



Off The Record

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Western Pennsylvania Health Information Management Association

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President's Message

Barbara Wood, RHIA
WPHIMA President

To the WPHIMA Members:

I am writing this on my flight back from the AHIMA national convention in Salt Lake City, Utah. If you have never attended the national convention, it is an energetic whirlwind of education sessions, exhibitors, networking, and meeting old and making new friends.

The point of impact that really hit me this year was the wide range of career opportunities that the HIM field has to offer. From Privacy & Security to ICD-10 to Clinical Documentation Improvement to the EHR to Revenue Cycle Management to Health Information Exchange to Data Management and beyond.....there is literally something for everyone! I can't help but think how fortunate we are to be in a profession that offers such diversity.

This is where I see our professional associations providing us with assistance. With the wide variety of topics where we need to be "experts", there are just not enough hours in the day to keep up with it all. We need to draw upon the expertise of our professional association's membership to assist each other in our work challenges. Whether it is on a regional, state, or national level, we must work together with a spirit of collaboration and with mutual respect for one another and the HIM profession.

To quote Patty Thierry Sheridan, AHIMA's incoming president. "The future of HIM rests in our collective hands, and our successful future depends on our ability to experiment, innovate, adapt, collaborate, and clearly define updated and new HIM roles. This will require all of us to educate our employers and stakeholders on how HIM roles are changing, and how updated and new roles can help to contain healthcare costs, while improving the quality of care."

So, let us look to the future together as an organization and help each other become the best that we can be.

I hope everyone has a great fall season and I hope to see each and every one of you at a WPHIMA function this year!

Sincerely,
Barbara Wood, RHIA
WPHIMA President



Peaches & Cream

Ingredients

- 1 pk. yellow cake mix
- 1 cup graham cracker crumbs
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 6 tps. Margin
- 1 egg
- 16 oz. can of peaches

Mix everything but the egg until crumbly. Remove 1 cup for the topping. Add the egg and mix till chunky. Put in greased pan and press it down.

Filling

- 1 can vanilla frosting
- 8 oz. cream cheese
- 2 eggs

Mix until creamy.

Put well drained peaches over base of graham cracker crust. Pour filling over top. Sprinkle the remaining cup of crumbs on top. Bake at 350 degrees for 50-60 minutes.



Nominating Committee

Michelle Wieczorek, RHIA
Nomination Chair

The WPHIMA Nominating Committee is currently seeking candidates for the year 2012-2013 WPHIMA ballot for the offices of:

- * President –Elect
- * Treasurer

Qualifications for President-Elect: In addition to being active members in good standing, the nominees for President-Elect must have served on the WPHIMA Board or committee members within the past six (6) years.

Qualifications for Treasurer: Nominees must be active members in good standing. No previous board/committee experience is required.

If you, or someone you know that you'd like to recommend, is interested in running for one of these positions, please contact Michelle Wieczorek at mwieczorek@precysesolutions.com for a job description. After reviewing the job requirements, you will be asked to submit a brief bio and CV to validate your qualifications to serve.

ICD-10 Preparation

Christel Chuderewicz, RHIT/CCS
Publications Chair

During the AHIMA Conference in Salt Lake City, I had the opportunity to attend the many education session related to ICD-10, and wander the vast exhibit hall investigating all the products and services offered to prepare organizations for ICD-10.

As I discussed the enormous undertaking of this project with many folks, I was extremely surprised to learn that not only have the majority of organizations put little effort into this project, but they have neglected to budget any monies towards it for the 2012 fiscal year.

As I try and wrap my head around this, I can't help but wonder.....If everyone is waiting until next year, how in the world are the vendors are going to handle the onslaught of customers come next July?

For example, if there are approximately 550 hospitals in the United States, and at present, maybe 5 or 6 vendors who offer computer assisted coding software.....if everyone is waiting until next July, how will the projects every be completed prior to go live?? This is not just a switch to be flipped.....as with any project, there are always issues with interfaces, testing and training that need to be addressed and require time for successful implementations....

As the ICD-10 Project Manager at Butler Hospital, I cannot help but breathe a sigh of relief knowing that our ICD-10 assessment is under way, our coders are undergoing education assessments and training and that our implementation of CAC will be completed by the end of January 2012.



WPHIMA Membership

As of 10/1/11

Active Members - 137

Associate - 7

Students - 5

Retired - 2

Total Members - 151

Did you know you can verify your paid membership by viewing our list of members at our website location:

Become a Member

[Click here to join WPHIMA](#)

Take a look at our 2010 members



About WPHIMA

WPHIMA is a local association of HIM professionals located in Western Pennsylvania.

Founded February 27, 1930 as the Record Librarians Association of Allegheny County, the original organization consisted of representatives of 16 hospitals

If you are one of those holding off until next fiscal year to purchase services or software for ICD-10, I strongly encourage you to discuss these issues at your next ICD-10 Taskforce meeting to avoid the shortages that will be caused by the late rush.

AHIMA Continuing Education Units (CEU's)

By Sandy Frey
Membership Chair

Please keep in mind the new AHIMA CEU requirement for ICD-10-CM/PCS training that is required through December 31, 2013.

- ❖ The total number of ICD-10-CM/PCS continuing education units required, by AHIMA credential, is as follows:

Credential	# of CEU's
CHPS	1
CHDA	6
RHIT	6
RHIA	6
CCS-P	12
CCS	18
CCA	18

- ❖ Certificants who hold more than one AHIMA credential will only report the highest number of CEU's from among all the credentials held.
- ❖ CEU's for ICD-10-CM/PCS will be included within the total number of CEU's for a given cycle.
- ❖ These must be earned between January 1, 2011 thru December 31, 2013.

WPHIMA Education Committee is "Going Green"

by Kim Black and Debby Orange
Education Co-Chairs

With the upcoming meeting to be held in November in Johnstown, the Education Committee will have registration, handouts, evaluations and continuing education certificates on-line through KnowledgeConnex. They will handle the registration process electronically. Save the dates will be posted when the Education Committee has the date and location of a program.

KnowledgeConnex will send out e-mail blasts as reminders for the meetings also. You will be able to pay via credit card on-line or mail checks to them at the address posted on the website. The speaker's handouts will be available on-line once you have registered. Note: The handout link will be contained in the meeting confirmation e-mail. The on-line handouts will be available both before and after the meeting. Once the evaluation is completed, there will be instructions on how to download your CE. You will have 30 days to complete the evaluation.

The Education Committee will no longer mail paper flyers for the sessions. Everyone that is a member will receive the notifications via e-mail. KnowledgeConnex has a listing of participants that have attended in the past and these past attendees will receive the notifications also. WPHIMA is following the same process used currently by PHIMA for educational sessions. Please bear with

in and close to Pittsburgh.

75+ years later, the Association is still going strong and consists of over 200 active members from a geographic area that spans the entire western part of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The membership is diverse and consists of experts from Acute Care, Consulting, Ambulatory, Information Technology, Transcription, Coding, Tumor Registry, HIPAA and Insurance industries.

WPHIMA is a major sponsor and provider of continuing education programs for HIM Professionals. WPHIMA also serves as an important vehicle for networking, exchange of information and ideas and provides an opportunity for professional growth and development of its membership.

WPHIMA welcomes opportunities to work closely with our Vendor community, and invites interested Vendors to review our policy and fee schedule for more information.



us during this transition process. We hope the process will be efficient and will benefit the environment.

Education Update

by **Kim Black and Debby Orange**
Education Co-Chairs

Upcoming Educational Sessions:

Friday, November 18 - ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS - Johnstown, Pa.
See website for details

Business Meeting Update

By **Becky DeGrosky**
Secretary

Friday, December 9 - CPT Coding Updates - Monroeville, Pa. –
Details to follow.

At the September 16, 2011 WPHIMA Business Meeting, PHIMA Update was provided by Chris Parfitt, Past-President of PHIMA. Chris reported that the monthly Anatomy & Physiology classes being provided by PHIMA are a success, and that it isn't too late to participate. The first three are available on audio tape, and they are moving to session 4. Laurie Johnson is the Chairman of the ICD-10 Committee, and these classes are part of the programs this committee has begun. There is still much to do to and if anyone is interested in helping out please contact Laurie.

Chris also reported that the PHIMA education committee has a program scheduled for September 30 at Langhorne, PA on Clinical Documentation Improvement.

There will be a Leadership conference in Harrisburg in November some time. Last year this was held in Pittsburgh, and it was great. Look for more information at www.phima.org

This year's annual meeting will be held back at State College, where it will be for the next two years. Chris asked everyone to please vote at both the state level and AHIMA.

AHIMA Update was also provided by Chris Parfitt who reported that AHIMA has a new CEO, Lynne Thomas Gordon, MBA, RHIA, FACHE, will begin her new role on September 29 and will attend AHIMA's Annual Convention in Salt Lake City. Rose Dunn has served as Acting CEO, ever since Alan Dowling left. There is still no official word from AHIMA on what happened.

This year AHIMA is making many revisions to the Bylaws. Chris said there were too many to read here, but that PHIMA was sending out a link for the membership to review them. She asked if anyone has any comments to please let her know.

*The WPHIMA Board wishes you and your family a
happy and healthy holiday season!*