

## **The HIM Innovation Award** (previously called HIM Collaboration Award)

Innovation is defined in the Merriam-Webster dictionary as the introduction of something new. Wikipedia expands on that, defining innovation as a new way of doing something. It may refer to incremental, radical, and revolutionary changes in thinking, products, processes, or organizations. The HIM Innovation Award recognizes outstanding efforts made by a department or team (two or more individuals) in meeting the challenges of the ever changing HIM environment through a new process or technique.

A department or team can be nominated for a project that falls into one or more of the following three categories:

- Best practice (defined as processes and activities that have been shown in practice to be the most effective or practical techniques gained from experience that organizations may use to improve internal processes)
- Financial Impact (defined as activities that create a positive impact on an institution's bottom line)
- Collaboration (defined as working jointly within or across departments or with external organizations towards a common goal)

Examples of award-worthy efforts by category include:

### **Best practice**

- Staff education and professional development including mentoring resulting in a higher quality of work product or improving process efficiencies
- Introduction of creative practice innovations through advances in technology, development of more effective quality management measures or new methods of promoting employee motivation and job satisfaction

### **Financial impact**

- Successful systems improvement, upgrade or process change that resulted in demonstrable increase in revenue, savings in expenses, staff time or other types of cost reductions

### **Collaboration**

- Team effort in implementation of new initiatives or systems: e.g., EHR, Physician order entry, web-based transcription, voice recognition, privacy and confidentiality

- Team effort in a department or facility reorganization, merger or relocation project

**Guidelines:** Nominees must submit the following: (Indicate which category the innovation applies to)

- Describe the challenge being addressed and the goal of the project
- Describe the steps taken, provide illustrative materials as appropriate
- Describe the outcomes. Be as specific as possible as to how you feel the outcome met the challenges and goals of the project
- Provide a complete list of department or team members to be recognized

**Eligibility:** At least one member of the team must be a MaHIMA member. Submissions should be for projects at least substantially completed within the last 24 months.

**Recognition:** Presentations of award certificates will be performed at the facility site during AHIMA's Health Information and Technology Week in November. Winners will be announced at the Winter Meeting and showcased in MaHIMA Connect.