



News and Views

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July, 2020

The latest information from the NHIMA Board, AHIMA and other entities that impact Health Information Management Professionals.



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Accountability & Taking Chances

Hello NHIMA Members!

I first wanted to take some time to write a little bit about myself so those of you who may not know me can learn more about me. I am originally from Wisconsin and moved to Nebraska in February of 2018 to take a job with the State of Nebraska working for the Veterans Affairs Department. My position with the VA is as a Health Information Manager. I have enjoyed being able to take my passion for health information to give back to Veterans. I enjoy spending time with family and friends, cheering on the Green Bay Packers, fishing, going to farmer's markets, listening to live music, reading a good book, watching reality TV, and being with my dogs. Most importantly, I love the Health Information profession and have been reminded of the "why" during this challenging year. I am in awe and inspired with how committed HIM professionals are; to be at the table, providing guidance and expertise when it's needed most.

I had no idea what was in store for me when I moved here 2 ½ years ago but I am so glad I did. I took a chance and moved without knowing anyone or anything about Nebraska, besides the Huskers. (I'm a Badger fan, go Bucky!) I decided to volunteer for NHIMA in 2019 for the Professional Promotions committee so I could meet new people and network. I attended the HOSA- Future Health Professionals career fair last year for the NHIMA booth and became the chair of the committee, which started my involvement in NHIMA. I was voted in as President- Elect and now will begin my term as President.

AHIMA Annual Conference Goes Virtual

AHIMA is excited to announce the AHIMA20 Conference taking place October 14-17 will be fully virtual! They have been working diligently to create a one-of-a-kind virtual experience, so attendees do not have to worry about sacrificing cutting-edge education or advantageous connections expected from the in-person event.

Participants will benefit from more than 100 educational sessions presented in new and creative ways, networking opportunities, a virtual exhibit hall complete with one-on-one time with solution providers, and full access to on-demand session recordings for additional CEU opportunities.

Health Information is human information, and when information stays human, it stays relevant, and staying relevant improves patient care.

Conference registration is now open at

<https://conference.ahima.org/>



Last July, I attended my first AHIMA Leadership Symposium in Chicago where we all received a wooden token with the AHIMA logo on the front, along with the words "Empowering People to Impact Health" written on it. On the flip side of that token it says LEADER, in all capital letters. At the Symposium we were told to write down one or two things that we think makes a good leader. I wrote "accountability" and "take chances". I still have this token with me today and it sits at my desk where I can see it every day. Taking chances, to me, means being innovative and forward-thinking, which is essential in the healthcare ecosystem today. I will encourage the board to think "futuristic" and outside of the box to provide new opportunities and engagement to the membership. Accountability, to me, means being mindful and purposeful with the decisions I will make as NHIMA President. This year the Leadership Symposium was held virtually, and I left this Symposium the same way I left Chicago, excited and energized about the profession and AHIMA. Check out the Symposium section in this newsletter to read about the new things AHIMA is doing.

The 2019-2020 NHIMA board has come up with a strategic plan that will help guide NHIMA through the next few years and I am so excited about it. We want to bring new educational opportunities to the membership that branches out from traditional HIM and explores other areas in HIM such as privacy/security and other new HIM avenues. NHIMA has also added a Student Representative role to the board that will help engage students and new graduates. Having greater engagement from students and new graduates will help keep the longevity of the profession and NHIMA. My advice to students and new graduates is to get involved and volunteer with NHIMA! It is great professional experience and provides excellent networking opportunities. Another goal laid out in our strategic plan was to examine other options for our annual conference. We had no idea that COVID would push us into doing our first virtual conference. I want to thank the Conference Planning Committee for all their hard work. They really had to make quick decisions/changes to adapt to the new normal and provide a "virtual conference". Look for the recorded sessions and annual report very soon! We plan on having our in-person conference next spring, once again, at the Younes center, in Kearney. I am looking forward to being able to see and meet everyone in person!

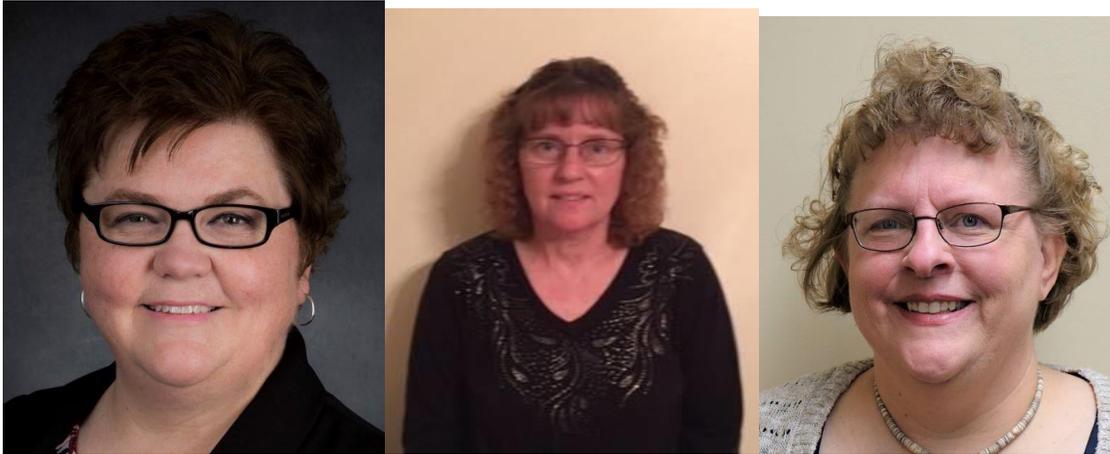
I am thrilled to lead NHIMA this year alongside a dedicated and energized board! We are all up for the challenge and excited to show Nebraska (and beyond) what health information professionals bring to the table! If you are as passionate about HIM, looking to network, meet new people, share ideas, or looking to step out of your comfort zone, I encourage you to volunteer! NHIMA runs on volunteers and we need your help! I'd love to meet more NHIMA members and work together to bring the best we can to our membership. Go to nhima.org underneath the members tab and click on volunteer! I'd love to hear from you if you have any questions or comments. Hit the "Contact Us" button on the NHIMA website or feel free to reach out to me at hoffja13@outlook.com.

Stay Safe,

Jen Hoffman, RHIA, President



Meet the New Board Members!



The NHIMA new board members are (L-R) Michelle Perkins, CCS, CPC, President-Elect; Marilyn Blunck, RHIT, Secretary; and Paula DeFreece, CCS, 1st year Director. They join fellow board members, Jennifer Hoffman, RHIA, President, Mindi Benis, RHIA, CCS, Past-President, Lori Richter, RHIA, CPHIMS, CHPS, 2nd year Director, Cindy Sestak, RHIA, Treasurer, and Elizabeth Morgenroth, Student Representative. Welcome to the Board!!!

A special thank you to Gretchen Jopp, RHIA, CCS, CPC, Elizabeth Bechtel, RHIA, CPHIMS and Tina Mazuch, RHIA, CCS who have served on the board for two years. Their professional expertise and input enabled the Board to move forward in this everchanging health information environment.

Call for Volunteers

NHIMA is always looking for volunteers! NHIMA Committees include Advocacy, Annual Conference Planning, Coding Roundtable, Nebraska Cancer Registry Advisory Task Force, and Professional Promotions & Recruitment. All committees meet virtually, and time commitment is minimal. Network with you peers; grow and develop the organization as well as yourself! Click on <https://www.nhima.org/members/volunteer/> to volunteer today!



CSA Leadership Symposium 2020

Reimagine. Rebound. Renew.

“Are you going, or will you be left behind?”

This year's Symposium was held virtually and attended by Jennifer Hoffman- President, Michelle Perkins- President Elect, Cindy Sestak- Treasurer, Lori Richter- 2nd year director, and Paula DeFreece- 1st year director. The agenda for the 2 days was filled with great presentations and thought provoking content as AHIMA is reimaging, rebounding, and renewing. We all left the Symposium feeling re-energized and excited with the direction AHIMA is heading.

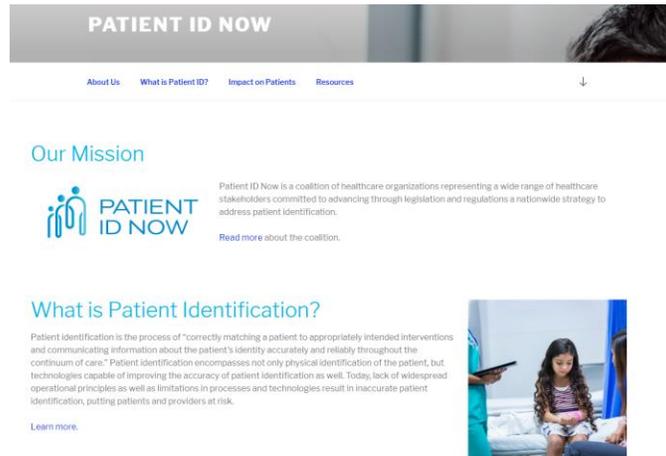
Takeaways from the Symposium:

- AHIMA is focusing on defense, stabilize, offences and reset. They are being very deliberate in responding to COVID for the organization which includes moving AHIMA employees to virtual work environments and plan a new financial scenario.
- AHIMA has continued to pivot to a digital platform including: Digital learning opportunities, Digital AHIMA20, Digital Content (Journal, ahima.org). In addition, they (we) all agree HIM needs to learn and lead within the healthcare- IT digital landscape. Patient data is being gathered/provided in so many virtual platforms (mobile, on line, text, telehealth). HIM professionals need to be agile (and open) to these new ways health information is obtained and retained so we be at the table to help manage and guide the integrity and governance of the data.
- HIP Week rescheduled to October 11th – 17th.
- They are very excited to roll out (as are we) the New Membership Model! This model proves to:
 1. Improve customer experience with a more simplified model
 2. Decouple certification and membership
 3. Have an option for membership and certification auto-renew
 4. Have an option for multi-year membership
 5. Have an option to upgrade to Premier Status at any time

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- PatientIDNow.org is an AHIMA patient matching advocacy website. Take a look; this is some amazing new work to help HIM in the HIE and integration areas!



- Professional Enhancement Campaign – AHIMA is working on a research founded approach designed to clearly articulate the value of health information professions within the contemporary landscape and role of AHIMA. We need to begin to work towards futuristic thinking to ensure we are at the table to impact health and be prepared to hold lead or participate in the discussions. The Professional Enhancement Campaign (PEC) Toolkit has been uploaded to the State Leaders and House Engage Community: <https://engage.ahima.org/viewdocument/professional-enhancement-campaign>

On AHIMA

AHIMA is the leading voice of health information. Using our deep understanding of health information, we lean into the future and forecast where healthcare will move next.

As advocates and educators in an ever-evolving space, we are dedicated to providing our professionals and their partners with the support and insights they need to continue leading the evolution of healthcare.

We embrace the new opportunities for growth that emerge within our profession every day. AHIMA- Certified professionals ensure that the sensitive health stories of the patients in our care remain accurate, accessible, protected and complete, at all times.



UPDATES

AHIMA Journal

Have you heard the Journal of AHIMA is going digital....The newly all-digital July issue of the Journal of AHIMA discusses how continuous surveillance can improve patient safety; much-needed solutions that health information professionals are contributing in the age of COVID-19; and how Europe's pandemic response is balancing privacy, interoperability, and public health. Also, learn how you can effectively discuss privacy and information security with senior leadership, how health information exchanges are achieving sustainability and value, and how to integrate COVID-19 into clinical documentation integrity and coding practice.

This month, the Journal is offering its first all-digital issue both as a PDF replica of the magazine and at journalahima.org.

Starting next month, you will find all articles exclusively at the Journal website!

2019-2020 Annual Report

The NHIMA Annual Report is completed and available on the Nebraska Online Community. It provides an overview of the work done by the Committees and Board during the last fiscal year. Reports from the HIM programs in the state provide insight into their efforts to meet the new curriculum requirements as AHIMA moves forward with their transformation. The report can be accessed at (control + click)

https://higherlogicdownload.s3-external-1.amazonaws.com/AHIMA/d260e708-e13e-046f-ea8d-9fdec100cafb_file.pdf?AWSAccessKeyId=AKIAVRDO7IEREB57R7MT&Expires=1595350306&Signature=nBWRb5XIXYHcZpHAFueBwPy5V6s%3D



NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new NHIMA members!

Rex Baker

Kristine Johnson

Deb Langer

Willow Nyman-Jones

Deborah Price

Kayla Haase, CCS

Jennifer King

Miranda Masek

Patricia Pappas

Chris Vairo

Dayton Hendlee

Julie Klinkman

Heather Nunnenkamp

Trisha Petersen

NEW CREDENTIALS

Congratulations on earning new credentials!

Kayla Beachler, RHIT

Jasna Polivka, CCS-P

Mary Stenzel, CCA

Shanda Stutheit, CCA

Save on UPS Shipments with Your AHIMA Membership



AHIMA and UPS took the guesswork out, and put the easy in. Members now have access to new and improved flat-rate pricing with savings of 50 percent on Domestic Next Day/Deferred; 30 percent on Ground Commercial/Residential; and up to 50 percent on additional services. In addition, members can take advantage of UPS Smart Pickup® service for free. [Log into myAHIMA](#) and scroll down to the UPS Affinity partner for more information and the member-only to link to get started.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



~Building Blocks for Professional Growth~

Virtual Conference

The NHIMA virtual conference/webinars are almost ready to go! Watch for an email from NHIMA with registration details. Purchase options are available from one session to the entire offering. Select from presentations on I-11, Chargemaster and Charge Capture, Medicare/Medicaid Fraud Targets, Hot Topics in HIM, I-10 Coding Scenarios, Obstetrics Coding and the 2021 E/M level changes!

FY 2021 ICD-10-CM Official Coding Guidelines Available

The [Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2021 ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting](#) have been posted on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention web site. Changes include a new guideline for vaping-related disorders and updated COVID-19 guidelines.

The [FY 2021 ICD-10-PCS Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting](#) were previously posted on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services website.

GET GROUNDED IN “PATIENT ACCESS”

Patient matching mistakes are the stuff of nightmares for health information professionals. And no two organizations are alike with regard to both method and technology on this subject.

Five new courses, offered in conjunction with the [Haugen Consulting Group](#), will help you polish your patient access skills or improve on exacting Medicare requirements. Each course is worth 1 CEU.



HEALTHCARE DATA ANALYSIS COURSE SERIES

Learn about AHIMA's [series of online courses](#) designed for health information and healthcare professionals who need to know more about collecting and analyzing data to make strategic administrative, financial, and patient-related decisions.

Each course is 90 minutes and is good for 1 CEU. For a limited time, get special member pricing of \$24.99. Latest course titles include:

- [Tracking Surgical Outcome and Preoperative Risk Assessment](#)
- [Analyzing Population Health Data](#)
- [Analyzing Discharge Not Final Billed \(DNFB\) Trends](#)

Working together: Patient ID Now

AHIMA announced it's teaming up with five other organizations -- the American College of Surgeons, the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives, Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society, Inc., Intermountain Healthcare, and Premier Healthcare Alliance -- to form a new coalition called Patient ID Now. The group is committed to advancing a nationwide strategy that addresses patient identification through legislation and regulations. Learn more about Patient ID Now at <https://patientidnow.org/>

Reduce Provider Burden: Participate in Medical Documentation Interoperability Pilot

In support of the health care industry's Health IT movement towards interoperability, CMS encourages providers to participate in an interoperability pilot to test specific medical documentation use cases. The Electronic Medical Documentation Interoperability (EMDI) program is designed to reduce provider burden by assembling a robust network of stakeholders willing to:

- Pilot test use cases
- Participate in gap analysis
- Contribute to resource documentation for new adopters

Participants will have an opportunity to test interoperable solutions by piloting one or more of three use cases:



- Ordering
- Requesting additional medical documentation from another provider
- Requesting physician signatures

If you are interested in partnering or learning more about the program, email EMDI_TEAM@scopeinfotechinc.com

Personality Assessment

Are you looking for insight into your personality and associated traits that impact your professional and personal life? Do you have the personality of an Analyst, Diplomat, Sentinel or Explorer? Do you focus on rationality and intellectual excellence or empathy and passionate idealism or order, security and stability or ingenuity and flexibility?



Take the free assessment below to learn more about yourself!

<https://www.16personalities.com/free-personality-test>



The Pharmacy HIT Collaborative Requests Public Comments on Updated Pharmacy Value Sets

2020-07-02

Sara Karlovitch, Assistant Editor

The Pharmacy Health Information Technology (HIT) Collaborative has revised a draft version of pharmacy value sets and has requested comments from stakeholders, according to a press release.

The Pharmacy HIT Collaborative is a coalition of 9 pharmacy associations and other stakeholders, and they support pharmacists in matters related to health information technology. Previously, comments had been collected in a PDF document. However, they are now accessible through an online database.

The Pharmacy HIT Collaborative's work to update value sets are part of a continuous maintenance process that ensures codes are available to document problems, interventions, outcomes, and other clinical information, according to a press release.

The system vendors implement the value sets by using the Pharmacist eCare plan and Medicare Part D plan, which are participating in the Medicare Part D Enhanced MTM Model, according to the press release.

"Demonstrating superior outcomes at the local or regional level, with payers involved, is vital to establishing value-based payment models for pharmacists," said Samm Anderegg, the project manager at Pharmacy HIT Collaborative, in the press release.

The 30-day comment deadline is August 4. The current value set can be found [online](#). Those interested in leaving a comment can download a [form](#) and enter their comments under the feedback column. This form should then be emailed to kim@pharmacyhit.org.

REFERENCE

Updated Pharmacy Value Sets Public Comments Requested, Comment Period Ends February 19 (News Release), Alexandria, VA: Pharmacy HIT Collaborative; July 1, 2020. Accessed July 2, 2020.



And Finally.....

The proposed Bylaw changes were approved by the membership via electronic voting. Thank you for taking a few minutes to cast your vote!

The Board spent a great deal of time working on the NHIMA Strategic Plan this past year. The strategic plan can be found on the Nebraska On-line Community.

Questions, comments, thoughts to share? Contact the NHIMA Board at

nhima_coordinator@outlook.com

NHIMA website: nhima.org

NHIMA Board

Jennifer Hoffman, RHIA, President

Mindi Benis, RHIA, CCS, Past President

Michelle Perkins, CCS, CPC President-Elect

Marilyn Blunck, RHIT, Secretary

Cindy Sestak, RHIA, Treasurer

Lori Richter, RHIA, CPHIMS, CHPS, 2nd year Director

Paula DeFreece, CCS, 1st year Director

Elizabeth Morgenroth, CPC, Student Representative

Mary Meysenburg, RHIA, CCS, Central Office Coordinator

Greatness is not found in possessions, power, position, or prestige. It is discovered in goodness, humility, service, & character." --- WA Ward