New Research Explores the Expanding Role of CDI Programs

Online research journal delves into public health, emergency medicine, EHRs

CHICAGO – January 25, 2019 – The Winter 2019 issue of Perspectives in Health Information Management, the online research journal of the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA), features a review of the expanding role of clinical documentation improvement (CDI) programs, a study of EHR documentation times, and a literature review of quality-of-life surveys to determine the correct approach to trauma-affected communities.

The authors of “The Expanding Role of Clinical Documentation Improvement Programs in Research and Analytics,” note that “the more that CDI work is built into the EMR, and the more that physicians accept these systems, the more important it becomes for CDI programs to assume a larger role in research and data analytics.” They engaged in several studies to demonstrate how CDI professionals can evaluate the impacts of changes in clinical definitions and how CDI can work with other institutional programs to decrease length of stay.

“HIM professionals know that the value of health information has only continued to increase, which makes the discipline of CDI a valuable one,” said Wylecia Wiggs Harris, PhD, CAE, AHIMA Chief Executive Officer. “This article shows how CDI can facilitate research and analytics to improve the delivery of care and how CDI professionals can continue to add value to their organizations.”

Read the full article.

The winter issue also features the following articles:

A Comprehensive Review of Quality of Life Surveys for Trauma-Affected Communities

by Kimberly A. Peterson, PhD, RHIA; Leming Zhou, PhD, DSc; and Valerie J. M. Watzlaf, MPH, PhD, RHIA, FAHIMA

Research shows that exposure to community and domestic violence leads to psychological trauma from childhood through adulthood, which can lead to poor health and early death. A team of health information management (HIM) professionals at the University of Pittsburgh reviewed existing surveys to determine their suitability for assessing the quality of life (QoL) of people in trauma-affected communities (TACs). “Most of these 20 surveys cover one or two domains of QoL, and none of them were specifically designed for people in TACs,” the
researchers write. “Therefore, it is necessary to develop a psychometrically sound assessment tool to quantify the levels of trauma, resilience, and well-being in TACs. HIM professionals have the required skills for this task.”

Read more.

Development of a Catheterization and Percutaneous Coronary Intervention Registry with a Data Management Approach: A Systematic Review

by Alireza Tabatabaei Tabrizi, MSc; Hamid Moghaddasi, PhD; Reza Rabiei, PhD; Babak Sharif-Kashani, MD; and Eslam Nazemi, PhD

Coronary catheterization is the gold standard for diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular conditions. The development of a catheterization and percutaneous coronary intervention (CathPCI) registry considering key steps of data management has a pivotal role in coronary catheterization because it could help improve CathPCI approaches, develop equipment and devices, and minimize complications of the CathPCI procedure. A team of researchers in Iran reviewed the literature regarding CathPCI registries to better understand the steps taking for data management in the United States, Australia, and European Union.

Read more.

Data Quality Assessment in Emergency Medical Services: What Are the Stakeholders’ Perspectives?

by Mehrnaz Mashoufi, MSc; Haleh Ayatollahi, PhD; and Davoud Khorasani-Zavareh, PhD

Emergency care is usually conducted within limited time and with limited resources. During emergency care processes, data quality issues should be taken into account. Researchers in Iran surveyed three groups of data stakeholders, including data producers, data collectors, and data consumers, regarding data quality in emergency care services. “Overall, data quality in emergency medical services was not at a high level,” they write. “Although data quality was improving, the levels of data completeness, compatibility, and usability were low. To improve the usability of emergency medical service data, more attention should be paid to the dimensions of accuracy, completeness, and consistency of data sources.”

Read more.

Electronic Health Record Documentation Times among Emergency Medicine Trainees

by Scott Crawford, MD; Igor Kushner, MD; Radosveta Wells, MD; and Stormy Monks, PhD

Physicians spend a large portion of their time documenting patient encounters using electronic health records (EHRs). Researchers at Texas Tech University compared the time required to complete an emergency department note in two different EHR systems for three separate video-recorded standardized simulated patient encounters. The only significant difference in documentation time was by classification, with second- and third-year trainees being significantly faster in documenting on the Cerner system than fourth-year medical student and first-year trainees. They also found that level of training and experience with a system affected documentation time.
Toward the Design of an Engagement Tool for Effective Electronic Health Record Adoption

by Subrata Acharya, PhD, and Niya Werts, MS EHS, MIS, PhD

As healthcare systems continue to expand their use of electronic health records (EHRs), barriers to robust and successful engagement with such systems by stakeholders remain tenacious. Researchers at Towson University used a survey tool based on the Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research to assess key points of engagement barriers and potential points of intervention for stakeholders of EHRs in a large-scale healthcare organization. Based on the assessment, they were able to make recommendations on how to address engagement barriers.

About Perspectives in Health Information Management
Perspectives in Health Information Management is a scholarly, peer-reviewed journal, referred to by professors, professionals, public officials, industry leaders, and policy-makers. Since 2004, it has been one of the most credible and respected journals of the HIM industry and is referenced in notable indices such as PubMed Central (PMC), the Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health (CINAHL), and Google Scholar. Learn more about the submission guidelines and the manuscript review process. www.perspectives.ahima.org

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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 best practices and effective standards in health information and to actively contributing to the development and advancement of health information professionals worldwide. www.ahima.org