

# MHIMA e-Alert

June 15, 2010

Volume 22

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<http://www.mohima.org/AboutMHIMA.html>

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## President's Message

It's hard to believe that this is my last President's Message. The past 18 months have literally flown by. I can honestly say that it has been a fun year and a half, leading the organization and working with the rest of the Board of Directors, trying to make Missouri the best Component State Association in AHIMA. After serving on the Board for several years, I can say that the members of MHIMA have an excellent group of people serving them. All of the Board members and volunteers that I have had the pleasure of serving with selflessly do what it takes for the good of the organization and its members. It has been a joy to lead MHIMA the past 18 months. As I transition next month from President to Past-President, I know I am putting the organization in very capable hands. Jennifer Melvin will do an excellent job as President, judging by the job she has done as Communications Director and President-elect.

I'm going to keep my message short this month. By the time you read this, I'll be in northern Manitoba, battling large walleye and pike. I hope everyone has a great summer and gets to take some time to get away and relax, like I will be doing. Don't forget to vote in the AHIMA election. I'll end with what some members have told me is their favorite part of my message; this month's bizarre holidays.

### MHIMA Vision:

*MHIMA will dedicate efforts and resources to serving members by increasing, promoting, and perpetuating the visibility of the health information management profession through education, communication and advocacy.*



June 5 is Festival of Popular Delusions Day

June 6 is National Applesauce Cake Day

June 7 is National Chocolate Ice Cream Day



June 10 is National Yo-Yo Day

June 11 is National Hug Day



June 18 is International Panic Day

June 20 is Ice Cream Soda Day

June 26 is National Chocolate Pudding Day



Have a great month!



Jeff

# Snapshots from the 2010 MHIMA Conference



**2 Presidents:**

**Jennifer Melvin and Jeff McGraw**



**Julie Wolter (L) and new President Jennifer Melvin (R)**



**Thank you Jeff!**



**Jeff presents Maggie Gambill with the Distinguished Member Award**



**The 2010 Board (L-R)**

**Sue LaBonte, Maggie Gambill, Jane DeSpiegelaere-Wegner, Regina Everett, Barb Beckett, Erin Sweeney, Kathy Byerley, Julie Dooling, Jeff McGraw, Jennifer Melvin**



**Attendees enjoy the conference!**



The following is the complete list of award and scholarship recipients:

## AWARDS

Outstanding HIM Student

*Kayla Sutton, St. Louis University*

Outstanding HIM Educator

*Joyce Ellison, RHIA*

Program Manager Jefferson Barracks VA Medical Center

Rising Star

*Lucy Sweiger, RHIT*

HIM Director, Northwest Medical Center

Distinguished Member

*Maggie Gambill, RHIA, CCS-P*

Coding Compliance Manager, CHAN Healthcare Auditor

## SCHOLARSHIPS

*Birdie King, Stephens College*

*Wanda Donnelly, St. Charles Community College*

*Shari Vickery-Missouri*

*Abigail Steppig-St. Louis University*

*Natasha Varberg-Ozark Technical*

The Awards & Scholarships Committee consisted of Teresa Knox, Donna Pritchard, Betty Gossell, Susan Foster and Sue LaBonte.





## May Shooting Star

Trish Minto, RHIT, CCS, CCDS was selected by the MHIMA Board to receive the May Shooting Star Award for her outstanding service to the HIM community. She is currently employed by Sisters of Mercy, St. Johns as a Clinical Documentation Specialist and has been with that organization for 25 years. Trish volunteers with OAHIMA to conduct coding roundtable break-out sessions, is an excellent resource for information, and very innovative in her roundtable activities. At a recent meeting, she presented attendees with plastic Easter eggs which contained a coding question and candy; each person would open the egg then ask the question for discussion. Other information shared was the correlation between ICD-9 and ICD-10 codes along with resources. She is a current member of AHIMA, MHIMA, OAHIMA, and ACDIS.

**Thank you Trish for all your insightful contributions!**

## AHIMA Receives NCCA Accreditation



AHIMA is proud to announce the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) has granted accreditation to AHIMA's Certified Coding Associate (CCA) certification program. NCCA is the accrediting body of the Institute for Credentialing Excellence (formerly the National Organization for Competency Assurance). The NCCA Standards were created in 1977 and updated in 2003 to ensure certification programs adhere to modern standards of practice for the certification industry. AHIMA joins an elite group of more than 100 organizations representing over 200 programs that have received and maintained NCCA accreditation.

In short, this is a big deal! The CCA is the only HIM credential worldwide that is currently accredited by NCCA. This gives us a strong competitive advantage in the coding space that we didn't have before. More importantly, it gives our CCA certificants and future certificants greater validation of their skills and knowledge to help them reach their organizational and career goals, as they help provide the industry with quality healthcare through quality information.

The application for accreditation was led by AHIMA's Certification Department; Mike Niederpruem, Jo Santos, Heather Rich, and Lisa Chernikoff, who worked for several months of long hours to ensure all of the procedures were in place and the documentation prepared satisfied the requirements of the accreditation process. AHIMA received accreditation by submitting a very extensive application demonstrating the CCA program's compliance with the NCCA's Standards for the Accreditation of Certification Programs.

NCCA Standards address the structure and governance of the certifying agency; characteristics of the certification program; information required to be available to applicants, certificants, and the public; and recertification initiatives of the certifying agency. To maintain NCCA accreditation, certification bodies such as AHIMA are required to consistently adhere to a set of requirements or procedures related to quality, openness and due process.

## Have You Visited the New CoP Lately

Have you visited the new CoP lately? If you haven't, you don't know what you're missing! We've made some great new changes including:

- Top 100 list of global content and top 100 most popular topics
- Document sharing and collaborative workspaces
- Chatting and networking
- Instant notifications
- Customizable profile page



**Log On** at least twice on different dates between June 1 and June 30, and you'll be automatically entered to win a \$100 American Express Gift Card. We will award a gift card to three lucky winners.





## *Red Flags Rule Delayed Again*

The Federal Trade Commission has delayed enforcement of the Red Flags Rule for a fifth time, again citing Congressional requests as the cause. The postponement pushes the enforcement date back to December 31, in an attempt to allow Congress more time to consider legislation that would exempt some small businesses, including small healthcare providers, from the rule's requirement to maintain an identity theft prevention program.

Although enforcement has been delayed, organizations have been required to be in compliance with the law since the rule's January 1, 2008, effective date.

The FTC said it hopes to begin enforcing the Red Flags Rule as soon as possible. The commission will begin enforcement of the rule as soon as Congress acts on legislation, even if that action comes before December 31, 2010.

Click here to [Read more](#) from AHIMA.

## *AHIMA Election*

The theme for AHIMA's 2010 election is "Real Leadership in a time of Real Change." Polls open June 7 and close on June 25 at 11:59 p.m. CDT. Cast your vote via the [myAHIMAMember Login](#).

The June Journal of AHIMA has each candidate's bio, job description and photo and the CoP has more detailed profiles.



## *Candidate CoP Now Open*

The Candidate CoP is now open so log on to interact with the candidates before the election through the Communities of Practice. Go to the [CoP](#) and join the Candidate community if you are not already a member. The slate of candidates was announced in the March 4 e-alert and is also posted in the AHIMA community of the CoP. If you are logged in to the AHIMA CoP via myAHIMA, [click here](#) for the listing of the candidates. Here is the election timeline:

- **May 24-June 4**—Candidate CoP opens to the public at 9 a.m. CST on May 24 and closes at 5 p.m. on June 4
- **June 7-June 25**—AHIMA polls open at 12 a.m. CST on June 7 and close at 11:59 p.m. CST on June 25
- **Mid- July**—Announcement of the 2010 AHIMA election results in the e-alert

Voting is a member privilege so be sure to cast your vote.

## *AHIMA Survey*

AHIMA works hard to deliver you the information you need in ways that you need it. Now is your chance to tell us how we're doing. Please participate in a member survey of AHIMA's primary publications: the *Journal of AHIMA*, *AHIMA Advantage*, and *Advantage e-Alert*. The survey takes approximately 10 minutes to complete and will ask about your satisfaction with the publications, as well as the topics of interest to you and how you use the publications. Results are anonymous, but you can choose to register for a raffle of an iPod touch MP3 player and a \$100 gift cheque.

Click to [Take the online survey now](#)



## *Identity Theft on the Rise at Medical Offices*

Identity theft can happen even at a highly respected medical center like Chicago's Northwestern Memorial Hospital. See AHIMA's director of practice leadership Harry Rhodes, MBA, RHIA, CHPS, CPHIMS, FAHIMA, in the CBS interview, "Identity Theft on the Rise at Medical Offices."

[Watch the video.](#) from CBS 2 News.

### **Medical Identity Theft Brochure**

Medical identity theft occurs when someone steals personal information (like names, Social Security numbers, or Medicare numbers) to obtain medical care, buy drugs, or submit fake billings to Medicare. Medical identity theft can disrupt your lives, damage credit ratings, and waste taxpayer dollars. The damage can be life-threatening if wrong information ends up in personal medical records.

[Click here](#) to download an OIG brochure from their website on how to protect medical identity.

## *CCHIIM Announces New Recertification Policy*

The work of HIM professionals is constantly evolving. Whether it is coding updates or new legislation, the learning isn't over once you have earned your AHIMA credential. The next step and your duty as a certified professional is maintaining it through continuing education opportunities. Earning your credential illustrates a commitment to your long-term career goals. Recertifying keeps you on that path to success.

The Commission on Certification for Health Informatics and Information Management (CCHIIM) recently adopted a new recertification program. The new program ensures that AHIMA-certified professionals demonstrate ongoing competencies in domains that are vital to their work in healthcare. Many aspects of the policy remain unchanged but there are important updates as well.

In the new policy, the first recertification cycle begins the day after the credential is awarded. During this initial recertification cycle, certificants have the months left in the current year, plus an additional two calendar years before their cycle ends. For example: for an individual who earns a CCS credential on August 10, 2010, the recertification cycle begins August 11, 2010, and ends on December 31, 2012. The new cycle will begin on January 1, 2013. Once the initial recertification cycle is completed, the next cycle and all future cycles begin on January 1st and end on December 31 of the next calendar year.

If this is an additional credential, then the cycle for the new credential begins with the next cycle for the existing credential. For example, if the certificant above goes on to earn an RHIT credential in 2011, then the first recertification cycle for the RHIT will begin January 1, 2013, and end December 31, 2015, in sync with the existing CCS cycle.

The new policy still requires that 80 percent of all continuing education units be earned within the HIM domain. The recertification fees for each credential remain the same as well. Learn more [here](#) and stay tuned for more recertification news.

## *CCHIIM Changes Continuing Ed Requirements, Includes ICD-10, CM-PCS*

### **Some CEUs Must Focus on ICD-10 Coding Classification Training**

AHIMA certified professionals represent the industry's best and brightest. The rigorous exam and continuing education hours required to recertify individuals ensures ongoing competencies in their certified domain areas. But with the transition to ICD-10-CM/PCS nearing, certified professionals will need to demonstrate knowledge in additional domains as well. As a result, the Commission on Certification for Health Information and Informatics (CCHIIM) has implemented a new recertification policy specific to ICD-10-CM/PCS.

CCHIIM has determined that continuing education hours based upon ICD-10-CM/PCS content will be required, as applicable to the specific AHIMA credentials held by the individual. Earning these CEUs validates that certified professionals have gained knowledge of the new coding system and are able to integrate this knowledge into their positions, CAHIM officials said. [Click here to Read more.](#)

### **Attention CCS/CCS-P Candidates:**

Effective June 2, 2010, CCHIIM will launch the 2010 version of the CCS and CCS-P exam. Exam candidates will need to bring their [2010 versions of ICD-9-CM Volumes 1-3 and CPT code books, and HCPCS Level II](#) (for CCS -P only).

Visit <http://www.ahima.org/certification> and click on the appropriate exam for a list of allowable code books. This applies to all appointments made as of June 2, 2010.



## *Coding for Medical Necessity*

There are three factors that help determine the medical necessity of a diagnostic test, procedure, or treatment:

1. The likelihood that a proposed healthcare service will have a reasonable beneficial effect on the patient's physical condition and quality of life at a specific point in his or her illness or lifetime.
2. Healthcare services and supplies that are proven or acknowledged to be effective in the diagnosis, treatment, cure, or relief of a health condition, illness, injury, disease, or its symptoms and to be consistent with the community's accepted standard of care. Under medical necessity, only those services, procedures, and patient care warranted by the patient's condition are provided.
3. The concept that procedures are only reimbursed as a covered benefit when they are performed for a specific diagnosis or specified frequency.

Accurate ICD-9-CM diagnosis coding is essential to establish the medical necessity of a particular service as required by Medicare's reasonable and necessary medical coverage policies. Other third-party payers also want to know the reason for the service before payment is determined.

Click here to [Read more.](#)

## *Hot Topics Survey*

As HIM professionals we utilize a huge amount of reading and reference materials. This month's survey question asks readers what type of material is their favorite.

- I prefer internet websites.
- I prefer paper magazines/books.
- I prefer e-news such as the e-Alert or other e-newsletters.



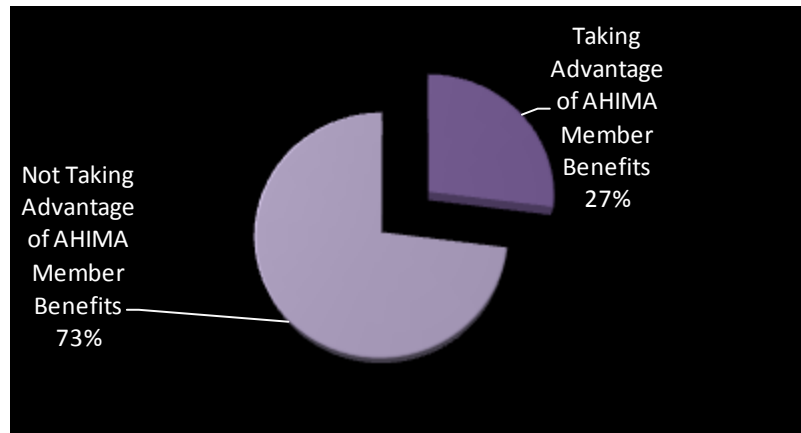
[Click here to vote](#)



## *Hot Topics Survey Results*

Thanks to everyone who participated in last month's survey which asked readers if they planned on taking advantage of AHIMA member benefits. As the chart shows, 73% of respondents said they do not plan on utilizing AHIMA member benefits and 27% reported that they do plan on using member benefits.

We hope you enjoy taking our surveys and seeing the results. Watch for this month's survey results in the July e-Alert.



## Calendar of Upcoming Events

June 15 KCHIMA

**When:** Tue, June 15, 5:30pm – 6:30pm

**Where:** KUMed Orr Major, Room 1014  
([map](#))

**Description:** Topic: Employee Training and Development Speaker: Tom Field, Associate Vice Chancellor for Compliance for KUMC

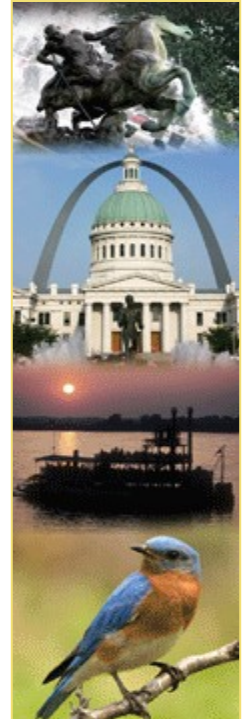
June 22 EMHIMA

**When:** Tue, June 22, 4:30pm – 6:30pm

**Where:** Anthony House Auditorium at St. Anthony's hospital ([map](#))

**Description:** To learn more visit  
<http://mohima.org/EMHIMARegistration.asp>

To visit the MHIMA Calendar of Events: [Click here](#)



## Mark Your Calendars

### AHIMA June Book of the Month

#### The Personal Health Record

A comprehensive survey of the PHR landscape

*Designed to help HIM practitioners educate and guide consumers in creating PHRs*

#### Editors and Authors

Julie Wolter, MA, RHIA, FAHIMA Volume Editor

Marsha W. Dolan, MBA, RHIA

Ellen B. Jacobs, Med, RHIA

Ruth A. Walker, MIS, RHIA, CPHQ

Jill Burrington-Brown, MS, RHIA, FAHIMA

### KHIMA/MHIMA Joint Meeting

September 16-17, 2010

Kansas City, MO

**When:** Sep 16 - 17 2010

**Where:** Holiday Inn Kansas City Southeast, 9103 E 39th St., Kansas City, MO

The Kansas and Missouri HIMA's will join forces this year for the 2010 Fall Meeting. The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Kansas City Southeast (previously known as Sheraton Kansas City - by Sports Complex) To make hotel reservations, call 816-737-0200. More information will be coming soon.



## MHIMA Directory

### **MHIMA Board Directory**

*Jeff McGraw, RHIT*

**President, Chief Delegate**

*Jennifer Melvin, RHIA*

**President-Elect**

*Julie Wolter, MA, RHIA, FAHIMA*

**Past President**

*Barb Beckett, RHIT*

**Director of Communications**

*Regina Everett, MPA, RHIA*

**Director of Education**

*Julie Dooling, RHIT*

**Director of Marketing**

*Diane Swift, RHIT*

**Director of Recruitment**

*Mary Jellinek, MS, RHIA*

**Annual Meeting Chairperson**

*Ann Nowlin, RHIT*

**Central Office Coordinator**

*Sharon Farley, RHIA*

**Treasurer**

*Sue LaBonte, RHIA, CHP*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Year Delegate**

*Maggie Gambill,*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Year Delegate**

*Jane DeSpiegalaere-Wegner, RHIA, CCS*

**1<sup>st</sup> Year Delegate**

*Michelle Kornfeld*

**Alternate Delegate**

## Regional Links

[Click Here for Eastern Missouri](#)



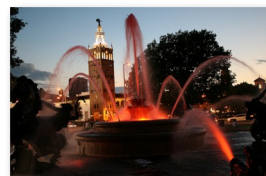
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