Upcoming Fall Conference September 14, 2018

Our Fall Coding Conference is currently posted on our website! We are very excited for our coding conference this year, as we have two featured guest speakers! Dr. Z will be speaking about interventional radiology coding and cardiology coding, and Dr. Campbell will be presenting 2019 ICD-10-CM/PCS Updates, and how the role of HIM is emerging. Please see our website at: http://www.nmhima.org/upcoming-events/ for additional information and to purchase tickets to our conference.

Spring 2018 Conference Recap

NMHIMA held a 2 day conference on April 19-20, 2018 at the Embassy Suites in Albuquerque, New Mexico. We had a wonderful turnout with over 80 health information professionals in attendance. The conference was full of a variety of speakers, covering emerging HIM topics and clinical education.

From a clinical perspective, Dr. Gary Mlady presented the evolution of the radiology report and imaging documentation improvement suggestions. Dr. Mike Lewiecki taught us everything we need to know about osteoporosis. Dr. Mario Cruz gave an in depth review of behavioral health diagnosis, symptoms, and how to identify them within provider’s documentation. Dr. Jennifer Bishop presented an engaging presentation about breast health, inclusive of real life pictures and play dough models. Dr. David Chafey gave a hilarious and real look at some of his most complicated orthopedic cases and common documentation errors in the ortho world. Each physician provided so much clinical knowledge but also made sure to cater each presentation to HIM and documentation improvement.

The picture below was taken on the 2nd day of the conference by speaker Jill Clark, who is the Treasurer on the national board of AHIMA.
Other presenters spoke of trending HIM topics including a Q&A with Sophia Collaros regarding use and disclosure of protected health information. We also were honored with an analytic presentation from Kathy Giannangelo covering clinical terminology and clinical classification systems which perfectly paired with Win Hansen’s presentation that taught us how to develop and implement medical taxonomies. Simon Barriga presented his cutting edge telemedicine-based diabetic retinopathy screening using artificial intelligence which is currently being used in Mexico. All presenters covered so many branches of our profession and gave us new insight into developing fields and practices.

As always AHIMA provided us an engaging board member, Jill Clark, who not only presented the AHIMA update she also gave an informative session on information governance. Alice Torrez presented CMS Hierarchical Condition Codes (HCC’s) and described the model for risk adjustment. Finally, we ended the conference with a little professional development from Deborah Marcelja who covered some new and interesting strategies for updating our resumes.

All in all we thought the Spring Conference was a success and enjoyed networking and learning with our members. Remember to give us your feedback so we can continue planning and hosting events you love to attend. We look forward to seeing you at our next event! Thank you for your support!
AHIMA hosted their annual Leadership Symposium in Chicago on July 13 – 14. Erica Lopez, NMHIMA President and Michelle Bean, NMHIMA President Elect were both in attendance. AHIMA presented a variety of topics and speakers. Leadership was the emphasis on the first day, with an empowering presentation by Professor J. Bryan Bennett, MBA, CPA, LSSGB. He presented how to apply the leadership model to the HIM field and the 5 step professional leadership improvement process. This detailed process emphasized how an individual in a leadership position should constantly be assessing, visioning, living, reflecting, and coaching/mentoring in their role as a leader. “Leadership is a process by which an individual or organization directs and inspires a team to reach a goal or follow a vision” was Professor Bennett’s main theory. His presentation concluded with the 4 skills necessary to be a successful leader, which are humility, empathy, vision, and risk taking.

Other presentations at the symposium explained the emerging role of HIM and how advances in technology are changing healthcare. Technology has helped to automate and prioritize complex tasks which challenge the HIM profession. To stay relevant and to be prepared for technology, HIM professionals should engage with other healthcare members so they continue to be valued for their knowledge. Knowledge is power and this presentation encouraged HIM professionals by explaining the competitive advantage we have with our skills in information management, data analytics, and reimbursement systems. This presentation paired perfectly with the one that followed, which focused on Clinical Documentation Improvement (CDI) and the evolving reimbursement landscape. Anny Yuen, RHIA, CCS, CCDS, CDIP presented on Healthcare’s Partnership Perspective of HIM, and how CDI is necessary for the financial aspects of the healthcare industry. Because of certain value based reimbursement methods, such as the Medicare Quality Payment Program, documentation is very important. Physicians and hospitals are focusing more on CDI, as nearly 90% of all denials are preventable with the proper documentation. This presentation expressed the need of a dedicated HIM and credentialed staff to perform root cause analysis utilizing data collection tools to provide timely feedback to physicians for documentation improvement.

Another exciting presentation was of the different organizations of AHIMA. The CCE is the Council for Excellence in Education and this is the AHIMA council which helps to create guidelines for education & curricula for HIM associate and baccalaureate programs. CAHIIM is the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Health Information Management which is AHIMA’s scope of accreditation. CAHIIM is the governing council that accredits these programs at all levels; associates, bachelors, & masters. CCHIM is the Commission on Certification for Health Informatics and Information Management. This AHIMA council is dedicated to ensuring HIM professionals are subjected to standards by having their AHIMA credential. CCHIM has sole authority on all matters pertaining to certification and recertification requirements. These three organizations work in symphony to provide AHIMA’s HIM professionals with a high quality education and standards, with credentials to show expertise. (continued on next page)
Many breakout sessions were offered at the symposium and a wealth of information was obtained in each of those sessions attended. The best part of the two day conference was the presentation delivered by AHIMA’s new CEO, Wylecia Wiggs Harris, PhD, CAE. Her compassion for AHIMA was inspirational and her speech was followed with a standing ovation by the audience. Her vision is to make AHIMA better by focusing on AHIMA’s strengths, gaps, and any opportunity or consequence that may impact AHIMA. Her goal is to move forward and progress the success of AHIMA. AHIMA’s new strategic plan and the direction AHIMA will take should be complete in 2019, as the new plan is still being developed. Dr. Harris plans to start “from scratch” and implement new ideas that will make AHIMA thrive. Tom Atchison was quoted “hope is not an effective strategy for change.” This was evident with her powerful presence and impelling influence for AHIMA’s success. This concluded the leadership symposium, which was a huge success!

NMHIMA’s next conference on September 14, 2018 is going to be great! Tickets are easy to purchase and can be done so directly on our website. Register by 8/15/18, and you will save $10! If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us at NMHIMA@gmail.com. This email is checked every 24 hours so you should get a prompt response. We thank you for your continued support and look forward to seeing you at our next event!

~Cheers, NMHIMA Board