THIS WEEK'S TOP INDUSTRY & AHIMA NEWS

CMS PROPOSES RULE TO MAKE MEANINGFUL USE MORE FLEXIBLE

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the Office of the National Coordinator proposed a rule Tuesday that would, according to a statement, grant more flexibility in how providers use certified electronic health record technology (CEHRT) to meet meaningful use. The proposed rule would let providers use 2011 edition CEHRT for Stage 1 or Stage 2 in 2014, and attest to the 2013 definition of meaningful use and use 2013 clinical quality measures. Proposed changes are for 2014 only.

The proposed rule would also extend Stage 2 through 2016 and push Stage 3 to 2017.

Read the proposed rule (to be published in the Federal Register Friday). If you would like to participate in developing AHIMA's response, please e-mail don.asmonga@ahima.org.

2015 ICD-10-CM AND ICD-10-PCS FILES RELEASED

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has posted the 2015 ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS and GEMs files. These updates do not include the 2015 ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines or the ICD-10-CM GEMs. Although there are no changes to the ICD-10-CM files or the ICD-10-PCS Official Coding Guidelines, there are updates and revisions in response to public comments in the PCS index entries, PCS definition entries, and changes to the ICD-10-PCS Reference Manual.

Access the ICD-10-CM and GEMs and ICD-10-PCS and GEMs files.

PARTIAL CODE FREEZE TO CONTINUE

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has announced the partial code freeze for both the ICD-9-CM and ICD-10 code sets will continue until October 1, 2016. Due to the partial code freeze, no ICD-9-CM, ICD-10-CM, or ICD-10-PCS code updates will occur October 1, 2014. Limited updates to capture new technologies and diseases will be made to the ICD-10 code sets on October 1, 2015; as of that date, there will be no further updates to ICD-9-CM. Regular updates to ICD-10 will begin on October 1, 2016, one year after the implementation of ICD-10.

Read the CMS announcement.
CMS'S DENISE BUENNING RESIGNS

According to the ICD-10 Monitor website, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Office of E-health Standards & Services Deputy Director Denise Buenning, MsM, stepped down earlier this month to take a position with CAQH, a nonprofit association of health plans and trade associations. A source told ICD-10 Monitor that Buenning's role will be filled by Matthew Albright, director of the Administration Simplification Group, CMS Office of E-Health Standards and Services.

ICD10 Monitor notes that Buenning was a frequent speaker at industry association conferences, including AHIMA's. In April, she spoke at AHIMA's ICD-10-CM/PCS and Computer-Assisted Coding Summit in Baltimore, MD, about the ICD-10 delay.

Read the ICD-10 Monitor article.

REVISED RULES PROPOSED ON CIVIL MONETARY PENALTIES

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) has published a proposed rule, seeking comments on revisions to the rules associated with Civil Monetary Penalties (CMP) for fraud and abuse. The Affordable Care Act significantly expanded OIG’s authority to protect Federal healthcare programs from fraud and abuse. The proposed rule codifies the changes for:

- Failure to grant OIG timely access to records
- Ordering or prescribing while excluded
- Making false statements, omissions, or misrepresentations in an enrollment application
- Failure to report and return an overpayment
- Making or using a false record or statement that is material to a false or fraudulent claim

Read the proposed rule.

FELLOWSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE NEXT FRIDAY

Fellows of AHIMA are members who have earned recognition for their significant and sustained contributions to the profession. Don’t miss out. Apply by Friday, May 30.

The journal Applied Clinical Informatics (ACI) is calling for papers for a special issue on key issues for the future of health information management (HIM) and health informatics (HI). Manuscripts are due by September 20. Questions can be directed to Meryl Bloomrosen, associate editor. Be sure to include "Special HIM and HI Issue" in the title. Access full author instructions.

GET INVOLVED

UPCOMING PUBLIC POLICY WEBINARS

May 28 - The Standards and Interoperability Framework
Presenter: Doug Fridsma, MD, chief science officer and director, Office of Science and Technology, Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT

June 11 - Standards: AHIMA at Work for You
Presenters: Diana Warner, MS, RHIA, CHPS, FAHIMA, director him practice excellence, AHIMA;

PLANNING TO ATTEND THE 2014 LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM?

July 11-12 at the Westin Hotel on Michigan Avenue in Chicago, IL, AHIMA and CSA leaders and delegates will engage in strategic direction, and envisioning the future. Registration and the reduced hotel rate end June 13.
**SUBMIT YOUR TRIUMPH AWARD NOMINATION**

AHIMA's prestigious Triumph Awards honor HIM professionals who have shown extraordinary leadership, volunteerism, and talent. The 2014 awards will be presented in September at AHIMA’s 86th Annual Convention & Exhibit in San Diego, CA. Time is running out to submit your nomination—Submit your nomination by June 2. Sponsored in part by 3M.

**SPEAK AT AN AHIMA WEBINAR IN 2015**

Are you interested in presenting a 60-minute webinar for AHIMA? Be recognized as an industry expert, while reaching more than 71,000 members. Apply to be an AHIMA speaker on coding, ICD-10-CM/PCS, leadership, or health information technologies, with more topics available.

**2014 RACE AWARD NOMINATIONS**

AHIMA is accepting nominations through August 15 for the 2014 Roundtable Achievement in Coding Excellence (RACE) Awards, to be presented at the Clinical Coding Community Meeting on September 27 in San Diego, CA. Find award criteria and the nomination form in the State Leaders and HOD Engage Community.

**VOTE FOR AHIMA'S CEO**

AHIMA CEO Lynne Thomas Gordon, MBA, RHIA, CAE, FACHE, FAHIMA, is among the candidates on *Modern Healthcare*’s "100 Most Influential People in Healthcare" ballot. Voting is open now through June 13. AHIMA members are encouraged to go to the ballot and vote for Thomas Gordon’s leadership and influence in advancing AHIMA and the HIM profession.

**EDUCATION & NETWORKING**

Are you using the Engage mobile app? You now have access to articles, videos, PowerPoints, practice briefs, and more through community libraries. Don’t have the app yet? Scan the QR code below. Or visit iTunes, or the Google Play store.

**NEW JOBS ON CAREER ASSIST: JOB BANK**

- Cutting-Edge CDI Consultant New York
- HIM SYSTEM DIRECTOR East Coast
- CDI CODING SPECIALIST California
- HOSPITAL ICD-10 CODING TRAINER Massachusetts
- REMOTE INPATIENT CODERS Midwest

View more available positions.
AHIMA's Annual Clinical Coding Meeting
June 6–7
New Orleans, LA

Early bird registration ends Friday, May 23

This is a must-attend event for all stakeholders in the coding industry, with an in-depth focus on ICD-10-CM/PCS and other initiatives driving healthcare today. Not-to-miss sessions include “Challenges in Clinical Documentation: Stories from the Front Line” by Jonathan Elion, MD, and “Embracing Coding Certification through the ICD-10 Storm” by Kelli Horn, RHIT, CCS, CCA.

Prepare to earn one of AHIMA's highly valued and respected credentials. Attend an AHIMA exam preparation workshop:

**CHPS (Certified in Healthcare Privacy and Security) Exam Prep Workshop**: July 21–23, Philadelphia, PA

**CHDA (Certified Health Data Analyst) Exam Prep Workshop**: July 26–27, Chicago, IL (prior to the AOE Symposium)

**CDIP (Clinical Documentation Improvement Practitioner) Exam Prep Workshop**: August 6–7, Washington, DC (following the CDI Summit)

*Eligibility requirements apply.*

Visit our **EVENTS CALENDAR** for more upcoming events.

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**ONLINE RESOURCES**

These one-hour webinars start at 1 p.m. ET:

**June 5**
How to Handle HIPAA Security Breaches Properly
The potential for harm from a mishandled breach is staggering, particularly because HIPAA requires the breaching entity to mitigate the harm resulting from a breach. Learn how to define a HIPAA breach, take measures to mitigate harm, and to whom to report breaches.

**June 12**
Preparing for PHI Request for Restrictions
An important but frequently overlooked provision of the final HIPAA rules affects patients’ rights to request restrictions on their protected health information (PHI) use and disclosure. Understand the new provisions and steps to ensure your organization is prepared to receive and comply with requests for restrictions on PHI.

Are you interested in influencing patient care as a **certified tumor registrar** (CTR)? The Web-based **Cancer Registry Management Program**, an NCRA-accredited component for CTR exam Eligibility Route A—Path 2, offered by AHIMA and the National Cancer Registrars Association (NCRA), can help you excel in this respected, high-demand profession. AHIMA CEUs are available.
The American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) provides its industry-leading e-HIM education and advocacy programs to support the effective use of information technology to manage patient information and healthcare data. AHIMA respects its members' and nonmembers' Internet privacy and right to choose which communications they want to receive. If you prefer not to receive AHIMA product and services e-mails, faxes, or postal mailings, go to your communication preferences page. You will need your ID (%%TIMSS_MASTER_CUSTOMER_ID%%) and password. If you don't know your password you can use your e-mail address of record (%%EmailAddr_%%) to have it sent to you. Refer to the type of e-mail message received (AHIMA E-Alerts) to update your communication preferences.

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