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President's Message

Michele Bartholomew, MHMS, RHIA, CCS -President, WPHIMA

Well, it is fall already. It seems like the spring and summer went by so quickly.

I just returned a few days ago from the 2008 AHIMA Annual Convention and something that I think many of us have been waiting for is finally on the horizon. It may be hard to believe but AHIMA is starting to plan for the implementation of ICD-10. The final rule is not published, but the proposed rule states an implementation date of October 2011. ICD-10 was a major topic of discussion at the convention including a town hall meeting. As President, I will strive to keep everyone up-to-date with the news regarding this implementation as more becomes available.

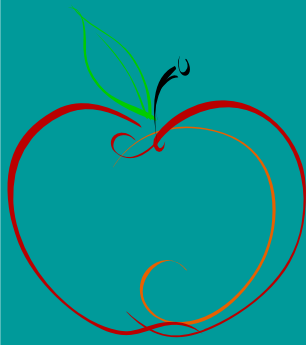
WPHIMA had a great September educational session with 70 people in attendance. We are looking forward to our upcoming session on Health Care Law Update. If you can not attend this one in person, make sure to check it out online at www.wphima.org.

Happy Harvest! See you at the next educational session!

Valerie Watzlaf, PhD, RHIA, FAHIMA Elected to AHIMA Board of Directors!



Thanks so
much
for your
support. I
couldn't
have done it
without you!!



Apple Crisp

Ingredients

Filling:

5 Granny Smith apples, peeled, cored, chopped
¼ cup finely chopped pecans
3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
½ cup brown sugar
2 tablespoons maple syrup
1 tablespoon lemon juice

Topping:

¾ cup all-purpose flour
1/3 cup brown sugar
¼ teaspoon cinnamon
6 tablespoons chilled butter, cut into pieces
¼ cup coarsely chopped pecans

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

For the filling: Mix all the ingredients together.

Place 7 to 8 ounce ramekins.

For topping: Mix the flour, brown sugar, cinnamon, salt in large bowl. Blend the butter into the mixture until it forms pea size lumps. Stir in pecans and sprinkle over filling.

Bake crisps for 35-40 minutes, until brown and bubbly. Cool 10 minutes before serving.

Contact Us

<http://www.wphima.org>
webmaster@wphima.org

The House of Delegates Approve CHDA Certification, 3rd Party Accreditation and Privacy Resolution

Submitted by Karen Czirr - 1st year Delegate, PHIMA

The 2008 HOD approved a motion to approve standards for certification and maintenance of a new credential in health data analytics. The motion was proposed by the Council of Certification (CoC). It is a way to recognize and advance those professionals doing this important work, increase the size of an AHIMA-certified HIM work force, and further engage new members at a professional level. The proposed standards for certification included eligibility requirements of a baccalaureate degree or higher and a minimum of 5 years' health care data experience or an RHIA credential and 1 year of healthcare data experience. There was a proposal to add an RHIT credential to the motion. However, the proviso to modify the eligibility requirement was not approved.

Exams for the Certified in Health Data Analytics (CHDA) designation will be available in December 2008. More information is available at www.ahima.org/certification.

The next action item, also submitted by the CoC, included amendments to the AHIMA bylaws that would allow the council to pursue 3rd party accreditation by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). Both the NCCA and ANSI require the standards for initial certification and certification maintenance to be under the full authority of the CoC.

Bylaw changes for 3rd party accreditation will:

- transfer the authority over the elements of certification from the House of Delegates to the council
- ensure the autonomy of the CoC by changing its composition
- give AHIMA the right to appoint up to 40% of the council members (the other 60% would be composed of individuals representing other stakeholders groups including credentialed professionals, employers, and the general public)
- rename the CoC the Commission on Certification of Health Informatics and Information Management Professionals

Lastly, the HOD approved a resolution on privacy and security. The resolution asks AHIMA members to educate users of health information about the need for improved and consistent information privacy and security; to be on the forefront of that education; and to endorse consistent health care policies and standards when a breach does occur. The resolution was submitted by the Missouri Health Information Management Association.

Executive Director, Linda Kloss addressed the House. She reported the major accomplishments, including the passage of genetic nondiscrimination legislation and the publication of a proposed rule for adoption of ICD-10. She also reported that the Board of Directors approved a 2009 budget plan that calls for tighter controls and a \$10 increase in member dues.

The HOD meets year-round electronically via AHIMA's State Leaders and HOD Community of Practice. This CoP is open to all members by logging on at www.ahima.org.



Education Update

Submitted by Cheryl Collier, RHIA - Education Chair, WPHIMA

There's lots of education to keep WPHIMA Members on top of what is going on in our field. Remember, WPHIMA members get discounts on educational sessions! It pays to join. Go to www.wphima.org today!

UPCOMING PHIMA AUDIO CONFERENCES

November 4th

[What To Do If You Suspect Employee Misconduct with Technology](#)

November 11th

[Coding Roundtable – Lymph Edema](#)

December 16th

[CPT 2009 Updates](#)

Go to www.phima.org for registration and more information.



WPHIMA Membership Statistics

As of 10/21/2008

ACTIVE MEMBERS - 190

ASSOCIATE - 9

STUDENTS - 2

RETIRED - 2

TOTAL MEMBERS - 203



Upcoming Educational Offerings:

- ✓ Friday, November 7, 2008
Health Care Law Update/ Pennsylvania Cancer Registry Update West Penn Hospital - Liberty Conference Room
12 Noon to 4:00 pm (Registration 11:30 am to 12:00 noon)

Presenter for Health Care Law Update: Pamela Hepp, Esq. She will give the current changes in Health law including eDiscovery.

Presenter for Pennsylvania Cancer Registry Update: Wendy Aldinger, Quality Assurance Manager. She will cover the updates in Cancer Registry/PA Cancer Registry.

\$30.00 WPHIMA Members \$40.00 Non-Members \$20.00 Students

Watch your email or go to www.wphima.org to register

- ✓ Friday, December 12, 2008
CPT Updates
Iron Mountain - Cranberry Township.
12 Noon to 4:00 pm (Registration 11:30 am to 12:00 noon)

Presenter: Michele Bartholomew, MHMS, RHIA, CCS
She will give the updates on CPT for January 2009

\$30.00 WPHIMA Members \$40.00 Non-members \$20.00 Students

- ✓ Another Education Session is being planned for March 2009
Watch your email communications from WPHIMA and www.wphima.org for more information.



ABOUT WPHIMA

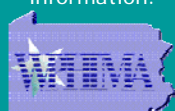
WPHIMA is a local association of HIM professionals located in Western Pennsylvania.

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



Northeast US Healthcare Trade Faire & Regional Conference Held in Pittsburgh

Submitted by Peri Long, RHIA - President-Elect, PHIMA

The 2nd Annual Northeast US Healthcare Trade Faire & Regional Conference was held October 16, 2008 at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, PA.

This event had been announced locally on September 19, 2008 at a WPHIMA educational session. It certainly piqued my interest and sounded like an event worth investigating. In attending, I found presentations of interest to a wide variety audience focusing on a range of current health care topics and technology. The presenters of the sessions I attended were very knowledgeable, engaging, informative and vendor neutral. Of particular benefit was the ability to network with all in attendance, providing the opportunity for multi-perspective discussions at a regional level.

A number of exhibitors were present with PHIMA among the organizations and vendors in the exhibit hall. Representatives of PHIMA provided educational materials regarding the valuable resource offered to the healthcare industry by its members. The opportunity to share lunch conversation with these colleagues was also motivating. I had the pleasure of attending the conference with the President of Miners Medical Center, Bill Crowe.

The diverse representation of healthcare professionals in attendance, depth of topics and regional location were of benefit to this executive. For more information regarding this and other healthcare regional conferences see www.healthcaretradefaire.com.

2009 PHIMA Annual Meeting Update

Submitted by the PHIMA Education Committee

The PHIMA Education/Program Committee is finalizing the 2009 PHIMA Annual Meeting. The theme for the 2009 Annual Meeting is "Searching for a Better Tomorrow" and the dates of the meeting are May 18 to May 20, 2009 and the conference will be held at The Penn Stater Conference Center in State College, PA.

We have a number of great speakers this year which include topics on E-HIM, Fiscal Management/Revenue Cycle, Home Based Transcription, Coding Track, EHR Topics, Project Management, Cancer Registry Track and a Behavioral-LTC track and much more including a special workshop on Monday on the Toyota Way! In addition, back by popular demand, PHIMA will feature our favorite auctioneer, Bob Thomas at the Tuesday evening Vendor Reception.

As an attendee, you will have the opportunity to earn up to 16 CEs, visit a great variety of vendors, enjoy the President's/Vendor Reception, network with your peers, enjoy the beautiful setting at State College, listen and learn from the great speakers for only \$200!

All updates on our 2009 PHIMA Annual Meeting will be available in the near future at www.phima.org/AnnualMeetingRegistration.htm within the next few weeks. We hope to see all of you in May 2009!