



Hello Everyone,

The Summer has wound down quickly and we all have or are getting ready for those beautiful Autumn Leaves and some of us for getting back to School. Back-to-School time reminds me, no matter how old I get- about putting together all the tools we need to make it a good year- and this case to make it a great year for our RIHIMA.

We had a good crowd at the Fall RIHIMA Conference when we heard great presentations about Lifespan's Clinical Documentation team and as usual a great update from Barry Libman. Actually we were his first group to receive his presentation and it was wonderful. We presented awards for longevity of membership to members who have been with RIHIMA for at least 25 years. That was fun and here we are pictured below:



L to R: Linda Martins, Elizabeth Mena-Newsham, Paula Hemond, Diane Goppold, Holly Goodwin, Pat Parkes, Denise Hunter-Behm, Me, Fern Madwed and Bonnie Irzyk. (Not Available to be included in the picture: Ann Beardsley, Beth Larrivee, Janet Carew, Fay Catterall, Richard Grzyb, Susan Hanson, Pam Improta, Judi Lawson, Pauline Marcussen, Madeline Morin, Ruby Nicholson and Kathy Poirier)

The AHIMA House of Delegates is coming up shortly. We have to extend great THANKS! To Patti Nenna who will represent us at the House of Delegates for AHIMA this year. I wanted to attend but could not due to my Mom's failing health and the fact that even when I attended Team Talks and the Leadership Conference it was a great financial sacrifice for my family with my Mom in respite care, but it was worth it! Michele has been busy with her department move and also could not attend. So, Thank You Patti- We're all very grateful.

There are some interesting changes on the horizon with AHIMA, most importantly a change in the CEUs that we must earn to maintain our credentials. More is described about this further on in this newsletter so it is not to be missed.

Your Board of RIHIMA is busy planning already for this year a Rhode Island "Hill Day", planned for April that will include meeting our Senators and Representatives as well as a tour of our beautiful State House. More information to follow...

We are working on the possibility of providing ICD-10 Training and of course are participating on the Boards of AHIMA for the House of Delegates whose responsibilities last all year long- not only for the AHIMA meeting on the following committees:

- **Best Practices/Standards:** Advance our impact on the health industry by collaborating and vetting the development of HIM practice guidance and professional guidelines and research initiatives.
- **Volunteer & Leadership Development:** Increase the number of qualified volunteers involved in leadership activities in collaboration with AHIMA's Nominating Committee and CSAs.
- **HIM Higher Education & Workforce:** Support and promote robust academic network of programs and faculty that produce and place graduates prepared for future roles. Advocate for workforce development.
- **Professional Development & Recognition:** Identify the learning needs of HI/HIM professionals and suggest resources to increase competence and promote their value.
- **Environmental Scan:** Conduct environmental scanning with CSAs and delegates to discover trends and long-term change in the forces shaping the future.
- **House Operations:** Provides the oversight for the operations of the House of Delegates, charged with ensuring the effectiveness of each House Team

AHIMA is working to provide the tools to us that we need to take new strides.

We are implementing what is called "Hot Topics" in Health Information Management in Rhode Island that will be held quarterly. Essentially it allows members to freely exchange ideas and discussion about HIM topics that hopefully are at the forefront. At this first meeting we'll be picking topics for the upcoming sessions, which we plan to hold quarterly. Some of the HIM topics that have been put forth as possible discussion topics include: Medication Reconciliation and Forms Management: electronic and paper; JCAHO Regulations; Privacy Breaches among other possible topics. I hope that you can join us. I look forward to sharing ideas among the group!



The first one will be held in South County on Wednesday, Oct 12 at 5pm. at the Woodruff Conference Center (to the right of South County Surgical), a part of **VNS Home Health Services, located at 14 Woodruff Ave, Narragansett, RI. Hope to see you there! Thanks so much Bonnie Irzyk for hosting this event!**

Also, your Board of RHIMA is already working on committees that will plan the 2012 meeting of the Six States at Mohegan Sun. We hope to have a great year and build our Association in great ways!

So please stay tuned and you can find more information on the AHIMA Rhode Island COP. Kind Regards. -Marlene, President, RIHIMA

Continuing Education

Requirements are CHANGING for AHIMA Certified Professionals!!!

Please Note:

AHIMA certification represents a high level of achievement and demonstrates proficiency and a broad base of knowledge. AHIMA Certified Professionals have passed a rigorous exam and commit to ongoing professional development through the CCHIIM recertification process. The CCHIIM recertification (maintenance of certification) program ensures that CCHIIM-certified professionals demonstrate ongoing competence in the domain areas in which they are certified through either maintenance or enhancement activities. In order to validate that an AHIMA Certified Professional has gained knowledge of the ICD-10-CM/PCS coding system, CCHIIM has determined that continuing education hours with ICD-10-CM/PCS content will be required, as applicable and relevant to the specific AHIMA credential(s) held by the individual. The total number of ICD-10-CM/PCS continuing education units (CEUs) required, by AHIMA credential, is as follows:

- CHPS – 1 CEU
- CHDA – 6 CEUs
- RHIT – 6 CEUs
- RHIA – 6 CEUs
- CCS-P – 12 CEUs
- CCS – 18 CEUs
- CCA – 18 CEUs

***6 CEUs = 1 day of training**

Certificants who hold more than one AHIMA credential will **only** report the highest number of CEUs from among all credentials held. For example, if a certificant has both an RHIA and CCS, the certificant would normally report 40 (30 CEUs for RHIA and an additional 10 CEUs) Therefore, all certificants are encouraged to tailor their education specific to their job role. For example, if you are an RHIT and perform coding as a large percentage of your daily routine, you are encouraged to follow the requirements set forth for those specialized coding credentials.

Timeline for Accumulating ICD-10-CM/PCS CEUs

AHIMA Certified Professionals can begin earning ICD-10-CM/PCS specific CEUs during the period of January 1, 2011 thru December 31, 2013.

About AHIMA

The American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) Represents more than 61,000 specially educated Health Information Management professionals in the United States and around the world, the American Health Information Management Association is committed to promoting and advocating for high quality research, best practices and effective standards in health information and to actively contributing to the development and advancement of health information professionals worldwide. AHIMA's enduring goal is quality healthcare through quality information. www.ahima.org

Member Spotlight -  Next Newsletter!

SAVE the Dates!

RIHIMA BOD Meeting- Tues, Oct 11 6:30 PM

Hot Topics  -Wed, Oct 12 - VNS Home Health

Winter RIHIMA Meeting, tbd- ? Second week of January

RIHIMA "HILL Day" – April 2012

2012 NE HIMA Conference May 6,7,8@ Mohegan Sun

2013 NE HIMA Conference – Portland, Maine

Stay tuned for Coding Roundtable Announcements!

I noticed and wanted to reprint part of Bonnie Cassidy's Address to the AHIMA National Conference Attendees- It is very fitting for all of us, so bear with me if you were lucky enough to attend and hear this for yourself or have read it. I feel it bears worth repeating:

"We are in the midst of the greatest transformation in the history of our healthcare system, and there is absolutely no reason to expect it will be done successfully unless we provide strong HIM leadership... Uniquely qualified to lead the ICD-10 initiative for implementation, establishing strategies for implementing computer-assisted coding and e-governance. More than ever before- perhaps more than ever again – we must work harder, smarter, and faster."

– Bonnie Cassidy, Past-President of AHIMA

Coming Soon! New Certified Documentation Improvement Practitioner Credential

Many of You have been inquiring about this:

In response to industry demand, the Commission on Certification for Health Informatics and Information Management (CCHIIM) has developed a new credential focused on CDI professionals. The Certified Documentation Improvement Practitioner (CDIP) certification will launch this fall, and will confirm the commitment of AHIMA to globally improve and maintain quality information for those involved in healthcare as well as support the integrity of the patient's health record. The certification will distinguish those professionals serving as clinical documentation practitioners as knowledgeable and competent to provide guidance relative to clinical documentation in the patient's health record, thus promoting the HIM profession overall. The CDIP exam registration will launch mid-September, and the exam will launch October 3. For details as they become available, visit:

<http://ahima.org/certification/cdip.aspx>

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