HIM 2.0
Journal of AHIMA article previews the profession’s transformation

CHICAGO – May 5, 2016 – The nation’s healthcare system is experiencing a period of transformative change. To thrive in this fast-paced environment, the health information management (HIM) profession and the way HIM education is taught must transform as well.

In its May issue, the Journal of AHIMA outlines the exciting blueprint in development for the profession in the article, “HIM’s Professional Shake-Up Wake-Up.” The initiative “HIM Reimagined: A framework for transforming health information management,” builds and expands on the American Health Information Management Association’s (AHIMA) previous initiatives, which promoted the acquisition of new skills and advanced degrees to guide HIM into the future. HIM Reimagined, which will be organized like a white paper with a key set of strategies for professionals and educators, will be introduced this summer with a stakeholder comment period to follow. A final version is expected to be released in December or early 2017.

At the heart of HIM Reimagined is how HIM professionals and students can develop the range of skills needed to show leadership in areas such as information governance, Big Data, data analytics, project management, privacy and security, value-based purchasing and other payment reforms.

“A significant focus of the future of the profession will be on facility-wide information governance, better patient outcomes at reduced cost and performance improvement,” said AHIMA CEO Lynne Thomas Gordon, MBA, RHIA, CAE, FACHE, FAHIMA. “A major goal of HIM Reimagined is to align education and professional development to meet the demands of a job market increasingly focused on technology and informatics.”

AHIMA’s Council for Excellence in Education (CEE) developed this initial draft of HIM Reimagined. The CEE is a group of elected AHIMA leaders including educators, practitioners and industry consultants seeking to guide the HIM community through improvements in education, coursework and curricula of associate, baccalaureate and graduate HIM programs.

“HIM Reimagined will provide the tools for HIM professionals to not just collect and process data but to analyze and apply the information to support organization strategies and objectives,”
said Desla Mancilla, DHA, RHIA, senior director of academic affairs at AHIMA. “In addition, HIM Reimagined will address how HIM professionals can advance their skill set to more effectively communicate with and advocate for patients.”

HIM Reimagined will offer a long-term and phased implementation plan to ensure that the HIM profession is equipped both academically and professionally to further advance individuals to a place of increased relevance.

Also in this issue:

The article, “Continuing on the Intriguing ICD-10 Journey,” looks at the largely smooth transition the healthcare community has made to the ICD-10 code set. The article encourages HIM professionals to continue to monitor the coding and revenue cycle processes to ensure that the next six months and beyond are as successful as the first six months of ICD-10.

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

###

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 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