



**news**

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## **AHIMA Launches Program to Expand International Presence**

*AHIMA World Congress to serve as vehicle to grow membership, training*

**TOKYO – Oct. 14, 2016** – The [American Health Information Management Association](http://www.ahima.org) (AHIMA) announced today at the International Federation of Health Information Management Associations International Congress that it will establish the AHIMA World Congress (AWC), which will enable greater access to health information management (HIM) resources and services to AHIMA members outside the United States.

“The AWC will better enable workforce development in HIM and health informatics to contribute to AHIMA’s vision of quality healthcare through trusted information,” said AHIMA CEO Lynne Thomas Gordon, MBA, RHIA, CAE, FACHE, FAHIMA. “Through the AWC, AHIMA will be able to reach and support our members and other HIM professionals for engagement and networking and to provide more ready access to services where HIM associations do not exist today.”

AHIMA EVP/Chief of Innovation and Global Services Deborah Green, MBA, RHIA, said that in establishing the AWC, AHIMA is responding to demand from HIM professionals around the world. “In our work over the past three years outside the United States, we have seen growing interest in not only membership and services, but in affiliation with AHIMA as well.” Green said. “We are getting requests for training and services in clinical documentation improvement (CDI), data analytics, and information governance.”

AHIMA currently has more than 2,000 members, certified professionals and clients outside the US in 66 countries. The AWC will engage with individual members, governments, healthcare authorities, healthcare providers, and professional associations/societies, said Alexandre Bouché, global managing director of AWC. “This participation will be enabled through the establishment of chapters where AHIMA members and HIM professionals reside or work. AWC will also engage with international, regional and local business partners to accelerate the availability of AHIMA’s services.”

Through the AWC, AHIMA will offer numerous products, services, resources, and best practices for health information management.

“As a leading provider of HIM knowledge and ‘gold standard’ training, we look forward to increasing recognition of the HIM profession and to expanding and advancing the health information workforce,” Bouché said. “Our goal is to contribute to trusted health data and information to support the health of populations wherever the information is created, used and managed.”

To learn more about AHIMA’s international efforts, go to <http://www.ahima.org/international-resources>.

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### **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 is advancing informatics, data analytics, and information governance to achieve the goal of providing expertise to ensure trusted information for healthcare. [www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org)