Health:IT

Unit 1 – Introduction to the Health Information Management Profession

Introduction

- Health Information Management has been a recognized allied health profession since 1928
- Association of Record Librarians of North America
- Currently known as American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA)

Early History of HIM

Key events in history of HIM

- Hospital standardization movement
- Organization of records librarians
- Approval of formal educational programs and curriculum for medical record librarians

Hospital Standardization

Records were managed by physicians prior to 1918

- Records mainly consisted of nurses notes
- No efforts were made to complete records
- Standardization initiated by the American College of Surgeons
  - Purpose to establish minimum quality standards

Organization of the Association of Records Librarians

Association of Record Librarians of North America

- Established 1928
- 35 charter members

Approval of Formal Education and Certification Programs

- Accreditation
- Registration

Accreditation

- First formal curriculum established in 1932
- First programs accredited in 1934
- Current accreditation organization is Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM)

Registration

- Board of registration established in 1933
- Established criteria for eligibility for registration
- Developed and administered examination
- Currently managed by the Commission on Certification of Health Informatics and Information Management (CCHIIM)

Evolution of Practice

- American Association of Medical Record Librarians

- American Medical Record Administration

- American Health Information Management Association

Credentials

- Former names of credentials
  - Registered Record Administrator
  - Accredited Record Technician
- Current names of credentials
  - Registered Health Information Administrators
  - Registered Health Information Technicians

Traditional Practice

- Focus was complete and accurate medical records on every patient

- Purpose of record was to support the care and treatment and clinical research

- Activities focused on managing record – not data

Information-Oriented Management Practice

- 25 to 40 percent of operating costs goes to information handling

- Information crosses department barriers

- HIM task include data manipulation and information management

Visioning the Future of HIM

- Many HIM professionals work outside of the HIM department
  - Other departments in hospital
  - Other settings
- Electronic health record is being implemented

Visioning the Future of HIM

- Tasks include:
  - Maintaining data dictionaries
  - Developing data models
  - Data administration
  - Ensuring data quality

Visioning the Future of HIM

- HIM professionals are focused on:
  - Data analysis and interpretation
  - User interfaces for the EHR
  - Privacy and security

Vision 2006 Roles

- Health information manager for integrated systems
- Clinical data specialist
- Patient information coordinator
- Data quality manager
- Information security manager
- Data resource administrator
- Research and decision support specialist

New and Revised Roles

- Terminology modeler
- Personal health record liaison or consultant
- Physician group consultant
- Privacy officer
- Health record reviewer
- HIM director
- Enterprise content and information manager

New and Revised Roles

- Revenue cycle manager
- Health data analyst
- Chief information officer

AHIMA's Mission

- Membership organization
- Majority of members are credentialed
- Primary focus is to foster professional development of members
  - o Education
  - o Certification
  - o Lifelong learning

AHIMA's Mission

- Certification programs set high standards
- Provides continuing education for members
- Code of professional ethics

Code of Ethics

- Members expected to act in ethical manner and comply with all laws, regulations, and standards governing the practice of HIM

Membership

- Volunteers
  - Establishes mission and goals
  - Develops policy
  - Provides oversight for organization's operations
- Staff
  - Carries out operational tasks to support the mission and goals

Association Leadership

- Members elect delegates who are governing body

- Board of Directors lead volunteer structure
  - President
  - President-elect
  - Past president
  - Directors
  - Executive director

Association Leadership

- Commission on Certification for Health Informatics and Information Management
  - Oversee certification process
- Commission on Accreditation of Health Informatics and Information Management Education
  - Oversees accreditation of college programs

Communities of Practice

- Virtual network of AHIMA members
- Function of CoP
  - Method of contacting other members
  - Search for members with similar interests
  - Links to other sites related to HIM
  - Professional library

National Committees

- Members appointed by AHIMA's president
- Support mission of organization
- Work on specific projects

House of Delegates

- Functions as legislative body
- Members elected by state HIM association
- Responsibilities include:
  - Approving standards
  - Electing members to AHIMA nominating committee
  - Advising Board of Directors
  - Approving amendments to AHIMA's bylaws

State and Local Associations

- Component state association in each state plus Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico
- Provide access to professional education, networking and representation
- Updates members on national issues
- Local associations good way to begin volunteerism

Staff Structure

- AHIMA is located in Chicago
- Executive director responsible for day-to-day activities
- Staff perform duties such as
  - Professional practice services
  - Publications
  - Marketing
  - Government relations

Accreditation of Educational Programs

- CAHIIM is an independent accreditation organization

- Establish quality standards

- Accredited programs undergo rigorous reviews

- Graduates are eligible to sit for credentialing examination

Certification and Registration Program

- CCHIIM establishes, implements, and enforces standards and procedures for certification and recertification.

Current Certifications

- Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT)
- Registered Health Information Administrator (RHIA)
- Certified Coding Associate (CCA)
- Certified Coding Specialist (CCS)
- Certified Coding Specialist – physician based (CCS-P)

Current Certifications

- Certified in Healthcare Privacy and Security (CPHS)

- Certified Health Data Analyst (CHDA)

Fellowship Program

- Earned recognition program for AHIMA members
  - Significant and sustained contributions to the HIM profession
  - Designation of Fellow of the American Health Information Management Association (FAHIMA)

Fellowship Program

- Eligibility:
  - Active or senior member of AHIMA
  - 10 years full-time HIM experience
  - Minimum of masters degree
  - Evidence of sustained and substantial professional achievement

- Lifetime recognition subject to AHIMA membership and compliance with AHIMA Code of Ethics

The AHIMA Foundation

- Promotes education and research in HIM
- Philanthropic and charitable arm of AHIMA
- Role is to envision the future direction and needs of the field