



MHIMA Uplink

October 2009

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Welcome! October 2009 Uplink

Welcome to the October 2009 issue of our MHIMA member e-newsletter, Uplink. Uplink is now coming to you monthly, at the beginning of each month.

Have something you'd like included in a coming issue? Send us your article! Would you like to be considered as a featured member in a "How I Got to Where I Am" column? Send us your information!

Articles should be no longer than 500 words and you receive one (1) CEU credit for your work. Contact [Myrna Wells-Ulland](#)

You can find the current and past issues on our website under the UPLINK E-NEWSLETTER button.



2010 MHIMA Annual Meeting

April 28-30, 2010
MHIMA Annual Meeting & Vendor Exhibition
Northland Inn, Brooklyn Park, MN

"Celebrate Our Past; Lead Into the Future" In 2010, we will not only celebrate our 75th anniversary as an association but we'll be challenged to lead our profession forward from whatever situation or position we find ourselves in! Be sure to visit our [MHIMA Website](#) for information about the meeting and registration details as they become available.

Save-The-Date! April 28-30, 2010

Coding & Data Quality Coding Roundtable Toolkits

If you would like to unsubscribe to our Uplink e-newsletter, please contact [Myrna Wells-Ulland](#)

President's Message

Steph Luthi-Terry



Hard to believe that Fall has arrived! There is crispness in the air that promises change – change being the operative word.

We had a busy and productive Board meeting in September. A milestone achieved for the MHIMA board was completing and approving the 2009-10 budget! Many thanks to all of the Board Members, Committee Chairs and our Executive Director who were diligent in anticipating expenses, looking to the future, and anticipating the needs of our association. Also reviewed and finalized was the 2009-10 Strategic Plan. I believe you will find the Board direction to be positive, proactive and looking to the immediate and longer term educational and professional needs of our members. Please visit the Minnesota CoP to

review the strategic plan and other member information.

Speaking of the CoP, for those MHIMA members who will be attending the annual AHIMA convention in Dallas starting on October 5, look for the unveiling of AHIMA's updated website and updated CoP environment. AHIMA has been making some significant changes to the website and will be rolling this out gradually over the next several months. The MHIMA Delegates received a "sneak peak" at some of the changes at Team Talks in July. I believe everyone will appreciate the improved navigation ability of the web site.

At the direction of the Board, a House of Delegates (HOD) feedback survey was sent to MHIMA members seeking input on the three proposed resolutions the HOD will consider at AHIMA's meeting on October 4. Resolutions under consideration by the HOD are Volunteer and Leader Development, Professional Guidelines/Best Practices for Electronic Documentation, and a change in the AHIMA bylaws to change delegate apportionment (the number of delegates that represent each state at the AHIMA House of Delegates). I anticipate a lively discussion on these proposals. Please watch the Uplink and MHIMA website for the HOD outcome. Thank you to all who took the time to participate in the survey.

As Fall promises change, so does ARRA. Most of us are anticipating changes to how we manage our disclosure logging process, defining "breach" and "disclosure" notifications, impending changes to business associate agreements and other HIPAA implications. In response to these changes and to keep everyone abreast of ARRA implications and updates, LaVonne Wieland, RHIA will be presenting our first webinar on December 4th (see Sidebar). These "lunch and learns" are designed to provide focused information for our members and are very affordable. Please share this learning opportunity with your colleagues who may not know about MHIMA and the expertise our webinars will offer. We have designed our webinars to provide low cost learning opportunities without any travel to our

The MHIMA Coding & Data Quality Committee has created several toolkits for use by MHIMA members to support coding education and discussion in your facilities and at your regional meetings. There is a "Do It Yourself" PowerPoint tool kit giving you the guidelines to set up a coding roundtable.

Additional tool kits on specific topics that have been developed to-date include Interventional Radiology, E&M, Heart Failure and the **newly updated Present on Admission (POA)**.

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

MHIMA Anniversaries

This is the year for anniversary celebrations for MHIMA. In 1935, our state association was founded, known then as the State Record Librarians Association. We later changed our name to the Minnesota Medical Record Association (MMRA) and in 1992, to the Minnesota Health Information Management Association (MHIMA) **We'll celebrate our "Diamond" anniversary - 75 years -**

members (and non-members, too!) to promote and advance the HIM profession.

Locally, MHIMA members should anticipate some activity and interest in the next legislative session. You may recall that during the 2009 session, a bill was introduced to substantially limit the fees organizations could legitimately charge for copies of medical records. Action on the bill was eventually tabled; however, MHIMA did commit to an environmental survey and continued dialogue with the members of the Judiciary Committee. Under the coordination of Diane Larson, MHIMA past-president, a Copy Fee Workgroup has been meeting to document the copy fee practices of our healthcare organizations and develop a "white paper" for discussion and educational purposes. If you received the Copy Fee Survey and haven't yet completed it, you have until October 11, 2009. Your input is very important on this subject. And thanks to all who took time to respond!

Please continue to visit our website for news and information regarding MHIMA.

Hope to see you in Dallas!

AHIMA's Advanced Workflow Seminar

AHIMA

Gain the Tools to Ensure Your Project's Success with Advanced Workflow Seminar

Advanced Workflow
December 1-2
Chicago, IL

Save Money! Take Advantage of the Early Bird Discount by November 2

At least 80 percent of all information technology systems fail because an organization's system doesn't meet the organization's needs or the implementation process isn't well-planned. AHIMA developed this seminar for those individuals taking a leading role in their organization's mission to implement an electronic health record (EHR). Now, more than ever before, implementing new systems requires management and facilitation of the project from start to finish. Whether you're starting a project or are halfway through, this two-day seminar helps keep your program on track.

Participants learn vital techniques necessary to keep projects moving, ensuring the right system is implemented and the project is completed on time. HIM and IT Managers receive training on how to develop a meaningful use case and communicate their organization's exact needs to programmers.

Furthermore, the Advanced Workflow seminar will:

- Identify key facilitation principles, like keeping your group on track, handling negative interactions, and monitoring status updates.
- Review the principles of workflow: process frame, current state, future state, and more.
- Work through real life advanced implementation case scenarios that failed to go according to plan.
- Strategize ways to incorporate the concepts of change management into the redesign process

at our 2010 MHIMA Annual Meeting.

In 1939, Minnesota's association was one of the FIRST 12 states to affiliate with what was then AMRA, now AHIMA. (The other 11 states were Colorado, Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and our neighboring state, Wisconsin.) **2009 marks our 70th year of affiliation with AHIMA!**

As they say on Broadway, we've come a long way, baby! Hats off to MHIMA!

MHIMA "Lunch & Learn" Webinar Series

MHIMA is introducing a new educational opportunity: **"Lunch and Learn"** web conferences. These webinars are designed to provide focused information for our members and are very affordable: \$49 per audio and web connection for a one hour presentation. The topics planned include:

- December 4, 2009: ARRA Update on Privacy & Security (LaVonne Wieland)
- January 2010: ROI Basics for Hospitals & Clinics (Lisa Kampa)
- February 5, 2010: Critical Access/Rural Health (Sarah Spoon and Amanda Maas)

- Explore the tools and techniques utilized in workflow redesign.

Attendees can expect a lively event, with role playing and scenario analysis. For more information, visit the [Advanced Workflow page](#), or call (800) 335-5535. We look forward to seeing you there!



MHIMA Regional Meetings

MHIMA Regional Presidents announce the following Fall Meetings schedule:

- Region F: Oct. 15 at Rochester Community & Technical College
- Region A: Oct. 22 at Riverview in Crookston
- Region E: Nov. 6 at Pipestone County Medical Center
- Region B: Nov. 19 at The College of St. Scholastica, Somer's Lounge
- Region G: Nov. 20 at Fairview HomeCare & Hospice

Check out meeting details on the [MHIMA website Calendar of Events](#)

The county designated on your AHIMA membership profile links you to one of our MHIMA Regions.

2009 MHIMA Legal Manual

The 2009 Legal Resource Manual is now available for purchase! The 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 has had legal review.

There will not be an update to the Legal Manual in 2010. The next full update is planned for the Spring of 2011. In the interim, significant changes in topics in the Manual will be posted on our website under the Legislative Updates button.

All HIM Departments should have this Manual. It's available on CD only and can be purchased from the [MHIMA website's main page](#). Order your manual today!

MHIMA Coding Roundtable Award

- March 2010: ICD-10 (Gina Sanvik)

Registration details are being finalized as Uplink goes to press. Watch for the November Uplink and your email for the **Lunch and Learn** event announcements. You'll also find information about them under the EDUCATION button on our website. Each event will earn you, and those who attend with you at your connection site, one CEU.

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. 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.

[Click Here](#) to visit the MHIMA Job Bank.

MHIMA has won an "Honorable Mention" in the 2009 AHIMA Roundtable Achievement in Coding Excellence (RACE) awards. This recognizes the work of your Coding Roundtable Team in developing the Coding Roundtable Tool Kits that are now available for enhancing your coding education (see Sidebar Article). The RACE Awards will be presented during lunch at the Clinical Coding Community Meeting on Saturday, October 3, in Grapevine, TX at the AHIMA Convention.

Congratulations to the Team members: Angela Jackson, Jessica Peterson and Vicki Chelf, nominated by Carla Tobin. MHIMA is proud of your leadership!

Professional Practice Experience (PPE)

Carolyn Gaarder

Professional Practice Experience (PPE) is the current name for Directed Practice, Clinical Affiliation, and Internships. No matter the title, it is the hands-on field practice.

Two articles have recently appeared in JAHIMA and both written by Chris Dimick, AHIMA staff writer. **"Help Wanted, Schools Struggle Placing Students in PPEs", September 2009** and **"Professional Practice Experience, Internships Open the Door to Real-World Lessons", October 2009.** A couple of his sentences caught my eye. Chris said, "The PPE is a virtual part of CAHIIM accredited HIM programs, program directors say, giving students first-hand education that cannot be replicated in the classroom." He went on to say, "The shortage (of PPE sites) affects both students and organizations, because a poorly trained student equals a poorly trained new hire." It is becoming a scary dilemma.

As much as we all embrace technology, it is often the cause of scarce PPE sites. In other words, the wider use of the Electronic Health Record has allowed employees to work from home and the number is growing, especially in the areas of coding, transcription, analysis and release of information. Removing the functions off-site decreases the number of employees in the department to assist with students. It is becoming a bitter-sweet dilemma, too. Will programs have to limit the number of new students if appropriate PPE sites cannot be located?

While the AHIMA guidelines for accredited HIM programs does not designate a set number of hours, it is general consensus that there should be at least one or preferably two PPEs built into the curriculum and at two different locations. While acute care hospitals have been and still are the first choice for PPEs, programs are encouraged to look at alternative, but appropriate, sites.

While the process is time consuming, I consider myself very lucky to find appropriate PPE sites. With the coding staff of many medical facilities able to code from home, arranging a coding segment for our second PPE is becoming increasingly difficult. This month, our advisory committee approved the change in our HIT curriculum to split our 3 credit secondary year PPE II into two segments. Segment one would consist of days in medical facility to see the supervisory functions in operation. Segment Two would consist of days mainly with coders, both inpatient and outpatient. If the facility's coders are working from home, a virtual coding project would be arranged to give segment two. This is not a unique concept and other programs are venturing into similar areas of hybrid PPEs.

Health Information and Technology Week

AHIMA's HI&T Week is a showcase for the thousands of health information management (HIM) professionals who perform their duties masterfully throughout the year.

November 1 through 7 is designated as HI&T Week throughout the US and Canada. Thank you to the members and facilities that make this week a memorable addition to our rich history. How are you planning to celebrate HI&T Week in your facility?

For more information, contact [AHIMA](#).

MHIMA Members in the News!

Your MHIMA President, Steph Luthi-Terry, has been appointed to AHIMA's State Advocacy Workgroup. One of your Delegate Directors, Gina Sanvik, has been appointed to the AHIMA Annual ICD-10 Summit Planning Committee. These leaders join many others within the MHIMA community in service at the AHIMA volunteer level. Thank you, everyone!

Please take time to read the above two articles and next month I plan to add more discussion to the dynamics of PPEs. In the meantime, locate your ice scraper!!!

Keep Your Membership Profile Current

The primary method for communicating with our MHIMA membership is through your personal data on your AHIMA membership profile. Don't forget to update your profile information when you change positions, move, get a new email address, earn a new credential, change your phone number(s), etc.

Remind your co-workers and colleagues to do the same! To update your profile information, log onto [the AHIMA web site](#).

- Point to Membership, then click on "Update Member Profile"
- Login - enter your 7-digit member ID number
- Password - enter your last name
- Click "Sign On"
- Click "Start Updating Your Profile Now"
- To ENTER or EDIT your basic membership information, including name and address, click EDIT. To move on to the other four sections, click CONTINUE UPDATING.
- Click SUBMIT when complete.

Remember, you always have the ability to "opt out" of any communications through your profile information.

The information you enter on our AHIMA Profile feeds our MHIMA membership database, and the address you list links you to a Regional Association through your "county" designation.

 [PRINTABLE FORMAT](#)

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Minnesota's e-Prescribing Mandate

Did you know that e-Prescribing will be required by January 1, 2011 in Minnesota? To download a copy of the MDH Fact Sheet, [Click Here](#)

You can also find this Fact Sheet on our website under the Legislative Updates button.
