

# 2013 Timeline of Accomplishments

Association for Healthcare Documentation Integrity (AHDi)



## ***Quarter 1 (January – March)***

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- The Advocacy Alliance collaborated with staff to produce the “Your Record Speaks” public awareness campaign. A consumer-orientated website was created, [www.YourRecordSpeaks.org](http://www.YourRecordSpeaks.org), to provide the general public with information and resources on checking their health records for accuracy, their health information rights, and how to request corrections to their health records.
- A task force of the Educators Alliance updated the *eSource for Healthcare Documentation Instructors* to facilitate the adoption and implementation of the Model Curriculum, 5<sup>th</sup> edition.
- AHDi submitted comments on the draft definition for meaningful use, stage 3 to the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT in January 2013.
- The Educators Alliance published a case study on a successful externship program. The case study provides a template for MTSOs to develop their own program and how to partner with a school.
- Recognition of newly credentialed practitioners was stepped up by publishing their names in *Plexus* and among AHDi’s component associations in various communication vehicles.
- Created micro-volunteer opportunities throughout the year to engage members in activities that directly related to their interests and expertise. For example, members submitted photos and examples of critical errors they corrected in health records for National MT Week.
- We expanded the educational content in *Plexus* by transitioning to an online publication and trimming printing and distribution costs.
- The KB Users Alliance and Small Business Alliance were established in 2013 to foster greater participation in AHDi by associate members and corporate members, respectively.
- Rebranding of the current credentialing exams commenced in 2013 with extensive communication to current RMTs and CMTs, AHDi component leadership, members at large, and practitioners to ensure a thorough understanding of the changes and how they impact each individual. With the rebranding, AHDi is initiating a widespread marketing/communications plan to showcase the value of a credentialed workforce and build awareness of the RHDS and CHDS.

## ***Quarter 2 (April – June)***

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- The *EHR Playbook* ebook was published for medical transcription department managers and supervisors to teach them how to internally and externally market the value of their workforce and services, address quality assurance issues and create a robust program, and transitional roles for the healthcare documentation workforce.

- A comprehensive Career and Professional Development survey was organized and results were released in April 2013. The results provided AHDI with important insight on the needs of healthcare documentation specialists to support the development of future educational programs and membership benefits.
- The National Leadership Board created a QA task force, which is supported by AHIMA, to develop guidance, best practices, and a tool kit for clinician-created documentation. The materials will be completed in 2014.
- New credentialing prep products were developed by the Credentialing Commission (formerly the Credentialing Development Team) and released in 2013: CMT study course, RMT practice exam, and CMT practice exam. All credentialing prep products available from AHDI are “RHDS- and CHDS-Ready,” which are aligned with and applicable to the rebranded credentialing exams.
- The *Health Record Integrity eBrief* debuted May 1 to report on the latest news in healthcare documentation, health information technology (HIT), and health information management (HIM).
- A new Lounge blog was launched in 2013 to better facilitate district communication and discussion on hot topics in healthcare documentation, all in a single website.
- Dr. Gary David’s (Bentley University) article, “Error Rates in Physician Dictation: Quality Assurance and Medical Record Production” was accepted for publication in the *International Journal of Health Care Quality Analysis* (publication date TBA). The article will report on the error study data collected in 2009.

### ***Quarter 3 (July – September)***

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- A joint AHDI-AHIMA task force was organized to identify concrete career pathways for medical transcriptionists and to develop relevant educational programs. To start, the task force conducted a survey and formally released the results in July 2013, which earned widespread publicity and media attention.
- The rebranding of AHDI’s annual convention to the Healthcare Documentation Integrity Conference will begin with the 2014 event in Las Vegas, NV. The goal is to draw a wider audience to engage in collaborative discussions on the quality and integrity of healthcare documentation, demonstrate the value of healthcare documentation specialists, and provide exceptional education for healthcare documentation specialists and HIM/HIT professionals.
- AHDI announces the election results for new directors serving on the National Leadership Board and 2013-2014 officer elections.
- AHDI recognizes the Integrity Award winners at the 2013 annual convention.
- At AHDI’s 2013 convention, the first “walking public service announcement” related to the “Your Record Speaks” public awareness campaign took place in Downtown Disney.
- AHDI continued to be actively involved in the Health Story Project’s Executive Committee and aided in the Project’s transition to HIMSS.

- AHDI leaders worked with the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) to update the Medical Transcriptionist write-up in the *Occupational Outlook Handbook*. The BLS also published the timeline to update the job classification system, in which "healthcare documentation specialist" will be added. The process began at the end of 2013 for the 2018 update.
- AHDI launched a new online training course called "Mastering the EHR" for healthcare documentation specialists to learn essential skills in documenting patient care in an electronic health record.
- AHDI CEO attends the Joint Commission Liaison Network Forum to emphasize the importance of quality assurance in physician-created documentation in the EHR.
- Individuals who earned their RMT and CMT credentials based on the current exam blueprints received their official notification that their credentials were now Registered Healthcare Documentation Specialist (RHDS) and Certified Healthcare Documentation Specialist (CHDS).

## ***Quarter 4 (October – December)***

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- The first CHDS Bridge Course started on October 1, with the first class of CMTs earning their CHDS credential on November 25.
- The RMT Recredentialing Course was expanded and transitioned to the RHDS Recredentialing Course. RMTs completing the course earned their RHDS credential.
- The new RHDS and CHDS logos were revealed October 1.
- AHDI showcased our programs, products, and services at our booth during the American Health Information Management Association's (AHIMA) 2013 conference in Atlanta, GA. AHDI members and leaders in attendance had the opportunity to get all the latest updates on HIM topics.
- AHDI joins Pinterest and our social networking community on Facebook reaches 3,880 people.
- The Medicolegal CEC Bundle was updated to reflect the HIPAA Final Rule and social media in health care.
- AHDI submitted a grant proposal to the ASAE Foundation to conduct a groundbreaking benchmarking study to quantify healthcare documentation practices across a variety of healthcare delivery settings. Although we were unsuccessful in securing the grant, AHDI is now extending invitations to other not-for-profit associations to collaborate with us on this important research project.



## ***AHDI Component Associations & Special Interest Alliances***

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The National Leadership Board would like to recognize and thank our component associations and our special interest alliances for their year-long efforts. Our local, state, and regional component associations and alliances are 100% volunteer-led to provide an enriching community for our members closer to home and online. Take a moment to [Get Connected](#) today to the AHDi components and alliances.