today             | AHIMA Board of Directors only.  |
| AHIMA Staff  | 102     | April 9, 2004     | AHIMA staff members only.   |
| Search_Candidates                                      | 10      | Yesterday         | Private community for the AHIMA Through Health Committee.   |
| Candidate_CoP  | 377     | Today             | Community for the 2004 National Ballot Candidates.  |
| Health Facilities                                      | 992     | Today             | Help your fellow facilitators, share your success stories! Check out the resources. Subscribers of the CoP with Deans are posted. |
| USA Central Office                                     | 122     | March 29, 2004    | Community for Central Office Coordinators and Executive Directors of the states.  |
| USA National Association of Health Care Administrators | 9       | February 16, 2004 |   |
| Nebraska Web Group                                     | 10      | March 30, 2004    |   |

## Legislative Update

By Anne Skinner, RHIA – Legislative Chair

### Issues and Current Legislation from the AHIMA Advocacy Assistant

No action alerts are currently active on the AHIMA Advocacy Assistant. Legislative activity currently in progress at the National level is as follows:

Congress:

- S.358/H.R.493 Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act  
Expands the prohibition against discrimination by group health plans and health insurance issuers in the group and individual markets on the basis of genetic information or services to prohibit: (1) enrollment and premium discrimination based on information about a request for or receipt of genetic services; and (2) requiring genetic testing. Sets forth penalties for violations.

### Nebraska Legislative Issues

#### Medical Records

- LB [103](#)  
Authorize release of patient information and change provisions relating to regional trauma advisory boards.  
Health & Human Services  
Bill Status: Advanced to General File (02/05/2007)
- LB [451](#)  
Change provisions relating to release of patient information by a pharmacist.  
Health & Human Services  
Bill Status: Hearing (February 07, 2007)

The Nebraska Hospital Association ([www.nhanet.org](http://www.nhanet.org)) offers a great resource to find current issues and track legislation related to Nebraska healthcare surrounding topics such as: Drugs, General Health, Health Profession, Long Term Care, Medicaid, Medical Records, Rural, and several other topics of interest. Type in the web address [http://www.nhanet.org/advocacy/bill\\_status/index.htm](http://www.nhanet.org/advocacy/bill_status/index.htm) and select the item you are interested in. Once you have found a bill you are interested in go to <http://uniweb.legislature.ne.gov/Apps/BillFinder/finder.php> to drill down deeper into the issue.

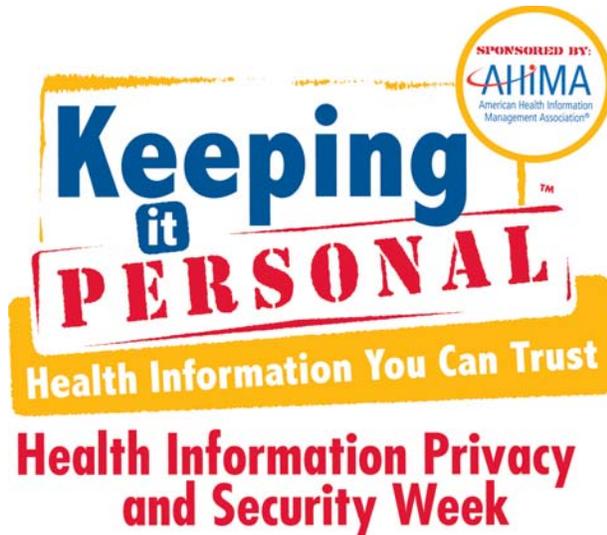
### Nebraska Immunization Registry Coalition (NE-IRC) Update

On October 11, 2006, a meeting was held at the State Office Building with key immunization registry stakeholders. The meeting revealed that the Health and Human Services Department has developed a strategic plan to move forward with transition to a comprehensive, web-based Registry system that will eventually be available for data contribution from both public and private sector vaccinators. An initial decision was made to enter into a collaboration with the state of Wisconsin to adapt their system. Funding for this project is being requested from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. NE-IRC will continue to work with the Nebraska Immunization Department in various roles to make a statewide immunization registry a reality. *(Adapted from an e-mail meeting summary from Linda Ohri, Pharm.D., NE-IRC Coordinator)*

Unrelated to the immunization registry, Linda Ohri, NE-IRC Coordinator sent an e-mail to all committee members urging for their attention to Legislative Bill 49, a bill that would prohibit the use of certain vaccines containing thimerosal, a mercury-based preservative. "The bill states that effective July 1, 2007, no vaccine containing more than trace amounts could be used and, effective July 1, 2009, the use of vaccines containing any amount of thimerosal would be prohibited. It also requires that vaccinators obtain a signature on a state-prepared warning document that must be distributed to every patient offered a vaccine containing ANY amount of thimerosal (even traces). This document will contain a warning that these vaccines could cause brain damage – a statement that has been refuted by evidence, but may nevertheless cause concerned parents to refuse vaccination." *(Legislative Alert in Nebraska)* I urge you all to become educated regarding this bill. Public misunderstandings of harm caused by vaccinations could be detrimental. If you would like to learn more, please contact Anne Skinner by email at [askinner@unmc.edu](mailto:askinner@unmc.edu) or call 402-559-8221.

## NHIMA Annual Report

The Annual Report will be available in the Geographic Nebraska Community of Practice on 3/20/07. Please review and print your copy prior to the Annual Business meeting on 4/19/07. Copies will not be distributed.



April 8-14, 2007

### 2007 Virtual Winter Team Talks

Thursday, March 29, 2007  
12:00 p.m. - 2:00 pm CT  
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. MT

Sign up for an opportunity to interact by web conferencing with your peers, learn about ongoing plans within the Association, receive comprehensive meeting materials, and share your thoughts on upcoming strategic decisions all free of charge!

Registration link is available in the Community Links section of the Nebraska Geographic CoP.

## Utilizing Production Planning in a Coding Environment

by Theresa Rihanek, Coding Roundtable Chair  
DRG Coordinator – The Nebraska Medical Center

Production planning is a great way to predict and manage workflow for coding. It is a tool that assists in estimating available work, identify the number of coding man hours that will be needed to complete the work, and make quick changes depending upon chart availability. If there is a back-log, the production planning tool allows a coding manager to easily predict when the back-log will be completed.

In setting up the production planning tool, take into account average number of charts coded per hour by account type, coding staff schedules, the facility's bill hold period, and discharges by account type. The production planning spreadsheet was set up using average daily discharges for the previous two years. This information provided good estimates in regard to daily discharge volume that is useful in predicting future discharges.

The average number of charts by coder per hour is used to predict production based on the number of hours to be worked. Incorporating coding staff schedules into the production planning tool allows estimation of the number of coding hours that will be worked on a given day. This number is adjusted when a staff member takes vacation, makes hours up on a weekend, codes another account type or is scheduled to be doing work other than coding (meetings, etc).

Figure 1 below is a snapshot of the production planning tool. The production planning tool has two date columns – one for the coding date and one for discharge date. The difference in these two columns is the bill hold period which is three days for our facility. Each day the number of discharges for the previous day is entered into the Actual Discharge Column. The number of records final coded is entered by individual coder (see Figure 2) and the total number transfers to the Actual Completion column (see Figure 1). This automatically calculates the number of uncoded records that should be available for coding based on the bill hold period in the Required Production column. The Predicted Completion column provides a close estimate of the number of records that should be coded based on current staffing plans.

Figure 1 – Production Planning Tool

|     | A           | B              | C                           | E                     | G       | H            | I                   | K                    | M                 | O          |
|-----|-------------|----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|---------|--------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------|
| 4   | Coding Date | Discharge Date | Predicted/Actual Discharges | Carry-over Discharges | On-hold | On-hold \$'s | Required Production | Predicted Completion | Actual Completion | Carry-Over |
| 94  | 1/27/2007   | 1/24/2007      | 71                          | 16                    |         |              | 87                  | 0                    | 0                 | 87         |
| 95  | 1/28/2007   | 1/25/2007      | 67                          | 87                    |         |              | 154                 | 0                    | 0                 | 154        |
| 96  | 1/29/2007   | 1/26/2007      | 86                          | 154                   | 150     | \$5,906,637  | 240                 | 115                  | 127               | 113        |
| 97  | 1/30/2007   | 1/27/2007      | 61                          | 113                   | 147     | \$5,426,529  | 174                 | 134                  | 143               | 31         |
| 98  | 1/31/2007   | 1/28/2007      | 60                          | 31                    | 144     | \$5,251,507  | 91                  | 70                   | 65                | 26         |
| 99  | 2/1/2007    | 1/29/2007      | 59                          | 26                    | 152     | \$6,173,885  | 85                  | 66                   | 75                | 10         |
| 100 | 2/2/2007    | 1/30/2007      | 72                          | 10                    | 151     | \$6,375,401  | 82                  | 66                   | 72                | 10         |
| 101 | 2/3/2007    | 1/31/2007      | 63                          | 10                    |         |              | 73                  | 41                   | 30                | 43         |
| 102 | 2/4/2007    | 2/1/2007       | 67                          | 43                    |         |              | 110                 | 0                    | 0                 | 110        |
| 103 | 2/5/2007    | 2/2/2007       | 82                          | 110                   | 136     | \$5,314,620  | 192                 | 80                   | 65                | 127        |
| 104 | 2/6/2007    | 2/3/2007       | 80                          | 127                   | 144     | \$4,981,876  | 207                 | 134                  | 127               | 80         |
| 105 | 2/7/2007    | 2/4/2007       | 61                          | 80                    | 163     | \$6,127,195  | 141                 | 97                   | 93                | 48         |
| 106 | 2/8/2007    | 2/5/2007       | 71                          | 48                    | 175     | \$7,352,962  | 119                 | 129                  | 120               | -1         |
| 107 | 2/9/2007    | 2/6/2007       | 67                          | 0                     | 166     | \$6,823,351  | 67                  | 69                   | 86                | -19        |
| 108 | 2/10/2007   | 2/7/2007       | 71                          | 0                     |         |              | 71                  | 35                   | 42                | 29         |
| 109 | 2/11/2007   | 2/8/2007       | 81                          | 29                    |         |              | 110                 | 4                    | 6                 | 104        |
| 110 | 2/12/2007   | 2/9/2007       | 70                          | 104                   | 152     | \$5,980,972  | 174                 | 110                  | 106               | 68         |
| 111 | 2/13/2007   | 2/10/2007      | 66                          | 68                    | 160     | \$6,544,472  | 134                 | 134                  | 112               | 22         |
| 112 | 2/14/2007   | 2/11/2007      | 58                          | 22                    | 174     | \$7,320,115  | 80                  | 64                   | 64                | 16         |
| 113 | 2/15/2007   | 2/12/2007      | 82                          | 16                    | 181     | \$7,522,367  | 98                  | 80                   | 77                | 21         |
| 114 | 2/16/2007   | 2/13/2007      | 74                          | 21                    | 166     | \$7,114,847  | 95                  | 96                   | 99                | -4         |
| 115 | 2/17/2007   | 2/14/2007      | 87                          | 0                     |         |              | 87                  | 41                   | 34                | 53         |
| 116 | 2/18/2007   | 2/15/2007      | 72                          | 53                    |         |              | 125                 | 0                    | 0                 | 125        |
| 117 | 2/19/2007   | 2/16/2007      | 83                          | 125                   | 169     | \$7,022,074  | 208                 | 115                  | 102               | 106        |
| 118 | 2/20/2007   | 2/17/2007      | 79                          | 106                   | 179     | \$7,381,292  | 185                 | 108                  | 118               | 67         |
| 119 | 2/21/2007   | 2/18/2007      | 44                          | 67                    | 185     | \$7,350,422  | 111                 | 77                   | 82                | 29         |
| 120 | 2/22/2007   | 2/19/2007      | 58                          | 29                    | 197     | \$7,349,746  | 87                  | 77                   | 111               | -24        |
| 121 | 2/23/2007   | 2/20/2007      | 72                          | 0                     | 162     | \$6,309,712  | 72                  | 77                   | 0                 | -5         |
| 122 | 2/24/2007   | 2/21/2007      | 78                          | 0                     |         |              | 78                  | 41                   | 0                 | 37         |
| 123 | 2/25/2007   | 2/22/2007      | 68                          | 37                    |         |              | 105.2               | 0                    | 0                 | 105        |
| 124 | 2/26/2007   | 2/23/2007      | 88                          | 105                   |         |              | 193.2               | 115                  | 0                 | 78         |

It is easy to adjust the predicted number of records to be coded if there is a shortage of charts by manipulating the number of man hours. A manager can easily determine the appropriate account type to shift coding hours to if there is one account type that is caught up or another that has a growing volume. This adjustment is made using the predicted hours column (see Figure 2). If a shift is made, those additional hours can be added to the estimated hours to be worked in a different account type and subtracted from the originally planned account type. This shift is quickly reflected and reliable estimates can be made based upon the information within the production planning tool.

Figure 2 – Individual Productivity (green/yellow shading indicates individual coder)

| 4   | Coded Date | Time | \$ Value     | Accounts | Time | \$ Value     | Accounts | Time | \$ Value     | Accounts | Productive | Accounts | \$ Value     | Predicted |
|-----|------------|------|--------------|----------|------|--------------|----------|------|--------------|----------|------------|----------|--------------|-----------|
| 94  | 1/27/2007  |      |              |          |      |              |          |      |              |          | 0          | 0        | \$ -         |           |
| 95  | 1/28/2007  |      |              |          |      |              |          |      |              |          | 0          | 0        | \$ -         |           |
| 96  | 1/29/2007  | 7.5  | \$ 731,742   | 15       | 7.4  | \$ 524,190   | 19       | 7.75 | \$ 2,086,602 | 28       | 44.9       | 127      | \$ 5,238,537 | 45        |
| 97  | 1/30/2007  | 7.25 | \$ 622,327   | 23       | 7.25 | \$ 884,142   | 17       | 7.75 | \$ 557,272   | 26       | 48         | 143      | \$ 3,956,377 | 52.5      |
| 98  | 1/31/2007  | 2    | \$ 186,222   | 7        | 7.5  | \$ 868,341   | 17       | 7.75 | \$ 865,999   | 20       | 30.5       | 65       | \$ 5,089,707 | 27.5      |
| 99  | 2/1/2007   | 2    | \$ 513,474   | 8        | 7    | \$ 568,193   | 21       | 7.5  | \$ 743,013   | 24       | 30.08      | 75       | \$ 2,838,567 | 26        |
| 100 | 2/2/2007   | 5.5  | \$ 516,381   | 15       | 0    | \$ -         | 0        | 7.75 | \$ 766,885   | 25       | 25.67      | 72       | \$ 3,134,828 | 26        |
| 101 | 2/3/2007   | 0    | \$ -         | 0        | 7.5  | \$ 1,073,711 | 11       | 0    | \$ -         | 0        | 14.8       | 30       | \$ 1,654,176 | 16        |
| 102 | 2/4/2007   |      |              |          |      |              |          |      |              |          | 0          | 0        | \$ -         |           |
| 103 | 2/5/2007   | 7.5  | \$ 888,982   | 12       | 7.5  | \$ 581,474   | 11       | 7.75 | \$ 1,007,913 | 17       | 35.5       | 65       | \$ 4,125,354 | 31.5      |
| 104 | 2/6/2007   | 7.5  | \$ 510,334   | 19       | 7.5  | \$ 246,011   | 13       | 7.75 | \$ 535,775   | 25       | 54         | 127      | \$ 3,226,068 | 52.5      |
| 105 | 2/7/2007   | 7.5  | \$ 1,160,432 | 32       | 7.5  | \$ 447,017   | 17       | 7.75 | \$ 479,730   | 21       | 39.8       | 93       | \$ 3,285,288 | 38        |
| 106 | 2/8/2007   | 6.25 | \$ 737,846   | 18       | 7    | \$ 789,729   | 22       | 7.75 | \$ 1,277,931 | 25       | 46.93      | 120      | \$ 5,348,577 | 50.5      |
| 107 | 2/9/2007   | 7.5  | \$ 924,970   | 23       | 7.5  | \$ 1,718,943 | 21       | 0    | \$ -         | 0        | 30.59      | 86       | \$ 4,222,905 | 27        |
| 108 | 2/10/2007  | 0    | \$ -         | 0        | 0    | \$ -         | 0        | 0    | \$ -         | 0        | 13.37      | 42       | \$ 1,985,664 | 13.75     |
| 109 | 2/11/2007  | 0    | \$ -         | 0        | 0    | \$ -         | 0        | 0    | \$ -         | 0        | 1.5        | 6        | \$ 87,677    | 1.5       |
| 110 | 2/12/2007  | 6    | \$ 491,129   | 13       | 7.5  | \$ 593,067   | 20       | 7.75 | \$ 764,515   | 26       | 43.25      | 106      | \$ 4,000,308 | 43        |
| 111 | 2/13/2007  | 5.25 | \$ 516,424   | 20       | 7.5  | \$ 491,141   | 15       | 7.75 | \$ 424,866   | 23       | 44.18      | 112      | \$ 4,134,087 | 52.5      |
| 112 | 2/14/2007  | 4    | \$ 219,865   | 15       | 7.5  | \$ 1,000,983 | 18       | 7.75 | \$ 568,856   | 23       | 23.75      | 64       | \$ 1,916,844 | 25        |
| 113 | 2/15/2007  | 6    | \$ 580,578   | 21       | 7.5  | \$ 703,527   | 20       | 7.75 | \$ 881,925   | 21       | 25.78      | 77       | \$ 2,779,785 | 31.5      |
| 114 | 2/16/2007  | 7.5  | \$ 423,577   | 13       | 0    | \$ 39,922    | 1        | 7.75 | \$ 790,193   | 23       | 40.61      | 99       | \$ 3,420,396 | 37.5      |
| 115 | 2/17/2007  |      |              |          | 7.5  | \$ 1,309,879 | 17       |      |              |          | 15         | 34       | \$ 2,305,493 | 16        |
| 116 | 2/18/2007  |      |              |          |      |              |          |      |              |          | 0          | 0        | \$ -         |           |
| 117 | 2/19/2007  |      | \$ 643,048   | 20       |      | \$ 1,311,763 | 24       |      | \$ 620,823   | 28       | 0          | 102      | \$ 4,644,729 | 45        |
| 118 | 2/20/2007  |      | \$ 343,643   | 16       |      | \$ 329,125   | 23       |      | \$ 420,068   | 20       | 0          | 118      | \$ 3,636,290 | 42.5      |
| 119 | 2/21/2007  |      | \$ 618,450   | 25       |      | \$ 714,850   | 15       |      | \$ 957,520   | 19       | 0          | 82       | \$ 3,630,389 | 30        |
| 120 | 2/22/2007  |      | \$ 912,745   | 28       |      | \$ 507,368   | 18       |      | \$ 1,053,926 | 29       | 0          | 111      | \$ 3,813,006 | 30        |
| 121 | 2/23/2007  |      |              |          |      |              |          |      |              |          | 0          | 0        | \$ -         | 30        |
| 122 | 2/24/2007  |      |              |          |      |              |          |      |              |          | 0          | 0        | \$ -         | 16        |
| 123 | 2/25/2007  |      |              |          |      |              |          |      |              |          | 0          | 0        | \$ -         | 0         |
| 124 | 2/26/2007  |      |              |          |      |              |          |      |              |          | 0          | 0        | \$ -         | 45        |
| 125 | 2/27/2007  |      |              |          |      |              |          |      |              |          | 0          | 0        | \$ -         | 52.5      |

The production planning tool has been a great resource in managing the coding staff resources and placing them appropriately. The production planning tool has been useful to inform upper management with a confident estimate for back-log completion. The tool provides practical data to assist in the daily operation of staff adjustment to meet demand according to various account type volumes. Overall HIM accounts receivable has been trending down as we continue to cross train staff between account types and utilize the production tool to shift coding man hours.

At The Nebraska Medical Center, we have been able to use the production planning tool to assist in improving productivity for inpatient coding in conjunction with other process improvements. The inpatient coding staff has improved average productivity from 2.11 charts per hour to 2.55 charts per hour over a five month period. Maintaining coding quality after seeing such improvement in productivity is a concern. Ongoing coding audits are used to help maintain a balance between productivity and quality.

The production planning tool is a central resource for our inpatient coding group's morning scrum. This brief coder gathering allows the entire staff to know the work plan for the day. We discuss the estimates for records that are available, predicted production, and the work that was done the previous day. This may include identifying staff that will be working on another account type, the plan to cover an absence or if there are meetings that will take away some coding production time. It is also a good incentive for the team to work together to meet the predicted group production figure.

This tool has also allowed us to more easily calculate individual coder productivity. Group coding productivity results for the previous month that is blinded by individual coder is posted monthly. This provides good peer pressure for coders that need to improve by seeing where the entire group is as a whole. There has also been good discussion among the coding staff to share different ways of using the information system and coding software to improve coding productivity.

There was a lot of work invested into developing the production planning tool. Bryan Kenney, Senior Operations Analyst, led the team and designed the production planning tool. Our team is still working to implement the production planning tool across all of the account types that are coded in HIM. It has been a valuable tool for our coding department as we strive to improve coder productivity, maintain quality and lower accounts receivable.

## Graduates

The NHIMA would like to congratulate the following graduates:

### College of Saint Mary Medical Coding and Reimbursement Specialist Program (December 2006):

|                          |                |                 |
|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Toya Carter              | Roberta Hanson | Nichole Simpson |
| Lisa Dorn                | Shanda Meeks   | Michaela Tesar  |
| Theresa Ellis-Swackhamer | Tomeka Scott   | Chris Winter    |

### Central Community College (December 2006 and May 2007):

|                    |                   |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| LaDonna Alley      | Connie Korth      | Melissa Patzel    |
| Melissa Askamit    | Suzanne Krause    | Linda Robb        |
| Cindy Carlson      | Mandy Kuck        | Heather Ruge      |
| Darlene Chin       | Amanda Liewer     | Joni Schlatz      |
| Andrea Chizek      | Victoria Lipvosky | Shannon Schwartz  |
| Irene Dillin       | Anita Ludwig      | Cindy Sonnenfeld  |
| Barb Garrelts      | Judy Mahony       | Patty Tripp       |
| Jane Hergott       | Jannelle Meyer    | Allison Wieczorek |
| Stephanie Johanson | Sandra Mills      | Mary Wolfe        |
| Heather Kometscher | Natalie Murphy    | Lauretta Woods    |

## Proposed Bylaw Changes

| PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGES:   | Rationale:   |
|---|--|
| <p>Article IX: Amendment of Bylaws<br/> <b>Section 9.2(a): Submission Procedures</b><br/> <b>A proposal for the alteration, amendment or repeal of Bylaws or adoption of new Bylaws may be initiated by: (1) the Board of Directors; <del>(2) the Bylaws Committee;</del> or (3) any active member.</b></p>   | <p>The NHIMA Board has eliminated the Bylaws Committee and made the Bylaws amendments process the responsibility of the Past-President. See NHIMA Policy 2.30.</p>   |
| <p><b>BYLAW AMENDMENTS APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2/2/07:</b><br/> <b>Article III: Members</b><br/> <b>Section 3.1: Classes of Members</b><br/> <b>There shall be <del>five</del> four classes of membership: a) Active, <del>b) Associate,</del> b) Student, <del>dc) Honorary,</del> ed) Corporate. (1) Any individual <del>with an AHIMA certification shall</del> interested in the AHIMA purpose and willing to abide by the Code of Ethics may become an active member... An active member in good standing shall be entitled to membership privileges including the right to vote, hold office....</b><br/>                     The entire Section 3.1(b) paragraph has been deleted as it describes the associate membership qualifications, etc.<br/> <b>Article V: Board of Directors</b><br/> <b>Section 5.3 Qualifications</b><br/> <b>The <u>President, President-Elect, and the immediate Past-President</u> shall be <del>an active member</del> <u>AHIMA approved credential holders.</u> The <u>President-Elect shall be an individual</u> who has had previous service...</b></p> | <p>According to <b>Article IX, Amendments of Bylaws, Section 9.1: Power and Voting</b>, the "AHIMA Bylaw amendments adopted by the House of Delegates will automatically become part of the NHIMA Bylaws without vote...."</p> <p>This change to the NHIMA Bylaws addresses the AHIMA Bylaw amendments approved by the House of Delegates at the October 2006 HOD session eliminating the "Associate member" category.</p> |

## Proposed 2007-2008 NHIMA Budget

| INCOME   | AMOUNT            | COMMENTS                           |
|--|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Dues   | 11000.00          |                                    |
| Fall Conference  | 13000.00          | Omaha                              |
| Spring Conference  | 9000.00           | Grand Island                       |
| Vendors  | 2000.00           | Nov Board Meeting-discount fees    |
| Interest/Checking  | 50.00             |                                    |
| Publications/News & Views/Privacy Guide                      | 600.00            | Sell 4?                            |
| Professional Promotions                                      | 150.00            |                                    |
| Corporate Member Fees  | 1000.00           |                                    |
| Prepaid Income   |                   |                                    |
| Web advertising  | 50.00             |                                    |
| Coding Roundtable  | 2500.00           |                                    |
| Miscellaneous  | 50.00             |                                    |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>  | <b>\$39350.00</b> |                                    |
|  |                   |                                    |
| EXPENSES   |                   |                                    |
| NHIMA Delegate/National Conference                           | 5500.00           | 4 Delegates                        |
| NHIMA Society/Clinic Coding                                  | 800.00            | Coding roundtable chair            |
| Fall Conference  | 10250.00          |                                    |
| Spring Conference  | 6000.00           |                                    |
| President  | 250.00            |                                    |
| President-Elect  | 250.00            |                                    |
| Board  | 2500.00           | Mileage / Location of Board        |
| Summer Team Talks/Leadership<br>Conference/Coding Roundtable | 2400.00           |                                    |
| Winter Team Talks  | 2100.00           |                                    |
| Assembly on Education  | 1100.00           | Has increased – early registration |
| FORE Donation  | 150.00            |                                    |
| Nominating Committee   | 100.00            | Electronic balloting               |
| Legislative Committee  | 100.00            |                                    |
| Professional Promotions/Recruiting                           | 500.00            |                                    |
| Legal Guide Task Force                                       | 200.00            |                                    |
| Scholarship  | 500.00            |                                    |
| NHIMA Website  | 250.00            |                                    |
| Central Office   | 3200.00           |                                    |
| Legal/Accounting   | 2000.00           | Audit/form990 preparation          |
| Corporate Status Biennial Report                             |                   | Every other year                   |
| Miscellaneous  |                   |                                    |
| Coding Roundtable  | 1000.00           |                                    |
| Community Ed Coordinator                                     | 200.00            |                                    |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>  | <b>\$39350.00</b> |                                    |

## HIM Spotlight – Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital

Tammy McNeil, Director

Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital is licensed for 183 beds (acute care, skilled nursing, behavioral health, and acute rehabilitation) with a medical staff of 63 physicians and 37 allied health professionals. In 2006, MLMH treated 6,497 inpatients and 90,053 outpatients. Following a two-year selection process, MLMH has recently begun the installation/implementation phase of the McKesson Paragon Hospital Information System, which is slated to go-live 10/07. This implementation will include: Horizon Patient Folder EMR, Horizon Business Folder, Medical Records, Registration, Patient Management, AP/GL, Payroll, OR Management, Materials Management, Transcription, Resource Scheduling, Laboratory Management, Radiology Management, Clinical Assessments/Care Plans, and Webstation for Physicians. Simultaneously, MLMH has begun a facility upgrade that will feature all private rooms. The facility upgrade is expected to be completed by 2011.

The Health Information department (HID) employs 24 FTE's which include: a Management team of 3, 9 Transcriptionists, 3 Coders, 6 Record Processing staff, 1 Release of Information Coordinator, 1 Transcription Clerk, and 1 Tumor Registrar.

The HID will be deeply involved in the implementation of the new Hospital Information System, and will be responsible for the Medical Records, Transcription, and Release of Information Modules, as well as Horizon Patient Folder, which manages the capture of information thru both COLD fed information from the clinical modules, as well as via scanning. The Record Processing staff will reengineer all of its processes and workflow as we move away from paper, manual processes. MLMH has a special contract with the Consumer Products Safety Commission, which the Record Processing staff abstract injuries of patients that present to the ER, in order to assess and determine when an injury is product-related, and may warrant safety recalls.

The transcription staff is responsible for transcribing all of the dictation for both the hospital as well as the hospital owned clinics. In 2006, MLMH expanded its off-site program to all transcription staff. In 2006, MLMH also successfully launched a production based pay system for transcription, resulting in improved turn around times of reports, and pay for the transcription staff.

The coding staff is responsible for coding all hospital inpatient and outpatient accounts, as well as the CPT-4 Professional E/M level for the emergency physicians. The 3 coders have taken on the task of cross-training on both inpatient/outpatient coding in order to provide enhanced coverage for one another. The coding staff has also been evaluating encoder software and will be implementing a new encoder this year.

The Tumor Registry is accredited by the American College of Surgeons and received commendation in the areas of AJCC staging, abstracting timeframe, and staff education.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our department with the membership of NHIMA, as you can see 2007 will be a challenging and exciting year for our department!

### 2006-2007 Corporate Members



[www.on-lineimaging.net](http://www.on-lineimaging.net)



<http://healthcare.lason.com/>

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**Past President**

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**2005-2006 Chairpersons:**

Legislative Committee ..... Anne Skinner  
 NHIMA Guide for Privacy, Retention &  
 Disclosure of Health Information ..... Pam Koch  
 Nominating Committee ..... Peg Wolff  
 Archivist..... Retha Hudkins  
 Spring 2007 Conference  
 Committee ..... Ranae Race  
 Fall 2007 Conference  
 Committee ..... TBA  
 Coding Roundtable ..... Theresa Rihanek  
 Professional Promotions..... Alison Harms

**NOMINATION FOR DISTINGUISHED MEMBER AWARD**

**Please note that the nomination of this NHIMA member is someone who has made an outstanding contribution to the Nebraska HIM Association!**

Nomination submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Home/Work) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual notified of nomination:  Yes  No

REASON FOR NOMINATION:

Also, attach supporting information such as current resume, biographical data sheet which includes present employment status, previous position, education, association activities, publications, leadership in education, etc.

SEND NOMINATIONS TO: Donna Keller  
dkeller@nebraskamed.com  
Fax: 402-552-2756

**NOMINATIONS DUE March 31<sup>st</sup>**