



news

233 N. Michigan Ave., 21st Fl.
Chicago, IL 60601

phone >>(312) 233-1100
fax >>(312) 233-1090
web >>www.ahima.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, please contact:

Mary Jo Contino
Public Communications Inc.
312-558-1770
mcontino@pci-pr.com

Study Reveals EHR Data Can Proactively Determine Senior Patients Who Are At-Risk for Falls

CHICAGO – November 1, 2017 – The Fall 2017 issue of [Perspectives in Health Information Management](#), the online research journal of the [American Health Information Management Association \(AHIMA\)](#), delves into the latest research on topics such as repurposing electronic health record (EHR) data to identify fall risks.

Authors of the study, "[An Electronic Health Record Data-driven Model for Identifying Older Adults at Risk of Unintentional Falls](#)," determined that increased public health efforts are needed to booster fall risk identification and prevention in primary care. National studies suggest that physicians caring for seniors only provide fall risk screenings 30 to 37 percent of the time.

The study's authors revealed a list of factors such as age, sex and specific diagnoses that could be useful in development of decision support tools that proactively identify patients whom screening would be beneficial and target efforts specifically to those patient. Researchers suggested implementing clinical decision support into EHRs to enable enhanced team-based care for patients at risk for unintentional falls.

"This research demonstrates that electronic health record data can be applied in clinical decision support," said AHIMA interim CEO Pamela Lane, MS, RHIA. "By leveraging the data in a way that is sensitive to the time constraints of the regular office visit and the reduction of healthcare costs, identifying patients at risk of falls can be streamlined."

The fall issue also features the following articles:

- "[Mapping of Standards to Facilitate Immunization Information Exchange through Two-Dimensional Bar Coding of Vaccine Products](#)" – The use of 2D barcodes to facilitate exchange of immunization information has the potential to improve data quality and efficiency when documenting vaccine data, according to a new study. The authors sought to identify how vaccine

tracking information in the two-dimensional barcode is represented in systems that are used by pharmacies, providers and public health agencies.

- [“Mobile Robotic Telepresence Solutions for the Education of Hospitalized Children”](#) – Hospitalization affects children’s school attendance, resulting in poor academic and socio-developmental outcomes. The increase in use of mobile and tablet technology in educational and healthcare environments and the growth of the mobile robotic telepresence (MRT) industry offer opportunities for the use of MRT to connect hospitalized children to their school environments. This article describes an approach to one rural healthcare center in collaboration with local school districts with the aim of describing strategies and limitations of MRT use.
- [“The E-health Literacy Demands of Australia’s My Health Record: A Heuristic Evaluation of Usability”](#) – My Health Record is Australia’s electronic personal health record system, which was introduced in July 2012. As of August 2017, approximately 21 percent of Australia’s total population was registered to use My Health Record. Internationally, usability issues have been shown to negatively influence the uptake and use of electronic health record systems, and this scenario may particularly affect people who have low e-health literacy. It is likely that usability issues are negatively affecting the uptake and use of My Health Record in Australia.
- [“National Survey on Doctoral-Level Education in Health Information Management: Perceptions and Rationale”](#) – The purpose of this survey was to understand the perceptions and educational goals of the HIM workforce in regard to pursuing doctoral-level degrees. Survey data were collected from members of AHIMA to gain further insight into their interest in pursuing a doctoral degree, their reasons for obtaining such a degree, their methods of learning and their financial support for an advanced degree. The survey found the majority of AHIMA members are looking to pursue a doctoral-level education in the next one to five years.
- [“A Pilot Study Investigating Employee Utilization of Corporate Telehealth Services”](#) – In line with the vision of the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) to improve health outcomes and eliminate healthcare disparities in Mississippi, a corporate telehealth program was initiated beginning May 2014. A descriptive study was performed to discover common characteristics among enrolled employee users who took advantage of the UMMC’s corporate telehealth services offered in their workplace throughout the program’s first year of operation. This pilot study examined the number of videoconference visits (e-visits) throughout the first year of operation, from May 2014 through April 2015.
- *Perspectives* Announces New Editor – *Perspectives in Health Information Management* is pleased to announce that Melanie S. Brodnik, PhD, RHIA, FAHIMA, Associate Professor Emeritus in the Health Information Management and Systems Division at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center in Columbus, OH, has accepted the position of volunteer editor. The editorial board and review panel are pleased to welcome Brodnik and look forward to her ongoing assistance and commitment to the journal.

###

About Perspectives

[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.

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 and effective standards in health information and to actively contributing to the development and advancement of health information professionals worldwide. AHIMA is advancing informatics, data analytics, and information governance to achieve the goal of providing expertise to ensure trusted information for healthcare. www.ahima.org