

MaHiMA

— AHIMA Affiliate —

Massachusetts Health Information
Management Association

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jeanne Fernandes, RHIA, CHDA

Happy New Year 2016! Although it is a new calendar year, the MaHIMA association year began in July, so we are at the mid-year point and so far, it has been a remarkable year.

Over the last several years, many MaHIMA members answered the call to advocate for ICD-10 implementation. Some of us met with congressmen and senators on Capitol Hill to educate them on the importance of ICD-10 implementation and the impact it will have on healthcare. Many of our members participated in grass root efforts to reach out to groups who opposed or had concerns about moving forward with ICD-10. We called, tweeted or wrote to our congressmen and senators to let them know ICD-10 must move forward. While the many requests by AHIMA to make your voice heard were often inconvenient and maybe even annoying at times, there is no doubt that our relentless efforts played a key role in moving ICD-10 to reality.

At our Fall Meeting, we celebrated the 85th anniversary of MaHIMA. Donna Casey, our Archivist, provided a wonderful presentation of the history of AHIMA. The celebration was made even more meaningful by the attendance of so many of our

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CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: HIM TEAM EXCELLENCE AWARD

HIM Departments are under terrific pressure. So much to do and learn; so many goals to meet; so many challenges to conquer! Here is your chance to recognize your team's extraordinary efforts.

The MaHIMA HIM Team Excellence Award recognizes outstanding effort by a department or team in meeting the challenges of the ever changing HIM environment.

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

Best Practice: defined as processes, activities and techniques that organizations may use to improve internal processes.

Financial Impact: defined as activities that positively affect an institution's bottom line.

Collaboration: defined as working jointly with others towards a common goal.

Awards will be presented on-site at your facility during March. Facilities may choose to coordinate the presentation of the award with celebration of the annual Health Information Professionals (HIP) week in March.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Winter Meeting & Coding Seminar

January 22
7:30 am - 3:00 pm

Coders2Coders

January 28
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Workshop: Successful Project Management in Today's HIS World

February 5
7:30 am - 2:30 pm

2016 AHIMA Leadership & Advocacy Symposium

April 4 - April 5

Annual Conference

May 15 - May 17

AWARDS

JOB BANK

FORUMS

FINANCE

ENGAGE

NEWLY CREDENTIALLED



MAHIMA DOT WAGG LEGISLATIVE MEETING

November 6, 2015

Sponsored by AMS and Deloitte

Martha Hamel, CHPC, Connect Editor

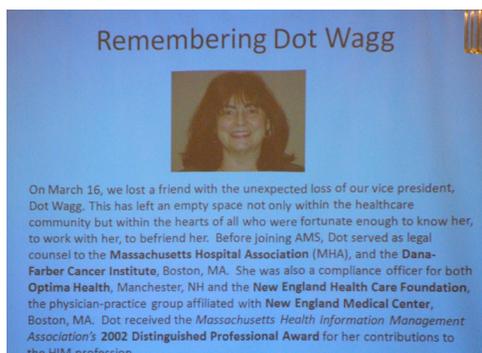
This year's Dot Waggs meeting was held in combination with Hill Day. The Legislative Committee decided to combine the two events this year so more people could be part of Hill Day. The committee has received feedback that the State House is not the easiest location to get to, so the committee wanted to "bring Hill Day" to our members. 85 people attended the day's events, which was a great turnout.



Alan Goldberg opened the meeting with a wonderful remembrance of Dot Waggs. They had worked together and were very good friends. He had some very heartfelt sentiments, especially about her positive energy, and funny sense of humor. You could see how sincere he was and how much he truly misses her. He then went on to discuss "how to operationalize government topics thrown at us". This was a very broad discussion, and as one attendee noted "there are so many government topics thrown at us that he could have talked all day long".

There were representatives from Deloitte, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Latham and Watkins law firm and the Massachusetts eHealth Institute who provided information on patient privacy, HIPAA enforcement, and Mass HIWay.

Senator Bruce Tarr was also on the agenda. He is on the Massachusetts Joint Committee on Health Care Financing and has worked closely with MaHIMA on healthcare finance reform. He had been nominated for the HIM Advocacy Award, which was presented to him at the meeting. He is a wonderful speaker and kept the audience engaged with his update on his work regarding healthcare



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INCIDENTALLY...SPEAKING!

Submitted by Martha Hamel, CHPC
Privacy Specialist, BIDMC

Recently, I received an inquiry from a patient regarding a phone conversation she heard while sitting in the waiting room of the radiology department. She was concerned that she was able to hear the receptionist schedule an x-ray for a patient. She heard the patient name and medical record number, and the conversation that the receptionist had in order to schedule the appointment. I am familiar with the department where she was and remembered that the waiting area is very small, and that they have tight quarters. I had visited this area during privacy rounds and noted that they have signage in the area regarding patient privacy.

We had a delightful conversation, and I explained to her that this was known as an incidental disclosure, under the HIPAA Privacy Rule. We talked about other situations, such as an inpatient who is sharing a room and they might overhear their roommate's caregivers talking about treatment plans, diagnosis, etc. I explained that the receptionist was doing her job, and there are instances where a patient (such as she) might overhear conversations that have to do with patient care. I also pointed out that she only heard the patient name and medical record number, which is not considered protected health information. It might be different if the receptionist revealed diagnosis, insurance numbers or other information that was not needed to complete the task at hand, which was scheduling an x-ray. She did agree that the waiting room was very small and she could understand why she overheard the

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MAHIMA STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

MaHIMA Annual Meeting Student Concierge

Assist the Administrative Director with the Annual Conference

Network with HIM Professionals
(possible future employers)

Full registration including meals provided

MaHIMA Committees

Volunteer for student position on one of the various MaHIMA Committees
Communication • Education • Legislative • Nominating
ICD-10 Forum • Awards

*Must be current MaHIMA member
to apply for any position
Visit our website for more information*