

News & Views

November 2011



As our Nebraska Delegates return from the AHIMA Convention in Salt Lake City, we move into November to celebrate HI&T Week – November 6-12, 2011! I hope you all have some fun activities for your staff planned! This is quite a year to celebrate with so many exciting things happening in the HIM realm! Don't forget to take time to celebrate your successes, even if you think you've just 'survived' a wild ride! ☺

I am happy to report we had a full week of networking, sharing, brainstorming and education, at Nationals and here is a summary of our events from Convention. During the annual meeting it was reported AHIMA has 63,000 members strong! How exciting to be a recognized leader in healthcare with this number of members. Here is a recap of the House of Delegates business meeting. Click on the links to read the full documents.

HOUSE ITEMS APPROVED:

- New [AHIMA Bylaws](#)
- New [Code of Ethics](#)
- Resolutions: [Diversity and Inclusion](#) and the [Health Information Management \(HIM\) Professionals Manage the Quality of Health Data](#)



The MPI Resolution was withdrawn at this time for further deliberation by the Best Practices/Standards House Team.

NEW AHIMA BOARD BYLAWS:

On October 2nd the House of Delegates approved and adopted a new set of [AHIMA Bylaws](#). Per AHIMA Bylaws the House of Delegates shall have a [Speaker](#) and [Speaker-Elect](#). Voted by delegates only, the Speaker will serve as a member of the Board of Directors and chair the House of Delegates.

All current delegates had the opportunity to bring their names forward to be considered for the Speaker/Speaker-Elect positions. Voting has opened November 1st for these positions and NHIMA delegates will be casting their votes by November 15th.

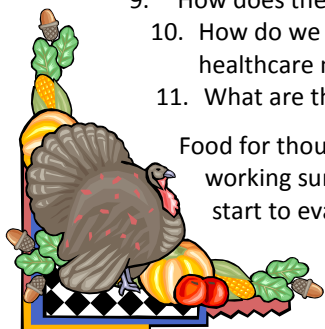
HOUSE OF DELEGATES WORKGROUP SESSIONS:

This year the House workgroup sessions were held a little differently. All House Teams participated in group discussions on Eleven different strategic issues that will affect the AHIMA profession in the next 3-5 years. Each CSA delegate worked on a different topic to have representation distributed throughout each work table.

Those topics were:

1. How will the EHR initiative and its nationwide implementation affect the way that members do their jobs?
2. Which skills, if any, will be required to address changes in the demand for coding professionals in the next 3 years?
3. How can the HIM professional position him/herself to lead the revenue cycle function?
4. What must happen for the HIM professional to be considered a master of these HIM practice realms: Clinical Documentation Improvement, Compliance and Quality Assurance?
5. How can the HIM professional position him/herself as the Chief Information Officer, Chief Knowledge Officer or Data Integrity Executive?
6. Which emerging issues will every successful HIM professional need to understand?
7. How can the HIM professional use "meaningful use", Healthcare Reform or "ACO" to advance the profession?
8. What skills will be required of the HIM professional to effectively serve as the decision support executive of an organization?
9. How does the HIM professional create urgency for employers to employ AHIMA credentialed professionals?
10. How do we make sure our HIM professionals are positioned effectively and our role remains relevant in the healthcare marketplace?
11. What are the advantages and disadvantages for the HIM professional in belonging to more than one association?

Food for thought isn't it? At the conclusion of the workgroup sessions, each team collaborated and developed working summary of these industry issues. I'm sure we'll see more on these issues as the House Teams regroup and start to evaluate the summaries.



Have a Great HI & T Week!

Connie Henderson

Break a Leg...ICD-10 Coding for Orthopedics

SDHIMA and NHIMA are hosting the webinar, "Break a Leg...ICD-10 Coding for Orthopedics" on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 from 12:00 – 1:00 PM CST. Gretchen Jopp, RHIA, CPC, AHIMA Approved ICD-10-CM/PCS trainer will discuss ICD-10-CM diagnosis coding related to fractures, osteoarthritis, and joint prosthesis complications. Corresponding procedural coding for fracture reduction and joint replacement procedures will also be covered.

So Break a Leg and register now! Go to <http://www.knowledgeconnex.com/nhima/home.html> for more information.

This webinar will be available for purchase a few days after the session if you are unable to attend the live presentation. Please check back to the NHIMA website for further details following the webinar. Web replays are priced the same as the live presentation.

House of Delegates Adopts Updated Code of Ethics

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the 2010 and 2011 Professional Ethics Committees, the House of Delegates adopted a new Code of Ethics on October 2. The new Code of Ethics replaced the previous code which was last updated in 2004. While the principles and guidelines from the 2004 version remain the same, the language was updated to reflect changes in healthcare, association management and new technology. The new code also includes stronger language based on recent ethics violations that the Committee had encountered.

In addition to strengthening some guidelines, new guidelines, which focus on the duties of health information management professionals such as cooperating with authorities and facilitating collaboration among colleagues, were added. For more information on the new Code of Ethics, please visit the State Leaders and HOD CoP.

2011 Delegates in Salt Lake City



(Connie Henderson, Nancy Kinyoun, Donna Keller, Michelle Ilsley & Charlene Dunbar)

Region III

The remaining officers officially dissolved Region III of NHIMA in October 2011. There has been a lack of activities and involvement throughout Region III for several years. It has become more and more difficult for HIM professionals to take time off from their jobs to attend meetings. Employers are also providing more in-house education and webinars where HIM professionals can obtain their needed CEU's.

Region III has donated its remaining funds of \$972.85 to NHIMA. The money will be used toward ICD-10 training/education. We feel that this would benefit the members of NHIMA best, as ICD-10 will affect many different levels in the health care field, and knowledgeable HIM professionals will be extremely valuable.

Thank you to all past members of Region III who had dedicated their time and talents to promote the Health Information Management profession.

NHIMA Contact Information:
Dates to Remember:

[Board Members](#) - [Committee/Task Force Chairs](#)

November 15, 2011 – Break a Leg...ICD-10 Coding for Orthopedics Webinar

April 18-20, 2012 – NHIMA Annual Convention

