



news

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Managing Obesity Through Technology

AHIMA's online journal explores data dumps from implanted devices, using EHR dashboards to break care barriers and the benefits of a centralized HIM department

CHICAGO - (January 10, 2020) - The newest issue of *Perspectives in Health Information Management*, the online peer reviewed journal of the [American Health Information Management Association \(AHIMA\)](http://www.ahima.org), highlights significant technological developments in healthcare, including strategies to overcome the “data dump” from implanted medical devices, using EHRs to improve quality care and the pros of a centralized health information management (HIM) department.

In “Use of Technology in the Management of Obesity: A Literature Review,” the authors examined 23 studies that evaluated remote and home-based technologies to help patients manage obesity. Researchers found that mobile health, eHealth and telehealth/telemedicine were the most popular technology modules used in the management of obesity.

The authors found that mobile health was the most popular technology to achieve and maintain weight loss because it prompted a change in behavioral factors that contribute to a healthier lifestyle. A significant association between weight loss and the use of technology was identified in more than half of the studies.

“Using data-driven technology to help patients live healthier lives is part of our foundation as the global leader in health information,” said AHIMA CEO Wylecia Wiggs Harris, PhD, CAE. “Technological innovation will continue to be a leading driver of how we impact health and healthcare in 2020 and beyond.”

[Read the full issue.](#)

The fall 2019 issue also includes the following articles:

Applying Meaningful Use Lessons to the Quality Payment Program by Catherine L. Hersey, MPH; Elizabeth Tent, MSc; Olivia K. G. Berzin, MPH; Michael G. Trisolini, PhD; and Suzanne L. West, PhD

The authors interviewed 48 clinical, administrative, and support staff across 10 sites to assess the approaches providers take when using EHR data to measure and improve care quality. The investigators concluded that specific approaches, including matching EHR functionality to workflow and capturing discrete data, can help providers meet the scoring requirement in the Quality Payment Program (QPP) while also reducing staff dissatisfaction and burnout. The authors found that having data in discrete fields helped practices to better track and measure the quality of care.

Read more [here](#).

Evidence-based Operations Management in Health Information Management: A Case Study by Susan H. Fenton, PhD, RHIA, CPHI, FAHIMA, and Diann H. Smith, MS, RHIA, CHP, FAHIMA

The study examined the effectiveness and impact of a centralized HIM department within a large integrated healthcare delivery system with 27 hospitals, 25,000 patients and 6,200 physicians. The research explored how a centralized HIM department would provide evidence-based value to the organization and how to better integrate this department into national and regional reporting benchmarks. Researchers determined that reporting via dashboards and key performance indicators provided more effective management, helped senior management to understand the impact of HIM operations, and helped identify opportunities for improvement.

Read more [here](#).

Drowning in Data: Workflow Changes Improve the Collection of Clinically Relevant and Actionable Data by Susan Davish, RN, MSN; Catherine Baker, RN, BSN; Mary Fulks, RN, BSN; Judi Godsey, PhD, MSN, RN; and Kerri Parker, RN, BSN

Although remote monitoring is an effective strategy for managing patients, evaluating large amounts of data generated by implanted devices can present considerable challenges to staff including increased data review time and memory saturation. The authors found that specific adjustments to workflow can alleviate data overload and reduce time spent reviewing data including improved patient and staff training on the

proper use of the equipment and limiting patient alerts to actionable disturbances. As alert transmissions decrease, workflow increased. The authors concluded that organizational processes must be in place to proactively address data overload or other factors that may negatively impact the quality and effectiveness of remote monitoring.

Read more [here](#).

Developing and Implementing Health Information Management Document Imaging Productivity Standards: A Case Study from an Acute Care Community Hospital by Valeria Simonetti, MHA, RHIA, and Alice Noblin, PhD, RHIA, CCS, PMP

The case study examined productivity standards for a 210-bed acute care community hospital with a hybrid EHR system in furtherance of improving the document imaging process. HIM staff must be adept at both paper and EHR software in a hybrid system. Researchers sought to develop productivity standards that more accurately represent the time HIM professionals spend on everyday tasks. The data evaluated during the study was used to develop new productivity standards to improve staff knowledge, skills, and abilities and to identify areas of process improvement. The authors concluded that HIM departments should work toward developing organization-specific productivity standards.

Read more [here](#).

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About Perspectives in Health Information Management

Perspectives in Health Information Management is a scholarly, peer-reviewed journal, referred to by professors, professionals, public officials, industry leaders, and policy-makers. Since 2004, it has been one of the most credible and respected journals of the HIM industry and is referenced in notable indices such as PubMed Central (PMC), the Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health (CINAHL), and Google Scholar. Learn more about the submission guidelines and the manuscript review process.

www.perspectives.ahima.org

About AHIMA

The American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) represents more than 103,000 health information professionals in the United States and around the world. AHIMA is committed to promoting and advocating for best practices in health information and to actively contributing to the development and advancement of health information professionals worldwide. AHIMA's mission to empower people to impact health. www.ahima.org