

The GOCHIA December 2018 Newsletter is now available online.
Check it out to stay current with local news, events, job openings and more!

Environmental Scan:
CMS E/M update:
Effective January 1st, 2019, the federal CMS is implementing policies that will significantly reduce administrative burden. Changes include:
- The requirement to document medical necessity of furnishing visits in the home rather than office will be eliminated
- Physicians will no longer be required to re-record elements of history and physical exam when there is evidence that the information has been reviewed and updated.
- Physicians must only document that they reviewed and verified information regarding chief complaint and history that is already recorded by ancillary staff or the patient.

These E/M documentation guideline changes were strongly supported by the AMA. Additionally, the proposed “collapse” of E/M levels 2-5 was overwhelmingly opposed and will not be effective for CY 2019. For more information: http://www.cms.org/site/print/federal-cms-agrees-to-improvements-in-e-m-documentation-and-delays-collapse

Reducing Health IT Burden:
ONC released a draft Strategy on Reducing Regulatory and Administrative Burden Relating to the Use of Health IT and EHRs. This draft addresses the issue of diminishing satisfaction and care delivery experience for providers feeling burdened by clinical documentation, health IT usability and user experience, EHR reporting programs, and public health reporting. Public comment period on the draft Strategy ends Monday, January 28th, 2019. Comments are to be submitted via HealthIT.gov

Announcements:
The 2019 candidates for the CHIA office are:

Present-elect Candidates
Robert Baranda, MS, RHIA, CHP (SHIA)
Melany Merryman, MSL, RHIA, CRCR (IAHIA)

Director Candidates
Sally Gibbs, RHIA, CCS (SVHIA)
Vickie Skidmore, RHIA, IGP (SHIA)
Vivian Thomas, RHIA, CHDA, CHPS, CHPQ (GOCHIA)
Svetlana Woersching, RHIA, CCS, CPC (SDHIA)

AHIMA Delegate Candidates
Liz Duggan Graham, RHIT, CCS (NCHIA)
Shirley Lewis, DPA, RHIA, CCS, CHC (SCHIA)

Look for an email from CHIA in January to cast your vote!!!!
**Upcoming Events:**

*December 12, 2018 (Wednesday)*** Mark your calendar, this is a new date!*
CPT Updates with Judy Holloway
6-8pm at Wade Education Center at CHOC in the West Clinic Bldg, 2nd Floor, 2 CEU

*January 10, 2019*
Networking and Brand Recognition with Andrea Swenson
6-8pm at TODOS Conference Room, 1st floor (left of lobby).
Parking in Cancer Center Parking Structure

*March 16, 2019*
HIM Career Panel Discussion/ Resume and Career Building
Cypress College, venue TBD