



## news

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### **AHIMA Joins New Information Governance Coalition**

*Group will support federal government's efforts to modernize  
its records management infrastructure*

CHICAGO – Feb. 24, 2015 – The [American Health Information Management Association](http://www.ahima.org) (AHIMA), the leader in driving a collaborative effort to adapt and operationalize Information Governance (IG) for the healthcare ecosystem, is pleased to be a founding member of the Coalition for Public Sector Information Governance Leadership (CPSIGL).

The CPSIGL will assist the National Archives and federal agencies as they transition from paper to digital recordkeeping. In addition to providing best IG practices from the private sector, the CPSIGL will offer resources and training to agency officials and federal practitioners to help them better manage their IG practices.

By the end of 2016, federal agencies will be required to manage permanent and temporary e-mail records in an electronically accessible format; by 2019, they must preserve all of the government's permanent electronic records created after that date in a digital format for transfer to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

"We are pleased to join other leading information governance organizations in this important initiative, and we'd like to recognize ARMA International for organizing the Coalition," said AHIMA CEO Lynne Thomas Gordon, MBA, RHIA, CAE, FACHE, FAHIMA. "While the primary goal is to assist the National Archives and federal agencies in addressing the growing challenges of the paper to digital transition, we expect that all coalition members and the governance community will benefit."

In addition to AHIMA, the other CPSIGL members include the Association for Information and Image Management (AIIM), ARMA International, the Information Governance Initiative (IGI), the National Association for Information Destruction (NAID) and Professional Records and Information Services Management (PRISM) International.

"The very establishment of this Coalition, and the Presidential Memorandum and the implementing directive by NARA and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) which gave rise to it, are clear signals of the importance of governing information," said AHIMA EVP/Operations and COO Deborah Green, MBA, RHIA, who leads AHIMA's IG strategic

initiative. “The Coalition members all bring solid guidance, practices, tools, resources and experience to contribute to this initiative.”

In 2014, AHIMA launched its IG initiative to increase awareness of IG’s importance and move the healthcare industry to action. Highlights included a first-of-its-kind benchmarking survey of comprehensive IG practices in healthcare, which AHIMA co-sponsored with Cohasset Associates. AHIMA then issued this [white paper](#) on the survey that provides context and understanding of the state of IG in healthcare and a roadmap for establishing steps organizations should take to govern their information. In 2014 AHIMA also released the [Information Governance Principles for HealthCare™](#) (IGPHC), which were adapted from ARMA International’s Generally Accepted Recordkeeping Principles (GARP).

This year, AHIMA plans to launch pilots in which organizations will use AHIMA’s IG Principles for Healthcare and a forthcoming IG maturity self-assessment in actual practice. In addition, another IG survey is planned with a focus on professional IG knowledge and readiness and organizational progress in implementing IG practices.

As part of February’s IG Month activities, the *Journal of AHIMA* launched the [first](#) of a four-part series that will explore the meaning and intent of AHIMA’s eight IGPHC.

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### **About AHIMA**

The American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) represents more than 101,000 health information 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)