



MHIMA Uplink

January 2011

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Welcome to January 2011 Uplink

Welcome to the January 2011 issue of our MHIMA member and corporate partner e-newsletter, *Uplink*.



Happy New Year 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.

Keep your AHIMA Profile Current

When is the last time you reviewed the information in your AHIMA profile? Have you changed positions? Have a new email address? Have you recently moved? These are just a few of the data elements in your AHIMA profile, and MHIMA uses this information on a regular basis.

Take a minute or two right now, visit the [AHIMA Website](#), log in with your 7-digit AHIMA member number and your last name (capitalize the first letter!), and click on "My Profile/Dues Renewal." Review all of the four sections and update the information as appropriate.

In the section for **My Communication Preferences**, may we ask that you check "YES" under the CSA Selection box for emails and postal mail? CSA stands for "component state association" and it means the state that you want to be associated with as an

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



Sue Jensen, RHIT

Happy New Year Everyone!

January is a wonderful time of year when we get to reminisce over the memories of the past year, by giving thanks and then onward to planning for the New Year ahead. Based on the past year, we made resolutions and promises, believing that "things will be different, better or easier." I am a firm believer in achieving your dreams. It may not be easy and it may be a long journey, but whatever your dream, if you are willing to work hard and not give up, I believe that anything can be accomplished.

One of the biggest influences in my life is my sister, Deb. She is truly an amazing woman and every day I continue to learn from her. When we started off on our new business adventures, there were days that things didn't always go well. One night when we were talking, she said the following words to me. They are simple, straightforward, and honest. This simple line stays with

me in all areas of my life. She said, "If it was easy, everyone would do it." I take these words to heart and apply them now in all areas of my life. While some would read this statement and use it in a discouraging way, I use this statement to remember that all of us are unique individuals, with different sets of skills and passionate, driving forces that make us who we are today.

With that statement in mind, I am blessed to have a large, wonderful group of MHIMA people that I

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!

Staying Up To Date with MN e-Health

If you aren't receiving the weekly electronic MN e-Health Update newsletter, consider signing up for it. This will keep you up to date on issues related to e-Health, including HITECH, Meaningful Use, Privacy & Security and others, as well as provide links to e-Health resources available for your use. To subscribe, click [here](#).

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

call my friends, who have skills that, when blended together, make a wonderful combination. Together, we help each other be the best that we can be and that will make this year another outstanding, wonderful year for MHIMA.

MHIMA is a volunteer organization. This past year, we have continued to see growth in our membership, educational opportunities, and continued recognition in leadership areas through AHIMA in regards to our CSA awards. These areas and more could not be accomplished without the dedication and passion of the volunteers who lead and have led this organization. Our Nominating Committee continues to work hard filling the ballot for this coming year. If you, or someone you know, is interested in running for an office, please contact the chair of the Nominating Committee, [Steph Luthi-Terry](#), by the end of January. The nominations close on January 31.

In addition, the webinar schedule is posted and available on the website. We have some exciting topics in the next few months and they are very cost effective at \$59 per live event. The past webinars have now been archived and can be purchased in the form of a DVD at a new price of \$49 for one, or \$129 for three. Please contact [MHIMA's Executive Director](#) to register for upcoming webinars or to purchase any of the past webinars.

We have many committees who are working hard on a variety of projects and activities. If you are interested in volunteering on a committee, please send a note to [MHIMA's Executive Director](#) and she will forward that information to the Committee or Project Chair(s).

Last, but not least, MHIMA's Annual meeting will be at Treasure Island Casino in Red Wing in April. We hope to see you there.

Welcome to 2011!

Sue

2011 MHIMA Annual Meeting

"Health Information: Innovation and Quality in a Time of Health Care Reform." Plans are well underway for our 2011 Annual Meeting April 27-29, 2011, at Treasure Island Resort & Casino Convention Center near Red Wing. TI's Convention Center is brand new, and totally smoke free, as is their new tower hotel suite. The convention center and hotel rooms all have complimentary wireless internet as well. Your 2011 Annual Meeting planning team, led by Karen Teufer and Christina Wallner, are planning another great educational, exhibitor show and social event for you!



Written program materials will be in your mailbox before the end of January. Registration is now open from our [website](#), where you can also find the Program of Events, hotel accommodation

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 have this Manual in their office for ready reference. It's available on CD only and can be purchased from [the MHIMA Store button](#) on the MHIMA website.

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!

information, and travel directions.

Register early and plan to join us!

Do you have JPG photos of MHIMA events of this past year? Would you like to share them with our annual meeting attendees in a continuous PowerPoint at various spots in our meeting? Email them to [MHIMA's Executive Director](#) for inclusion in the photo presentation.

MHIMA's Lunch & Learn Webinars



MHIMA's Lunch & Learn Webinar series continues for 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 on our schedule are:

- February 23: Clinical Documentation Improvement presented by Patti Collins Smith and Anne Tegen
- March 24: REACH Update presented by Dr. Paul Kleeberg
- March 31: HITECH/HIPAA presented by Dwan Thomas Flowers

All webinars are \$59 per "live" 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.

Archived versions are now available for \$49 for members, or a package of three for \$129.

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

Promoting PHRs to our Patients

Carolyn Gaarder, MLA, RHIA

Patient Navigators

This article appeared in the October 2010 issue of Journal of AHIMA. In the past, this role and variations are discussed as possible career tracks for HIMs. Recently, the myphr website has recommended reading this article



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

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.

as it does tie into the promotion of getting patients more knowledgeable about their health care and therefore being able to contribute to the decisions being made.

The concept involves providing the patient with assistance in navigating the health care delivery system which can include making appointments, understanding test results, following treatment plans, locating community resources, finding more information about their health care conditions, etc.

This sounds very much like the patient advocate job positions that were developed years ago to assist patients in finding a more personal link in the fast growing complexities of larger health care facilities. The premise was to have the patient establish a relationship with a patient advocate who would be the first contact with assistance in anything from making appointments to obtaining health records to researching more information about their disease conditions. At that time, the goal was patient satisfaction and basically a happy patient who would not be quick to bring action in case of a mishap if they had the name of their patient advocate who could help them resolve things. The basic goal of the "patient navigator" is slightly different, however, the process looks quite similar.

The good news is Medicare beneficiaries are being encouraged to develop a PHR. Check out [Medicare's website](#) and look for the "blue button". This might be an opportunity for us to go out to the senior citizen groups and promote the PHR. Keep in mind that there will be free PHR training at the annual meeting, worth two (2) hours of Privacy & Security or Technology CE.

Stay warm, Carolyn Gaarder

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.

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 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](#).

Save-the-Date for the 2011 MHIMA Annual Meeting

"Health Information: Innovation and Quality in a Time of Health Care Reform." April 27-29, 2011 at the Treasure Island hotel and conference center near Red Wing, Minnesota. Save the 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. It's not too late to let Steph know about your interest. Nominations close on January 31st.

- **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](#). Remember, the deadline for nominations is January 31, 2011.

MHIMA Members in the News



Cindy Glewwe, MEd, RHIA, second year MHIMA delegate director, has been asked to serve on AHIMA's Educational Strategy Committee. Cindy anticipates that one of their strategy topics will be practicums for students. Congratulations, Cindy!

The December 2010 issue of *Minnesota Economic Trends*, published by the MN Department of Employment and Economic Development, featured three of our MHIMA members in their article about health information careers, "Flying Below the Radar." Lisa Kampa, Jodi Hermann, and Ilene Estabrook were interviewed for this article. Click [here](#) to read the article. Great visibility for our profession! Thank you!

MHIMA 2011 Distinguished Member

MHIMA Promotional Items

Check out our [MHIMA Store](#) on our website. You'll find tailored logo button-downs, cozy crews and hoodies, and a stunning sterling silver key ring, embossed with our logo, for sale. These items would make a great gift for yourself, a colleague, or to honor someone's achievement.

The MHIMA Nominating Committee is seeking your recommendations for an individual deserving of being recognized as MHIMA's 2011 Distinguished Member. The 2011 Distinguished Member will be celebrated at our 2011 Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 28, 2011.



The Distinguished Member Award is MHIMA's highest award of honor. This award celebrates and honors outstanding members of MHIMA for their loyal service to our state association and their contributions to our profession. It is awarded to an outstanding individual who has been an active member of MHIMA for five (5) years or longer and whose record of contributions to our field is truly exceptional.

Qualified nominees must be MHIMA members at the time of nomination, and have made an outstanding contribution to our profession in one or more of the following leadership areas:

- Volunteer service to our association, as an officer, director, committee chair or member, project or task force chair or member, CoP facilitator, or representative of the HIM field at governmental or state healthcare associations
- Outstanding achievement in professional practice through leadership in a specialty area or innovative approaches to methods improvement
- Leadership in education through regular presentations at HIM conferences or other educational events, respected instructor in academic HIM programs, or development of teaching strategies
- Contributions in research or published materials such as authorship, editing, or service on editorial boards for journals, books and other publications that advance the HIM profession

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.

Pearson VUE and AHIMA Certification Exams

Beginning this month, all AHIMA certification exams will now be delivered at Pearson VUE Professional Testing Centers. (Previously, Prometric administered these exams.) Pearson VUE has a worldwide test center network, and they will provide a more convenient and efficient experience for taking your exam. They have more than 200 locations in the USA along with a state-of-the-art computer based testing experience. Their flexible cancellation and rescheduling policies will be appreciated by candidates. You can find more information by visiting [AHIMA's Certification home page](#), or by calling AHIMA's customer relations department at 800-335-5535.

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