Electronic Health Records in Focus

Perspectives, AHIMA’s Online Journal, Features In-Depth Look at Issue

CHICAGO — May 30, 2012 – Electronic Health Records (EHRs) – combined with the government’s meaningful use incentives – have the potential to revolutionize medical documentation and patient management. Of course, as guest editor Dr. David R. Norris, Jr. writes in AHIMA’s online journal Perspectives in Health Information Management, “a computer is only as smart as the person using it.”

The spring issue focuses on the potential of EHRs and also frames the important issues regarding adoption, implementation and use. Featured stories include:

• “Are Physicians Likely to Adopt Emerging Mobile Technologies?” investigates the factors that affect a physician’s decision to adopt mobile technology devices such as the smart phone. In addition, research by the authors could lead to the development of mobile technology platforms that target the specific needs of healthcare professionals, proving the latest health applications for disease, treatment and practice management issues.

• How does the Federal Government influence the use of various electronic technologies such as e-prescribing? That is the focus of a Commentary, “The Federal Government’s Role in Influencing E-prescribing Use and Research.”

• “Hospital Characteristics Related to the Intention to Apply for Meaningful Use Incentive Payments,” looks at the myriad characteristics that individual physicians and large health systems analyze in making decisions about electronic technologies in patient care.

• The affect of EHR on the diagnosis and management of hypertension and cancer is the focus of “Identifying Patients with Hypertension: A Case for Auditing Electronic-Health Record Data.”

• The status, impact and challenges of EHRs cancer registries in Alabama is the issue examined in “The Impact of Electronic Health Records Usage on Cancer Registry Systems in Alabama.”

• “Utilization of Electronic Health Record Systems by Long Term Care Facilities in Texas,” explores the adoption and use of EHRs in LTC facilities in Texas and identifies barriers preventing EHRs implementation.
“Workflow and Electronic Health Records in Small Medical Practices,” analyzes the workflow and implementations of EHR systems across different functions in small physician offices.

“Each of the EHR issues discussed in this issue of Perspectives has far-reaching implications that could affect both clinician and administrative satisfaction, income and most importantly provision of quality care,” writes Norris, an assistant professor and director of the M3 Family Medicine Clerkship Program in the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, Miss.

About Perspectives
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.

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