



## news

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### **AHIMA, HBMA Establish Partnership**

*Memorandum of Understanding provides health information, revenue cycle professionals opportunities for collaboration*

CHICAGO – March 19, 2015 – The [American Health Information Management Association](http://www.ahima.org) (AHIMA) and the [Healthcare Billing Management Association](http://www.hbma.org) (HBMA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding that will allow the associations to collaborate and share educational benefits with their members.

The agreement increases the amount of resources available to members of each association and provides opportunities for collaboration on best practices and procedures to ensure the quality of health information.

“Both AHIMA and HBMA are dedicated to being at the cutting edge of industry practices and innovation,” said AHIMA Board President/Chair Cassi Birnbaum, MS, RHIA, CPHQ, FAHIMA. “Healthcare billing organizations are a logical partner for health information management departments because professionals in both areas are knowledgeable in coding, data analytics and risk management. We look forward to working with HBMA.”

As part of the agreement, AHIMA and HBMA will accept continuing education units (CEUs) for prior approval from each organization and provide webinars to each others’ members for free. With similar industry perspectives, the partnership provides an opportunity for AHIMA and HBMA to lead the information management and healthcare billing professions as advances in healthcare technology grow.

“The collaboration and partnership will allow health information management professionals and healthcare revenue cycle professionals to work together as we navigate the changing world of healthcare,” said Curt Cvikota, CHBME, president of the Healthcare Billing and Management Association.

The agreement also allows for further collaboration between AHIMA and HBMA through advocacy, thought leadership, professional development and volunteer opportunities.

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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)

**HBMA** works with legislative stakeholders and federal agencies in Washington, DC to improve the business of medical billing and the practice of healthcare. HBMA is a non-profit, member-led trade association. Since its inception in 1993, HBMA and its members have encouraged personal development and adherence to the HBMA Code of Ethics, advocated on behalf of the profession, and promoted business development through a wide range of affiliated vendor resources, educational events, networking opportunities, and certification programs. For more information about HBMA or to contact a CHBME, visit [www.hbma.org](http://www.hbma.org).