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The Power of Data Analytics

Journal of AHIMA examines importance of maximizing data assets

CHICAGO – Oct. 13, 2015 –Data analytics is revolutionizing how providers are able to offer quality care, as well as stay abreast of payment reform methodologies such as value-based purchasing and pay-for-performance incentives, according to the article, “[Data Bank](#),” in the October issue of the [Journal of AHIMA](#).

“Data analytics increasingly plays a more integral role in ensuring organizations are providing top patient care while efficiently managing their resources,” said [American Health Information Management Association](#) CEO Lynne Thomas Gordon, MBA, RHIA, CAE, FACHE, FAHIMA. “Analytics can give providers a clear sense of a patient’s experience throughout the entire healthcare continuum. Health Information Management (HIM) professionals should be encouraged to contribute their skills in this area and also make this a point of emphasis for professional development and lifelong learning.”

The article references a recent AHIMA workforce survey that rated data analytics near the top of competencies HIM professionals feel they need to possess in the future. Another report, “Analytics in Healthcare,” by CDW Healthcare, found that more than two-thirds of healthcare decision makers rate analytics as one of their organization’s top three priorities.

The story noted that for HIM professionals to assume greater leadership positions, “they need to be able to make predictions and inferences based on data.”

Also in this issue:

- The article, “[Taking a Second Look at Audit Data](#),” examines how the University of Vermont Medical Center ensures audit data integrity and effectively uses audit information as part of an overall audit management program within HIM. The story noted that as recovery audits continue to increase in volume and scope, “detail-oriented HIM professionals are valuable members of the audit process, driving centralization and ensuring data integrity across all types of audits.”

- A common thread in many challenges for today's healthcare leaders is assuring that data can be trusted and easily accessed, shared and exchanged. With the need for information governance greater than ever, an AHIMA practice brief, "[Data Quality Management \(Updated\)](#)" looks at the ways these challenges can be met. The practice brief uses the [AHIMA Information Governance Principles for Healthcare \(IGPHC\)™](#) as the underpinning of a data quality management model.

Read these articles and more in the October issue of the *Journal of AHIMA* or online at journal.ahima.org.

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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