Welcome to March 2011 Uplink

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

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

March is here and winter has ended, at least according to the ice fishing schedule. At our home, much of the winter months are spent on the lake spending time with our children and grandchildren. We enjoy the quiet time in the warm fish house, angling for crappies, sunnies, and walleye.

As I contemplated what to share with you this month, I reflected on the analogy between a career in Health Information Management and ice fishing. Initially, I believed in no connects or similarities between them.

My first thought was regarding the initial drive onto the lake, just to get out to the fish house. To be honest, it scares me to death every time the vehicle goes onto the lake. I am fearful of the "what ifs." Just getting to the fish house where we start fishing is an adventure. The challenges when fishing start with the questions of "Where do you put the house? Will there be fish? Will we catch any?"

As I thought of these different things, I considered them from the standpoint of a career in HIM and the attraction of prospective students into the field of Health Information Management. The initial leap into a new career is an adventure. It is scary and exciting at the same time. Picking a hole to fish in is comparable to selecting the area of Health Information where you'd like to work. You have a wide variety of different HIM areas from which to choose. In one, you may catch your limit - one right after another - in 30 minutes. In another, you may catch fish consistently but it takes more...
time and extra effort.

When comparing fishing to attracting students to HIM, you will need to check the bait you use to “lure” them into the program. You may also need to get their attention by “jigging” and being consistent with your work. But once you get a bite and “set the hook,” you are not done. To land the fish, you need to maintain pressure, not too hard and not too soft. The feeling of reeling in that fish is a wonderful sense of accomplishment and confidence, much like sharing with another HIM person who lands that first job, a new job or position.

March and April will be very busy months for MHIMA. Another ICD-10 webinar is coming up on March 16th. March 18th, the MHIMA Board will be holding a Board meeting at the Allina Commons. On March 28 and 29, 2011, Gina and I will be attending Winter Team Talks and Cathy French will be joining us for AHIMA’s Capital Hill Day in Washington, DC. April brings our 2011 Annual Meeting.

As winter comes to an end and spring begins, MHIMA Board members and volunteers continue to be very active. Scholarship applications are being reviewed, the ballot is out for the election of new officers, and the Annual meeting registration is open. I look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting at Treasure Island, April 27-29, 2011. Remember to “Save the Date!”

Sue

PS – One personal note – I would like to say “Congratulations to my daughter, Jackie, who has just signed up to start HIM classes to follow in her mother’s footsteps. I love you!”

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!

Registration is now open from our website, where you can also find the Program of Events, hotel accommodation information, and travel directions. Remember that the early registration fee closes in just a few weeks, so save money and register today!

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.
2011 Annual Meeting Silent Auction

It's that time of year! MHIMA's annual meeting committee continues to seek your support for our MHIMA Student Merit Scholarship Program through your gifts to our not-so-Silent Auction. Auction items can include artwork, jewelry, accessories, gift baskets, electronics, gift certificates, craft items, and much more. Gifts can be contributed from individuals, from a group of colleagues, or from our vendor exhibitors. All proceeds benefit our MHIMA Student Merit Scholarship Fund.

This year, our Silent Auction will be open from noon on Wednesday through 6 pm on Thursday. More time to browse, more time to bid! Remember, this is a fundraiser, so bid with enthusiasm!

Let us know about your planned gift to our Silent Auction by contacting MHIMA's Executive Director. Bring your gift to the Annual Meeting Registration Desk no later than Thursday morning, April 28th.

Let's make this a year's auction proceeds the largest ever!

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:

• March 16: ICD-10 Planning and Preparation, presented by Brooke Palkie. This webinar qualifies toward the required ICD-10 CEs for folks holding an AHIMA credential. Registration remains open through Sunday, March 13th.

Webinars in the planning stage include:
• May 19: Electronic Document Management

Please note: the webinars scheduled for March on REACH and HITECH have been cancelled.

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 Roundtable Tool Kits

The MHIMA Coding & Data
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!

Special Offer AHIMA Membership Opportunity

AHIMA has announced a limited-time special membership opportunity for students who are in the ARRA HITECH grant funded programs. These students are not eligible for traditional AHIMA student membership. AHIMA is offering this opportunity to join AHIMA at a rate of $50 while they are in the ARRA HITECH programs (which is a maximum of 2 years), and these members will be considered Active members under this eligibility.

Program directors of the ARRA HITECH programs are receiving information of this membership opportunity for their students.

Pearson VUE and AHIMA Certification Exams

Beginning January 2011, 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.

ICD-10 CEU Requirements

In the December, 2010, issue of Uplink, we published the CCHIIM Continuing Education Requirements for AHIMA Certified Professionals. As a reminder, there are mandatory baseline 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 AHIMA's Coding CoPs for coding related questions. There is a general coding CoP community for coders as well as several for
educational experiences specific to ICD-10 CM and PCS required as part of your total CEU requirements for recertification, and you must earn these I-10 specific CEUs during the period of January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2013.

We've also placed this publication on our website's ICD-10 page. Individuals need to choose the I-10 education that supports their learning for their job position. As more information becomes available, including anything related to information to tailor your educational requirements, we'll include them on our ICD-10 website page.

MHIMA's archived and ongoing webinar series on I-10, as well as the ICD-10 Academy sessions at our annual meeting, will help you earn these required CEUs.

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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!

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.