Perspectives in HIM Offers Insights
Summer issue delves into HIM research, best practices


“We are excited to announce the publication of the latest HIM research in Perspectives in HIM,” said AHIMA CEO Lynne Thomas Gordon, MBA, RHIA, FACHE, CAE, FAHIMA. “The insights these illustrious researchers provide into HIM practice across the world illustrate the importance of transforming data into intelligence that can drive decisions and actions in the future.”

The Summer issue features the following articles:

Research at Boise State University focused on training the work force for ICD-10-CM/PCS in the most effective manner. In "ICD-10-CM/PCS: Transferring Knowledge from ICD-9-CM," researchers sought to identify the difference between a group of participants with no knowledge of ICD-9-CM and those with some knowledge of ICD-9-CM using scores on an ICD-10-CM/PCS quiz. They found a statistically significant difference in scores between participants without previous knowledge of ICD-9-CM and those with at least some knowledge of ICD-9-CM, suggesting that training for the current coding work force should focus on the differences between ICD-9-CM and ICD-10-CM/PCS, providing context to participants and allowing them to make connections with previous knowledge.

One of the greatest challenges in the conversion to ICD-10-CM/PCS is training the workforce in the new code sets. The author of "From Novice to Expert: Problem Solving in ICD-10-PCS Procedural Coding" concludes after a literature review that critical thinking and problem-solving
skills are key to developing coding expertise. Accordingly, becoming an expert coder in ICD-10-PCS will therefore require not only a vast amount of foundational, conceptual, and interpretative knowledge but also a willingness to monitor one’s reasoning as one proceeds through the problem-solving process itself.

In “Accuracy of the Charlson Index Comorbidities Derived from Hospital Electronic Database in a Teaching Hospital in Saudi Arabia,” researchers assessed the accuracy of the hospital electronic database. They found that hospital electronic databases reasonably agree with patient chart data and can have a role in healthcare planning and research.

"Implementing an Online Reporting System in the Anatomical Pathology Department of a Tertiary Care Teaching Hospital in India: A Case Study" describes the design, development, and implementation of a Web-enabled reporting application. The study demonstrates a successful deployment as well as successful adoption of healthcare information technology by the end users. Factors that played a crucial role in adoption included the combination of people, processes, and technology.

A review of literature focuses particularly on "Telepsychiatry in the 21st Century: Transforming Healthcare with Technology." Researchers at Marshall University describe the benefits and constraints of telemedicine, focusing primarily on the field of psychiatry in the United States. They conclude that telemedicine has been shown to be an effective, cost-efficient alternative to traditional psychiatric services that increases patient access to providers, and telepsychiatry has the potential to greatly benefit patients and providers.

Faculty members at the University of Pittsburgh developed flexible approaches for teaching computational genomics in a HIM program, believing this strategy would be a more efficient and effective way of teaching this subject. By distributing computational genomics course materials into multiple levels and integrating them into a few required courses, they successfully delivered this content to HIM students. "Flexible Approaches for Teaching Computational Genomics in a Health Information Management Program" describes these multilevel approaches.

In “Use of Structured and Unstructured Data to Identify Contraceptive Use in Women Veterans,” researchers sought to explore the sensitivity and specificity of administrative codes for contraceptive use in a cohort of women veterans and to explore the feasibility of using text notes (clinical progress notes) to identify contraceptive use. They found that data from clinical
progress notes demonstrated greater sensitivity and comparable specificity, compared to results from administrative and pharmacy code use. The results suggest that the best approach for identifying contraceptive use, through either administrative codes or progress notes, depends on the research question.

**About Perspectives**

*Perspectives in Health Information Management* is a scholarly, peer-reviewed journal, referred to by professors, professionals, public officials, industry leaders, and policymakers. 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.

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**About AHIMA**

Celebrating its 85th anniversary this year, the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) represents more than 67,000 educated health information management professionals in the United States and around the world. AHIMA is committed to promoting and advocating for high quality research, best practices and effective standards in health information and to actively contributing to the development and advancement of health information professionals worldwide. AHIMA’s enduring goal is quality healthcare through quality information. [www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org)