

News & Views



November 2009

National Convention Update *By Ranae Race, NHIMA President*

NHIMA delegates attending the 81st AHIMA Convention in Grapevine, Texas October 3-7 were Angie Gage, Mary Meysenberg, Theresa Rihaneck, Jean Scharfencamp and Ranae Race. Prior to attending, the NHIMA Board had completed a lot of prep work on three resolutions that were to be voted on at the House of Delegates.

- A resolution for professional guidelines best practices for electronic documentation
- A resolution on volunteer and leadership development
- Proposed amendment to change the AHIMA bylaws related to delegate apportionment.

The first two resolutions were approved at the House of Delegates. The proposed amendment regarding delegate apportionment was referred back to committee. Nebraska was instrumental in facilitating discussions both on the COP prior to convention and during the breakout sessions at the House of Delegates in Grapevine. The NHIMA Board supported a senate model which would fairly and equally apportion members. There were other recommendations regarding delegate workgroup membership, AHIMA Board voting rights, etc. and these will be taken back to the House of Delegates Operations Committee for further consideration. I would like to thank the NHIMA Board for the time they spent preparing for the House of Delegates and to our membership for participating in the COP discussions. The delegates did a great job in supporting the NHIMA membership at the AHIMA House of Delegates.

AHIMA released the 'Health Information Bill of Rights at Convention'. It lists seven statements to protect the interest of healthcare consumers. These will appear in the November issue of the Journal of AHIMA and can be found on the AHIMA website. The general sessions included David Blumenthal, National Coordinator for Health IT and other nationally recognized speakers. The breakout sessions Monday through Wednesday surrounded all of the HIM hot topics such as ARRA, Meaningful Use, ICD10, Clinical Documentation Improvement, Electronic Documentation Management, Legal Health Record, Revenue Management, Medical Identity Theft, etc. Rita Bowen is our new AHIMA President and she gave an inspiring transition speech.

Michelle Ilsley, Coding Roundtable Chair and Ruth Gappa, Coding Roundtable Co-chair attended the Clinical Coding Community Meetings pre-convention. Michelle commented that the coding workshops were awesome and were packed with great information, tools and resources for both the inpatient and outpatient settings.

NHIMA donated a pearl necklace to the FORE not-so-silent auction. The necklace was purchased from Borsheim's and we would like to thank Borsheim's for giving us a great discount on the necklace. 100% of the states donated an item this year and it was fun to watch our donation go up to almost double the amount of our cost.

The AHIMA Convention will be in Orlando, Florida next year and the delegates from Florida wore Mickey Mouse hats and sang the Mickey Mouse Fun Club theme song and invited everyone to Florida next year.

Coding Roundtable Update

Go to www.nhima.org and click on the Coding Roundtable link for updates.

The Coding Roundtable has placed a poll on the Nebraska CoP. They would appreciate your input. Go to <https://cop.ahima.org/COP/Nebraska/>

Coding Roundtable Q&A

Q - What CPT code should be reported for a telephonic transmission of bedside 24 hour cardiac monitoring? The information is being sent from a Critical Access facility to a larger facility within the state.

A - Go to www.nhima.org and click on the Coding Roundtable link for the answer.



Regional Extension Center in Nebraska

NHIMA submitted a letter of support for CIMRO who will be submitting an application to become the administrative organization for a Regional Extension Center in Nebraska. The HITECH Act amends Title XXX of the Public Health Service Act by adding Section 3012, Health Information Technology Implementation Assistance. This section provides supportive services for the rest of the HITECH Act. Section 3012 (a) establishes the Health Information Technology Extension Program (Extension Program). The Extension Program provides grants for the establishment of Health Information Technology Regional Extension Centers (Regional Centers) that will offer technical assistance, guidance and information on best practices to support and accelerate health care providers' efforts to become meaningful users of Electronic Health Records (EHRs). The consistent, nationwide adoption and use of secure EHRs will ultimately enhance the quality and value of health care.

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Dates to Remember:

April 21-22-23, 2010 – NHIMA Annual Convention in Kearney