Welcome to December 2010 Uplink

Welcome to the December 2010 issue of our MHIMA member and corporate partner e-newsletter, Uplink.

Happy Holidays to all! Remember, we are always looking for authors of articles of interest to our broad MHIMA membership: about 500 words, worth two (2) CE credits for your original work. Contact MHIMA Executive Director.
Current and past issues of our e-newsletter are always available under the UPLINK E-NEWSLETTERS button on our MHIMA website.

If you would like to unsubscribe to our newsletter, please contact Executive Director.

MHIMA Vision & Mission

**Vision:** The Minnesota Health Information Management Association, together with AHIMA, will set the standard and be the recognized leader in health information management practices, technology, education, research, and advocacy.

**Mission:** MHIMA is committed to the professional development of its members through education, networking, and life-long learning. These commitments promote high quality health information and benefit the public, health care providers, and other clinical data users.

President's Message
Sue Jensen, RHIT MHIMA President

Happy Holidays Everyone!

Last weekend, I took the time to enjoy the weather and put up my Christmas tree and lights on the house outside. I am the person on the block who enjoys decorating my home for the holidays and sharing it with my neighbors. Let’s just say that, “I light up the neighborhood.”

So on that note, I say, “Let Your Light Shine!” I would like to say “Thank You” to everyone who, during this time of year, takes time out of their busy schedule to volunteer, whether it is working at church, helping our elderly community by making/delivering meals, working with the Salvation Army or purchasing gifts for children who are in need.

As well, MHIMA and AHIMA have many who volunteer in a variety of positions. Already this month, MHIMA has provided webinar training on December 2, 2010: A Tool for Medical Necessity Education and we have the next webinar on December 15, 2010: Fundamentals of ICD-10-CM. I appreciate the many volunteers who have assisted with the webinars by volunteering their

AHIMA member. MHIMA uses email and occasionally land mail as our primary means of communication, and if you check “NO” in the email or postal mail boxes, you won’t receive either type of communication from us. Thank you!

MHIMA Legal Resource Manual

The 2009 Legal Resource Manual remains available for purchase! This Manual is a complete update of the 2007 version and includes the laws and rules that address the majority of issues that may arise with respect to health information practice. There are many new updates in every chapter. As one member states, “This is truly a valuable resource for anyone that works with health care.” It’s a compilation of best practices and experience of HIM professionals and the facilities they represent in Minnesota, and it’s had extensive legal review.

There will not be another update to the Legal Manual until 2011.

All HIM Departments should
time, skills, and knowledge to bring this information to the MHIMA members and healthcare organizations.

Please make sure that you check out the MHIMA website for additional webinar training scheduled for January, February, and March. We look forward to receiving your feedback and thoughts regarding the educational opportunities available.

Reflecting on the last year, MHIMA has once again had many accomplishments. This is just a list of a few of them:

- MHIMA had the largest attendance ever at our 2010 Annual Meeting.
- This past year, MHIMA received three AHIMA Core Services Achievement awards:
  - First Place in Legislative and Regulatory Advocacy. This award recognized the work done by the MHIMA team in defeating SF 857, the "copy fee" bill, at the legislative committee level.
  - First Place in Continuing Education Programs relating to Coding. This award recognized the work done by the Coding Education Roundtable team in developing and using the coding roundtable tool kits, as well as the ICD-10 webinar that was presented in 2010.
  - Third Place in Continuing Education Programs relating to HIM Practice Topics. This award recognized the webinar series hosted by MHIMA during this past year(2009-2010) that reached out across our entire state.
- AHIMA Foundation Agreement and Scholarship Account created
- 2010-2011 Webinars (13 anticipated).
- MHIMA member elected to AHIMA Board and members appointed to AHIMA Committees.

As we move forward to next year, the Annual Meeting Committee has been working hard on the program for the Annual Meeting, scheduled April 27-29, 2011 at Treasure Island Resort and Casino in Red Wing. The Legal Manual Committee is working on an update for next year, anticipating availability for the Annual Meeting, and the Scholarship Committee will be sending notifications out to the Colleges regarding applications for the 2011 scholarships. Already, 2011 is anticipated to be another outstanding year for MHIMA.

As the holidays arrive, my Christmas wish for all would be that as you spend time with family and friends, take time to live, laugh, and love. These three things will, though seemingly small, make our world a better place for all. Share your stories, feelings, and faith with friends and family to refresh the body, spirit, and soul.

Thank you to all volunteers and Happy Holidays!

Sue

MHIMA's Lunch & Learn Webinars

MHIMA Job Bank

Are you seeking a job? Are you an employer looking for a potential employee? Is your facility looking for someone with a skill set of MHIMA members? Be sure to check out the MHIMA Job Bank Network on our website, which continues to be very popular and new positions are being posted on a regular basis. Here, you'll find information about registering as a "Job Seeker" or as an "Employer". New positions are posted frequently, so check us out often!

Job Seekers: There is no fee to register.

Employers: Job posting fees are very reasonable and reach all of our MHIMA membership. E-blasts of job announcements are also available for purchase.

Click Here to visit the MHIMA Job Bank.

MHIMA Coding & Data Quality
MHIMA’s Lunch & Learn Webinar series continues for 2010-2011. All webinars are being recorded and a DVD is available for purchase if you cannot attend the live event. Visit the MHIMA website and click on the HIM Education button/Online Learning for complete details on the “live” events as well as ordering recorded webinars.

The next webinars scheduled are:

**Fundamentals of ICD-10-CM on December 15, 2010, presented by Gina Sanvik, RHIA.** This webinar, the second webinar being offered on the topic of ICD-10, is an in-depth focus on the purpose and impact of ICD-10-CM, its coding conventions and design characteristics. Registration closes on December 10th, so register today. You can download/print the flyer from this link. To register securely online, Click Here.

**Fundamentals of ICD-10-PCS on January 6, 2011, presented by Gina Sanvik, RHIA.** This webinar is the third webinar designed for ICD-10 learning, and is an in-depth focus on the purpose and impact of ICD-10-PCS, its structure and organization, design characteristics, definitions and conventions. Registration for this webinar closes on December 31, 2010. You can download/print the flyer for this webinar by clicking here. To register securely online, Click Here.

**A Look at the Recovery Audit Contractor (RAC) Program on January 13, 2011, presented by Jenny Boese, VP, External Relations & Member Advocacy, WI Hospital Association.** This webinar will bring you up-to-date on what’s happening nationwide with the RACs, provide information gleaned from AHA’s RACTrac program, learn what our Region B’s RAC, CGI, is doing, including audits, claims denials, appeal rates, as well as identify common problems experienced during the RAC process and potential resources for assistance. Registration for this webinar closes on January 7, 2011. To download/print the flyer for this webinar, Click Here. To register securely online, Click Here.

Additional webinars currently being planned:
- February 23: Clinical Documentation Improvement presented by Patti Collins Smith and Anne Tegen
- February or March: REACH
- March 31: HITECH presented by Dwan Thomas Flowers

All webinars are $59 per connection for MHIMA/AHIMA members, and worth one (1) CE for everyone participating at one site connection. Multiple connections at one site require separate registrations.

The MHIMA webinar series is an opportunity to pick up needed information as well as earn CEUs at a very reasonable rate, and reaches our members all across the state. We hope you take advantage of our webcasts!

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**Personal Health Record Update**

Caroline Gaarder, MLA, RHIA

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**Roundtable Tool Kits**

The MHIMA Coding & Data Quality Committee’s newest PowerPoint presentation, including case study questions, is "Neoplasms - Carcinoid Tumor". There is an accompanying case study answer presentation. This is one of several "tool kits" developed for use by MHIMA members to support coding education and discussion in your facilities and at your regional meetings.

Is there a tool kit topic that needs to be developed? Let your needs be known. Contact Angela Jackson or Jessica Peterson.

The general "Do It Yourself" PowerPoint tool kit gives you the guidelines to set up a coding roundtable.

Additional tool kits on specific topics that have been developed and are available include Interventional Radiology, E&M, Heart Failure, updated Present on Admission (POA) and Aftercare vs Follow Up.

All are available on the Coding and Data Quality button on the MHIMA website. Watch for additional toolkits as they are developed!

And a reminder about your general coding questions: You are encouraged to use
Good news! The Personal Health Record campaign is being reinstated and several very positive things have taken place. I was a member of a conference call on November 22nd and one of the things discussed was the Blue Button initiative. This program allows Medicare, Medicaid, and VA patients to have access to downloadable portions of their health records. AHIMA is building a Blue Button webpage on the MyPHR website. They have a reference now that can be viewed on under Resources/Seniors.

Also, plans are in the works to develop a coalition with such organizations as AARP and AHA to promote the use of the PHR.

Other things that were discussed on our conference call:

1. New resources for creating booths at health fairs
2. Easier reporting mechanisms for campaign activity
3. The "patient navigator" role is a new opportunity and was referred to the October JAHIMA for more definition
4. Easier and more defined volunteer roles and requirements

We were just given a glimpse of what is to come and it looks like the time for the PHR has truly arrived. If you can't reference the Patient Navigator article in the October JAHIMA, I will provide a summary next month. We'll also be offering a training opportunity for PHR education at our 2011 annual meeting.

Update on MN Statute 144.293

Steph Luthi-Terry provided the following important information relating to MN Statute 144.293:

**CURRENT LAW: 144.293 RELEASE OR DISCLOSURE OF HEALTH RECORDS.**

Subd. 4. Duration of consent. Except as provided in this section, a consent is valid for one year or for a period specified in the consent or for a different period provided by law.

**PREVIOUS LAW: 144.293 RELEASE OR DISCLOSURE OF HEALTH RECORDS.**

Subd. 4. Duration of consent. Except as provided in this section, a consent is valid for one year or for a lesser period specified in the consent or for a different period provided by law.

AHIMA's Coding CoPs for coding related questions. There is a general coding CoP community for coders as well as several for specific coding areas. These CoPs are a great resource for submitting coding questions and participating in the discussion threads surrounding the questions of others. To participate in these CoPs, Click Here.

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**Save-the-Date for the 2011 MHIMA Annual Meeting**

"Health Information: Innovation and Quality in a Time of Health Care Reform." Put the dates of April 27-29, 2011 on your calendar now and plan to join hundreds of your fellow MHIMA members at our 2011 Annual Meeting at the Treasure Island hotel and conference center in Red Wing, Minnesota. Your 2011 Annual Meeting planning team is already at work, developing a program that you won't want to miss. We are in a time of incredible and perhaps even unprecedented change in health care. Save the date!

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**Need CEUs before 12/31/10?**

Consider purchasing one of
ICD-10 CEU Requirements for those holding an AHIMA Credential

This information is being repeated again in our Uplink because of its importance to those of you holding AHIMA credentials:

The Commission on Certification for Health Informatics and Information Management (CCHIIM) published their continuing education requirements for AHIMA certified professionals in March, 2010, and recently updated that document on October 5, 2010.

AHIMA certification represents a high level of achievement and demonstrates proficiency and a broad base of knowledge. With the coming implementation of ICD-10, a major healthcare industry change that will bring the US in step with worldwide coding systems, CCHIIM has determined that continuing education hours with ICD-10-CM/PCS content will be required between the period of January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2013.

AHIMA certified professionals will be required to participate in a predetermined number of mandatory baseline educational experiences specific to ICD-10-CM/PCS. These CEUs will count as part of all AHIMA certificants' total CEU requirements for the purpose of recertification. The total number of ICD-10 CEUs required, by AHIMA credential, is as follows:

- CHPS: 1 CEU
- CHDS: 6 CEUs
- RHIT: 6 CEUs
- RHIA: 6 CEUs
- CCS-P: 12 CEUs
- CCS: 18 CEUs
- CCA: 18 CEUs

Certificants who hold more than one AHIMA credential will only report the highest number of CEUs from among all credentials held. For example, if you have both an RHIA and CCS, you would normally report 40 CEUs per recertification cycle (30 for RHIA and 10 for CCS). 18 of these CEUs will be required to cover ICD-10-CM/PCS.

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.

MHIMA members: Please download CCHIIM's FAQ Document for full details.

MHIMA’s strategic work plan will continue to include opportunities for you to earn these required ICD-10-CM/PCS CEUs through our educational offerings.
2011 MHIMA Scholarships

The MHIMA Scholarship Committee announces that applications are now open for the 2011 MHIMA Scholarships! Students who are HIM/HIT MN residents, or AHIMA members who designate Minnesota as their chosen state for affiliation, are eligible to apply when enrolled in an in-state or out-of-state program. Applicants must have completed 50% of their program in a HIT or HIM accredited program, a graduate program related to HIM in a college or university accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency, a coding certificate program, or the AHIMA Coding Basics Interactive Campus program. In addition, applicants must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 out of 4.0 and must be AHIMA members. MN students from all program levels are eligible for scholarships, which are based on merit, not financial need.

The application deadline closes on February 28, 2011 and all application materials must be received on or before that date.

More information and application materials are available on the MHIMA website's calendar as well on the HIM education button on our website. Directors of accredited HIM/HIT programs in Minnesota will also have the application materials.

Call for Nominations for MHIMA 2011 Election

The MHIMA Nominating Committee, chaired by Steph Luthi-Terry, Past President, is seeking nominations for the MHIMA election ballot for the following positions.

- **President-Elect**: This is a three year-commitment, and the nominee must have been a MHIMA board member within the last five years, a MHIMA committee chair within the last three years, or active in an AHIMA volunteer role within the last three years.
- **Delegate Director**: This is a two-year commitment, and the nominee must have been a MHIMA committee chair, held another elected office, or have been a Regional officer within the last three years. One Delegate Director will be elected in 2011.
- **Treasurer**: This is a two-year commitment.
- **Secretary**: This is a one-year commitment.

All nominees must be active MHIMA members with an AHIMA-approved credential. The election occurs in March of 2011, and the elected positions begin on July 1, 2011.
For more information about the specifics of these open positions, Click Here.

If you are interested, or if you want to recommend someone for consideration, please contact Steph Luthi-Terry. Deadline for nominations is January 31, 2011.

MHIMA 2011 Distinguished Member

The MHIMA Nominating Committee is seeking your recommendations for an individual deserving of being recognized as MHIMA's 2011 Distinguished Member. This is a way to recognize excellence within our association and the 2011 Distinguished Member will be celebrated at our 2011 Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 28, 2011.

Submit names of nominees by February 15, 2011, to Steph Luthi-Terry, chair of the 2011 Nominating Committee. Click Here to view the nomination form, including a list of previous distinguished members.

Thanks to our PPE Clinical Supervisors
Carolyn Gaarder, MLA, RHIA

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

I am positive that my colleagues in all the MN HIT/HIM programs join with me in thanking everyone who has served as a Profession Practice Experience (PPE) clinical supervisor in 2010. Providing a PPE in a year of EHR implementation, facility merges, or both reflects true dedication to our profession.

For the clinical supervision of each student, AHIMA now allows 5 CEUs per student with a maximum of 10 CEUs in a reporting cycle. For other employees who assist by working directly with the student, AHIMA allows 1 CEU per hour with a maximum of 5 CEUs per student and 10 CEUs per cycle. Use documentation from the program for reporting of these CEUs.

Again, I wish to extend a sincere thank you.

Carolyn Gaarder

MN Health Information Technology Training Program

Normandale Community College is continuing to accept student applications for the Health IT Professional training program, a 6-month ARRA-HITECH funded HIT training
program focusing on job-specific training for one of four workforce roles in the field of health information technology (HIT). This program was introduced in our September issue of Uplink.

Their second training cohort will begin on January 4, 2011 and applications will be accepted through December 31, 2010.

$1150 of the program fee will be covered by federal financial assistance; the total student cost will be $500.00.

For more information, Click Here.

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**I-10 in 2011: A To-Do List for Inpatient Coders**

This list appeared in the September 2010 issue of the *Journal of AHIMA*, is based on AHIMA's role-based model for ICD-10 implementation, and is being referenced here. If you are an inpatient coder, please take note:

Now, through the first half of 2011:

- Understand the ICD-10 final rule and its implications to your particular position
- Learn about the structure, organization and unique features of ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS. Have you registered for MHIMA's webinars on these topics?
- Use assessment tools to identify areas of strength/weakness in the biomedical sciences (e.g., anatomy and pathophysiology). Register for the 2011 MHIMA Annual Meeting for a session geared to this topic!
- Review and refresh knowledge of biomedical sciences as needed, based on the results of your assessment.
- Begin studying ICD-10-PCS definitions (root operations and approaches). MHIMA is planning a webinar on root operations in the Spring of 2011!
- Begin learning about the general equivalence mappings (GEMs) between ICD-9-CM, ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS. If you didn't participate in the first MHIMA webinar on ICD-10: "Are you Ready for ICD-10?", you may want to consider purchasing the archived copy.

In the second half of 2011:

- Review code structure and coding conventions for I-10 CM and I-10 PCS
- Learn the fundamental of the I-10 CM and I-10 PCS systems. Don't forget the availability of our MHIMA webinars on these topics!
- Analyze and practice applying the I-10 CM and I-10 PCS coding guidelines
- Continue to study I-10 PCS definitions (memorize the definitions of approaches and the root operations)
- Continue to review and refresh knowledge of the concepts of natomy/physiology
Put the next 18 months to good use in reviewing and improving your foundational knowledge in preparation for ICD-10!

If you are an outpatient coder, data manager, educator, current student, prospective student, tasks and milestones are also available for you at AHIMA ICD-10.

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MHIMA Scholarship Fund Moves to AHIMA Foundation

Want to support our HIM students in their professional education? Want to obtain a **tax-deductible contribution** for your financial support in 2010? You can now do both!

Earlier this year, your MHIMA Board of Directors approved an agreement with the AHIMA Foundation to move our Scholarship Fund dollars to a designated fund within the AHIMA Foundation. This fund is known as the **MN Student Merit Scholarships**, and beginning immediately, all contributions to the AHIMA Foundation that are specifically designated to the MN Student Merit Scholarships will be added to our scholarship fund. Unlike MHIMA, the AHIMA Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization; thus, all contributions made to the AHIMA Foundation are considered tax-deductible.

Through this new agreement, the AHIMA Foundation will administer our designated fund dollars on behalf of MHIMA. MHIMA will continue to determine the MHIMA scholarship selection criteria, solicit and review the applications, and determine the scholarship winners. The AHIMA Foundation will issue the scholarship award checks from our MN Student Merit Scholarships fund held at the Foundation.

MHIMA is very excited to offer this opportunity to everyone who is supportive of our MHIMA Scholarship program. You'll find more information, including a direct link to make your contribution by credit card, on the [AHIMA Foundation page](#) on our website.

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