

News and Views

October, 2019



NHIMA Board: Mindi Benis, RHIA, CCS, President; Jennifer Hoffman, RHIA, President Elect; Tina Mazuch, RHIA, CCS, Past President; Gretchen Jopp, RHIA, CCS, CPC, Secretary; Cindy Sestak, FACHE, MAM, RHIA, Treasurer; Liz Bechtel, RHIA, CPHIMS, 2nd Year Director; Lori Richter, RHIA, CPHIT, CPEHR, CHPS, 1st Year Director

Dates to Remember: April 29-May 1, 2020 – NHIMA Annual Conference, Younes Conference Center, Kearney, NE

NHIMA website: <https://www.nhima.org/>

Call to Volunteer: <https://www.nhima.org/members/volunteer/>



President's Message

Out goes summer, in comes Fall and it's certainly coming in loudly! High 80's one day, 60's the next... What's that saying... "Only in Nebraska can you have the AC on one day and the heat the next?!" I think it's fitting so far.

These past few months have been busy for us! We had four of our board members go to AHIMA's House of Delegate Meeting in September. They all reported that there was a lot of good information presented during the meeting and with the excitement the most recent election brought us, there was an amendment that passed to the AHIMA Bylaws that states no election will go uncontested.

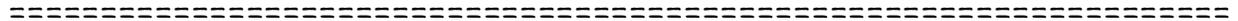
The board continuously tries to identify ways to make our organization more efficient; recently we made a couple purchases that we feel will help us long term. We have invested in a laptop and a Microsoft Office 365 subscription that will be utilized by our Central Office Coordinator. We now have a dedicated NHIMA email address and a SharePoint site that will be implemented for use amongst all committees. The laptop will be the main source for presentations at our Annual Conference. Along with that, we have purchased a Zoom membership which will allow our committees to have the ability to schedule meetings using the conference line and share screens for collaborative work. Going forward this will also be used with any webinars that our committees may coordinate for our members.

On a final note, we sent out a survey to you searching for feedback and information. THANK YOU for the responses, we felt this was imperative to ensure what we're doing with the Strategic Plan coincides with what you need and want from the organization. This month the board will be meet again to continue working on our Strategic Plan. Happy Fall Y'all!



Mindi Benis, RHIA, CCS

President, NHIMA



Summer Leadership Symposium



Lori Richter, RHIA, CPHIT, CPEHR, CHPS, 1st Year Director, Tina Mazuch, RHIA, CCS, Past President, Jennifer Hoffman, RHIA, President-Elect and Gretchen Jopp, RHIA, CCS, CPC, Secretary attended the AHIMA Leadership Conference in August. They joined HIM leaders from other states during a 2 day conference held in Chicago.

Attendees learned about:

- AHIMA's Transformation Story: Mission, Vision, and Strategy
- Leadership competencies that will be required for the 2020+ leader
- The new Environmental Scanning Guide and interactive scanning exercises
- The progress of HIM Reimagined and the understanding of HIM education and lifelong learning needs

Breakout sessions included financial planning for the CSA (Component State Association), creating effective communications, strategies for identifying and growing leaders, Coding Roundtable program ideas, and state and federal advocacy overview.

Key take away for NHIMA members:

- Advocate for HIM related issues with your local and state representatives, advocacy is a grass roots effort and is just a conversation about your profession on what impact proposed legislation may have.
- AHIMA.org will soon have several changes making it easier to use and navigate. Improvements include: the Profile section will have a more streamlined interface, there will be upgrades to the homepage, and an improved shopping experience.
- There's still time to take advantage of the RHIT to RHIA Proviso. The Proviso has resulted in 358 people taking the exam and passing. The Proviso is effective until December 31, 2021 and additional information can be found at www.ahima.org/certification.

Vendor Recognition

Many thanks to the vendors that supported our annual conference in April! Your support contributed to our overall success! Information about each of the vendors including their contact information can be found at the end of the newsletter.

Welcome New Members!

July, 2019	Cynthia Brandon Allison Oborny Kristie Pettit
August, 2019	Anne Fox Christine Jelinek, RHIT Kimberly Koenig Tiffany Schneider
September, 2019	Sara Geiser Ruth Kay Eva Keppler Amanda Lapazza Mary Lovell, RHIT Jill Masek Stacie Mathis Cynthia Reiser Jessica Runyan Melinda Slattery



Coding Roundtable Webinars

Don't miss out on CEU opportunities offered by the NHIMA Coding Roundtable! Watch for an email blast with information on purchasing the monthly webinar presented by Diana Foley, RHIA, CHPS, CDIP, CCS! These one-hour presentations are approved for one hour of CEU.

The first presentation is available and can be purchased through Knowledge Connex. Instructions were emailed to the membership with a link to purchase the webinar on September 25.

September 26– 2020 ICD-10-CM/PCS Code Updates

Don't be surprised come October 1, 2019. Join Dianna Foley, AHIMA-approved ICD-10 trainer, for an hour-long webinar as she shares the upcoming changes to ICD-10-CM/PCS coding guidelines and codes. The presentation will cover all the guideline changes for both CM and PCS, as well as a selection of specific codes that are being updated. She'll share some insight on a specific "note" change that may impact reimbursement for facilities as well.

October 23– Unraveling the Mystery of NCCI Edits

Are you perplexed by CPT edits? Then this webinar is for you. Join Dianna Foley to gain a deeper understanding of NCCI edits; what they are and why they are in effect. Dianna will discuss three different types of NCCI edits and use of the NCCI manual as a resource for correct reporting of services. She will present information on appropriate modifier usage and provide scenarios to illustrate the concepts.

November 20 – Fractures

Don't let coding for fractures break your spirit. Join Dianna Foley for this webinar on proper ICD-10-CM coding for fractures with an in-depth look at the CPT procedure coding for fracture treatment. She'll explore scenarios focusing on the emergency department, physician office, and outpatient surgery perspective to illustrate the CPT coding.

December 18 – 2020 CPT Code Updates

With January 1, 2020 just around the corner, join Dianna Foley for a look at the upcoming CPT code changes. She'll cover the major changes that will be found in the Surgery, and Medicine sections, and if time permits, she'll cover E&M, Anesthesia, Radiology, and Lab as well.

The cost for the recorded sessions that include 1 CEU are only:

- \$40 NHIMA members
- \$65 Non-NHIMA members
- \$15 Students

Stay tuned for additional webinars in 2020!



2019 NHIMA Membership Survey Results

First, a big *thank you* to all who completed the short survey we sent out a few weeks ago. We felt it was important to take the temperature of our NHIMA membership to see how you like to get information, if you are going to conference, how you like to receive education and more.

You responded with an overwhelming 15% response rate. We're not kidding, 15% is a wonderful response rate for a survey, typical response rate is more like 8-10%, so right out of the gate, you showed us you *care*, and you trust us to *hear you*, and we listened. We want to give you results of the survey, so here goes.

68% of respondents have gone to NHIMA Annual Conference in the past 5 years. That is great! We do have a wonderful conference that is at the heart and soul of those who plan it, so if you haven't been, please consider it!

The majority of those who have not gone to conference in recent years have not gone because of the distance to Kearney. We hear you. We talk about this in board meetings. We will continue to discuss rotating from each side of the state in alternating years. The challenge here is finding just the right venue with the tech requirements we need, agreeing to the best price and securing the contract. Not excuses, just reality. We're working on it. The next most common reason members do not attend is cost. Indeed, employers are less and less likely to fund educational opportunities these days. We suffer it, too. We strive to make a profit from the annual conference to fund educational opportunities, scholarships and such for the year, and do our very best to keep speaker prices fair so that we can have high quality speakers. We always welcome members to present too!

Thank you for the wonderful suggestions for conference topics! We read and will consider each of them!

There was an interesting and not-so-surprising response to "What is your preferred method of obtaining CEUS?" Most of you enjoy webinars or virtual meetings & face-to-face meetings. That response certainly coincides with the fact that employers are tighter with travel and education costs now. Evenly dispersed were recorded webinars, all-day workshops, half-day workshops and AHIMA educational opportunities. We hear you and realize that we have not offered any virtual meetings lately. We'll work on that.

We are so pleased that you find value in networking at the conference! As a result, we have some great networking opportunities in the plans for conference 2020.

Here's the one that blew us away ~ you prefer to receive your professional updates and communications via this newsletter, by about 20 responses! You're not big on Twitter or Instagram, which rings to the age of the respondents (myself included) who are in the 50+ age bracket. We will remain on Facebook and will probably beef up the frequency of the newsletter, but we may not tackle Twitter or Instagram yet. We will eventually use that media; we might just wait a couple years and ask you again. Keep checking Engage! We were happy to see the frequency with which you participate in Engage communities!

Most of you volunteer at the local, state and national levels! GOOD FOR YOU! Keep up the good work! The profession needs you! For those of you who don't feel smart enough, or don't know how to volunteer, we will help you with that...

Most everyone is voting! Good for you, because your voice is important. Indeed, sometimes we must research the candidates and issues, but it is worth it to our profession and the future of HIM. Check into Engage for current conversations. If you missed the recent heated conversation regarding the latest election, you missed a doozie! Is that enough to whet your whistle??

We read all the thoughts, ideas and comments from "Do you have anything you would like to say to state leadership?" One was "Perhaps engage in doing a webinar during conferences to allow people who cannot travel [to] still be able to attend." Great idea, and we're talking about the logistics of this option.

We learned *so much* from you as a result of this survey. Thank you for your time and commitment to our exciting, growing and changing profession.

With Gratitude,

NHIMA Board of Directors

Congratulations!

Newly Credentialed NHIMA Members include:

Heather Behrendt, RHIT
Iris Chavez, RHIT
Kelli Klabenes, CCA
Kimberly Semrad, RHIT

Lois Brown, CCS-P
Rebecca Crase, CCS-P
Hannah Mitchell, RHIT, CCA
Heather Smolik, CCS





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Official CMS news from the Medicare Learning Network®

Looking for Educational Materials?

Visit the [Medicare Learning Network](#) and see how we can support your educational needs. Learn about publications; calls and webcasts; continuing education credits; Web-Based Training; newsletters; and other resources.

Billing Information for Rural Providers and Suppliers — Revised

A revised [Billing Information for Rural Providers and Suppliers](#) Medicare Learning Network Booklet is available. Learn about:

- Critical access hospitals, federally qualified health centers, home health agencies, rural health clinics, skilled nursing facilities, and swing beds
- Regional Office Rural Health Coordinators

SNF PPS: Patient Driven Payment Model Videos

On October 1, the new Patient Driven Payment Model (PDPM) is replacing the Resource Utilization Group, Version IV (RUG-IV) for the Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Prospective Payment System (PPS). CMS has videos to help you prepare:

- [PDPM: What Is Changing \(and What Is Not\) - Opens in a new window](#) – Run time: 72 mins
- [Integrated Coding & PDPM Case Study - Opens in a new window](#) – Run time: 58 mins

For more information, visit the [PDPM](#) webpage.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Is your contact information up to date? NHIMA uses the AHIMA data base as the source for your contact information. To facilitate communication with our membership it is important for you to update any changes in your email address. All information can be updated in the Profile section of MyAHIMA on the AHIMA website.

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The Nebraska educators met for dinner on Tuesday evening, July 30, at the Assembly on Education meeting. The educators made plans to continue discussions of the upcoming curricular changes. The 2018 curriculum changes need to be in place for all educational institutions by September 1, 2021.

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2020 Annual Conference

Mark your calendar for the 2020 NHIMA Annual Conference! Join us in Kearney, NE at the Younes Center on April 29 and 30 and May 1. The Planning Committee has been busy working on the agenda and is planning a networking session, a presentation on the Charge Master, and Richelle Marting, JD will return to update us on issues that impact HIM. A banquet on Wednesday evening will give us all a chance to visit with our friends and colleagues ending the first day with our key-note speaker, Aaron Davis.

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Advocacy Committee



Dates to remember:

- NHIMA/NHA State Hill Day March 10th, 2020
- AHIMA Advocacy Summit March 23rd and 24th, 2020

Hopefully you saw the NHIMA Facebook post or the AHIMA E-Alert, where there was a call to action to reach out to Senators through the AHIMA's Advocacy Center. *The goal was to hit 1,500 emails on Patient ID Day, but we were short by just 30 emails with a total of 1,470 email being sent! Nebraska sent a total of 18 emails!* **There is still time to reach out to our Nebraskan Senators.**

Patient ID Day was held on September 24th, 2019 and generated a lot of buzz on Capitol Hill and social media. Since 1999, Congress has prohibited the use of appropriated funds by the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to "*promulgate or adopt any standard for a unique health identifier until legislation is enacted specifically approving the standard.*" This limitation has been included in every subsequent appropriations bill since FY1999 and is a barrier to public-private sector collaboration in accelerating and scaling effective patient identification and matching solutions.

In June, the US House of Representatives adopted an amendment striking language in the House FY20 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education (Labor-HHS) Appropriations bill that prohibits HHS from using federal funds to promulgate or adopt a unique patient identifier. Striking this language will give HHS the ability to evaluate a range of patient identification solutions that protect patient privacy and are cost-effective, scalable, and secure.

A few weeks ago, the US Senate released the text of its FY20 Labor-HHS bill—as it stands, the ban remains in place in the Senate bill. While disappointing, our work is far from over. The Bill is currently in committee and has not yet been able to be considered so there is still time to reach out to your Senators!

We need to make sure that Congress rejects inclusion of the ban in the final spending package that Congress sends to the President to be signed into law. To do this, we need your help

[Head to AHIMA's Advocacy Action Center](#)

Tell Congress the time is NOW to address patient misidentification and to reject inclusion of the ban in the final spending package. To contact your elected officials, please visit AHIMA's [Advocacy Action Center](#). To expedite correspondence, AHIMA has generated a message to your elected officials. Members must type in their zip code and personal information to express their support for removal of the ban.

Go to <http://cqrcengage.com/ahima/home?0> for more information on AHIMA's Advocacy

Thank you!

Jennifer Hoffman, BS, RHIA, CLSSYB

NHIMA President-Elect



- TRAINING & EDUCATION
- HIM TOPICS
- CONFERENCES & EVENTS
- CERTIFICATION
- AHIMA & OUR WORK

ACT NOW: Urge Congress to Address Patient Misidentification

Health information management (HIM) professionals safeguard the integrity of health data in various care settings across the care continuum, working to ensure patient safety and privacy is protected through quality health information.

Accurate patient identification helps ensure that clinicians have up-to-date information about a patient’s laboratory, imaging, or other diagnostic test results; medications; diagnosed medical conditions; and family medical histories. To maximize the safety, security, availability, and integrity of patient medical records, processes must be in place to ensure the proper matching of patients to their specific healthcare information in electronic health record systems (EHRs);

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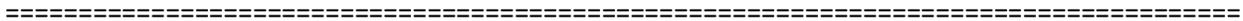
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Patient matching issues are not only costly (\$17.4 million for average health care facility yearly), but a major roadblock when looking at interoperability and patient safety. Patients deserve better! Please support the removal of Section 510 of the Labor-HHS Appropriations bill by sending a letter to our state representatives. Let your voice be heard! NOTE: Anyone can use the Advocacy Action Center, you do not have to be an AHIMA member to use it. Spread the word about patient matching!



CMS NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 26, 2019
Contact: CMS Media Relations
(202) 690-6145 | [CMS Media Inquiries](#)

CMS’ Discharge Planning Rule Supports Interoperability and Patient Preferences

New protocols improve engagement, choice and continuity of care across hospital settings
The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) today issued a final rule that empowers patients preparing to move from acute care into post-acute care (PAC), a process called “discharge planning.” Today’s rule puts patients in the driver’s seat of their care transitions and improves quality by requiring hospitals to provide patients access to information about PAC provider choices, including performance on important quality measures and resource-use measures – including measures related to the number of pressure ulcers in a given facility, the proportion of falls that lead to injury, and the number of readmissions back to the hospital. The rule also advances CMS’s historic interoperability efforts by requiring the seamless exchange of patient information between healthcare settings, and ensuring that a patient’s healthcare information follows them after discharge from a hospital or PAC provider.

“The Trump Administration is committed to empowering patients, and CMS is getting it done. Today’s rule is huge step to providing patients with the ability to make healthcare decisions that are right for them, and gives them transparency into what used to be an opaque and confusing process. By demystifying the discharge planning process, we are improving care coordination and making the system work better for patients.” said CMS Administrator Seema Verma. “Patients will now no longer be an afterthought; they’ll be in the driver’s seat, playing an active role in their care transitions to ensure seamless coordination of care.”

The final rule (Revisions to Discharge Planning Requirements [CMS-3317-F]) revises the discharge planning requirements that hospitals (including long-term care hospitals, critical access hospitals [CAHs] psychiatric hospitals, children’s hospitals, and cancer hospitals), inpatient rehabilitation facilities, and home health agencies must meet to participate in Medicare and Medicaid programs. It requires the discharge planning process to focus on a patient’s goals and treatment preferences. Additionally, hospitals are mandated to ensure each patient’s right to access their medical records in an electronic format.

The rule also implements requirements from the Improving Medicare Post-Acute Care Transformation Act of 2014 ([IMPACT Act](#)) that includes how facilities will account for and document a patient’s goals of care and treatment preferences.). Additionally, if a patient is being discharged to a PAC provider, the rule requires the facility’s care team to assist patients, their families, or the patient’s representative in selecting a PAC provider by sharing key performance data. This data must be relevant and applicable to the patient’s goals of

care and treatment preferences. CMS expects providers to document all efforts regarding these requirements in the patient's medical record.

CMS notes that hospitals and CAHs are already conducting most of the revised discharge planning requirements, with the exception of the discharge planning requirements of the IMPACT Act. The facilities and home health agencies are also required to send specific medical information when patients are transferred to another facility along with an evaluation of the patient's need for post-hospital services, including, but not limited to:
hospice care services and post-hospital extended care services.

home health services and non-health care services and community based care providers (for hospitals and critical access hospitals only).

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/09/30/2019-20732/medicare-and-medicaid-programs-revisions-to-requirements-for-discharge-planning-for-hospitals>

To view the final rule (CMS-3346-F), please

visit: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/09/30/2019-20732/medicare-and-medicaid-programs-revisions-to-requirements-for-discharge-planning-for-hospitals>

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2019 Vendors Supporting NHIMA

Many thanks to the vendors that supported our annual conference in April! Your support contributed to our overall success! Information about each of the vendors and their contact information can be found below.

AvecHealth enables healthcare partners to thrive and grow by delivering large system revenue management solutions at industry beating rates. We empower our customers to prosper by maximizing their revenue opportunities and facilitating focus. Contact Kathy Harner at Kathy.harner@avechealth.com

Clarkson College is a private college located in Omaha NE. Over the last 130 years, we've established a new campus, expanded our program offerings, adopted a new name, and maintained a commitment to preparing out students to be the best in health care. Contact Ken Zieger at zeigerken@clarksoncollege.edu

Haugen Consulting Group (HCG), based in Denver, Colorado offers healthcare consulting, education and auditing services utilizing a team of industry experts. HCG is passionate about our client relationships with a belief that fun is non-negotiable. Contact Kate Kluglein at kkluglein@thehaugengroup.com for more information.

HRG's expertly crated revenue cycle management services provide customized solutions for your healthcare facility's unique needs. Our client-centric suite provides the tools need to optimize any part of your Patient Financial Services. Contact Rik Lewis at rlewis@hrgpros.com for additional information.

KIWI-TEK provides partnership coding solutions for hospitals, health systems and physician practices. KIWI-TEK is one of the nation's largest coding companies with proven HIM experience to manage denials, ensure DRG accuracy and meet DNFB goals. Contact Jack Diamond at jdiamond@kiwi-tek.com

Metropolitan Community College is a public college on multiple campuses throughout the Omaha-Council Bluffs metropolitan area that offers a CAHIIM accredited RHIT program. It combines online instruction, online simulation activities and an in-person practicum experience to prepare students for entry-level employment in the health information management field. Contact Kelly Hajek, RHIA, Program Director, at 531-MCC-2673 for additional information.

MRO, the KLAS-rated #1 provider of release of information (ROI) solutions since 2013, empowers healthcare organizations with proven, enterprise-wide solutions for secure, compliant and efficient exchange of protected health information. Contact Jim Faber at jfaber@mrocorp.com for your ROI needs.

TrustHCS partners with healthcare organizations to provide staffing and advisory services that improve financial strength. Our middle-revenue cycle management solution advances the reliability, integrity, and performance of our clients' financial health. Contact info@TrustHCS.com

Voice Products, Inc sells the Best in KLAS speech recognition and coding solution software since 1990. Over 50 employees with local sales and service throughout the United States. Contact Tom Peek at sales@voiceproducts.com for more information.

Wahltek is the premier provider of innovative solutions to businesses and organizations who demand the latest in voice processing, document creation software, management services all backed by a professional full service and support organization. Contact Brent Spurgin at bspurgin@wahltek.com for your voice processing needs.

*Thank you for your
support!!!*