

Illinois AAHAM Newsletter

SPRING 2012

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"What a ride..." Final Thoughts as President.

William C. Carlson, CPAM



Wow - what a ride! Another great year for Illinois AAHAM...actually 30 great years. Our Annual State Institute was an unqualified success as we celebrated our 30th anniversary and our accomplishments, shared memories and looked to the future as we transition to new officers and directors. We were honored to welcome the National AAHAM officers who joined us to recognize this milestone and to help us celebrate.

I volunteered for AAHAM duty many years ago and have been fortunate to be a part of our achievements, our growth, certainly some disappointments and inevitable sad times along the way. But there have been many more good times, great memories and most importantly to me, the friendships that I have developed.

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JUNE
MEETING REGISTRATI
ON

[June Meeting.pdf](#)



I am very proud of our accomplishments over the past four years and have been blessed to work with such great officers and board members during my time as chapter president. Just consider our growth and development:

- Membership - 152 members in September of 2008, 248 members in September of 2011.
- Certification - Professional & Technical...I can't count them all.
- Corporate Partners - 33 this year whose generous support helps to fund our programs.
- Education - Our quarterly education programs have been the best - this is our mission and our responsibility to our members.
- Communication - Award winning newsletter, The Lincoln Log, updated web site, eNews blasts to our membership, online meeting registration, contributions to the AAHAM Journal and now FaceBook.
- Legislative - a PAC and close relationships with IHA, Legislative Day attendance year after year helping to develop an AAHAM voice in Washington.
- National AAHAM - Involvement as committee members, committee chairs and National officers. Hosting the 2008 ANI in Chicago.

What is AAHAM?

The American Association of Healthcare Administrative Management (AAHAM) is the premier professional organization in healthcare administrative management. AAHAM's mission is to provide education, certification, networking, and advocacy for healthcare revenue cycle professionals.

Illinois AAHAM has done a pretty good job in fulfilling this mission.

Best regards and "Thank You" - Bill Carlson, CPAM



President's Message

Kenny Koerner , CPAM

President



Baseball season is upon us once again. As many of you know baseball is my favorite sport. Whether I'm following my beloved Cubs each year or coaching one of my 3 kids in baseball , baseball is where I find I like to escape for small flashes of solitude. Not only do I find solitude in baseball, but I also find that my years of playing and coaching baseball has taught me so much about life and dealing with various situations. Baseball is a game of individuality and a game of team. Individually, I believe it teaches us consistency and perseverance. It's a game where even the best players individually fail more than they succeed. It teaches us about ourselves and how we can cope and react with difficult adversities. As a team sport though, it also teaches us about the people who surround us, such as how they will support, encourage and inspire us to continue to be the very best that we can be.

As I begin my tenure as President of this great Illinois AAHAM Chapter, I think we all can apply the lessons that baseball teaches us to our daily world as revenue cycle professionals. Individually, some of our membership is going through difficult and complex computer conversions or are in the middle of a merger with physician group or hospital. And for some of us, it isn't any large project or event that we are currently undertaking, it is just the daily battles that we face with technology, people, processes and regulation. No matter what you are facing individually, I think it's important we remember the lessons of consistency and persistence that baseball teaches us. We must strive each day to be consistent with our staff, consistent with our communication to other managers and clinicians, consistent with our business partners. With consistency comes respect and admiration for what we believe in. We must also be persistent, for as we go to work

fail along the way, and when we do we need to learn from those failures and continue to be persistent in our wanting to improve the places we work in. Be persistent-continue to ask the tough questions, try something new even though the last time it failed, this is how we continue to improve.

The great thing about baseball is that you also have the team there to pick you up when you need them the most. That is why your AAHAM membership is so important, and why I think that the network of people that we can call our team is so critical for each of us to tap in to. Your fellow AAHAM members are the people that will support, encourage and inspire you along your journey. I encourage each of you to reach out to your network of friends here at Illinois AAHAM on a regular basis. The team that we have is here to help each of us to continue to do the great work that we do in the healthcare revenue cycle. I know that personally I talk to someone from my AAHAM team on a weekly basis. I'm always asking questions, providing answers, or trying to get a pep talk from my fellow AAHAM member prior to going back to the battle. Don't be afraid to reach out to one of our fellow members, you may just pick up a friend along the way.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the June meeting. We have a great payer panel on the agenda and as always, will allow time for everyone to network to share ideas and stories...

See you all there, and Go Cubs!

Kenny



June Meeting Set!
June 19, 2012

Par-a-Dice Hotel and
Casino
East Peoria, IL
[June Meeting
Flyer.pdf](#)



*New Technical
Certification
Chairperson
Announced*

Effective January 1, 2012, there were some changes in duties for the newly elected Board of Directors for Illinois AAHAM. Since I was elected as Second Vice President, a change in the Technical Certification Chairperson was necessary. It is with great confidence that I wanted to let you know that Tera Roesch from Gibson Hospital is now the Technical Certification Chairperson.

Tera is a CPAT and CCAT who brings great knowledge and experience to this position. She will be a great resource for any questions you might have about preparation and testing for technical certification. Tera's contact information is:

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Although, I have been given different responsibilities, I do want to keep in touch with all of you and will be glad to help with any issues you might have. Please feel free to contact Tera or me with your concerns as we try to make this transition as smooth as possible.

Thank you for your efforts in the past in helping to get others certified!!!! You help make Illinois AAHAM a very successful organization!!!!

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ICAHN/AAHAM Medicaid Billing Bootcamp!

ICAHN and AAHAM joined
forces to provide a Medicaid
Billing Bootcamp in
Springfield, IL
March 8, 2012.

Big thanks to Jodie
Edmonds, IL Dept. Of
Health and Family Services!!





ICD-10 DELAYED

Fact Sheets

Details for: HHS PROPOSES ONE-YEAR DELAY OF ICD-10 COMPLIANCE DATE

For Immediate Release: Monday, April 09, 2012
Contact: CMS Office of Public Affairs
202-690-6145

HHS PROPOSES ONE-YEAR DELAY OF ICD-10 COMPLIANCE DATE

(CMS-0040-P)

Action

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) today announced a proposed rule that would delay, from October 1, 2013 to October 1, 2014, the compliance date for the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Edition diagnosis and procedure codes (ICD-10).

would adopt a standard for a unique health plan identifier (HPID), adopt a data element that would serve as an "other entity" identifier (OEID), and add a National Provider Identifier (NPI) requirement. The proposed rule was developed by the Office of E-Health Standards and Services (OEHS) as part of its ongoing role, delegated by HHS, to establish adopt standards for electronic health care transactions under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). OEHS is part of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

Background

On January 16, 2009, HHS published a final rule to adopt ICD-10 as the HIPAA standard code sets to replace the previously adopted ICD-9-codes for diagnosis and procedure codes (see HIPAA Administrative Simplification; Modifications to Medical Data Code Set Standards to Adopt ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS, 74 FR 3328). The compliance date set by the final rule was October 1, 2013.

Implementation of ICD-10 will accommodate new procedures and diagnoses unaccounted for in the ICD-9 code set and allow for greater specificity of diagnosis-related groups and preventive services. This transition will lead to improved accuracy in reimbursement for medical services, fraud detection, and historical claims and diagnoses analysis for the health care system. Many researchers have published articles on the far-reaching positive effects of ICD-10 on quality issues, including use of specific reasons for patient non-compliance and detailed procedure information by degree of difficulty, among other benefits.

Some provider groups have expressed serious concerns about their ability to meet the October 1, 2013 compliance date. Their concerns about the ICD-10 compliance date are based, in part, on implementation issues they have experienced meeting HHS' compliance deadline for the Associated Standard Committee's (ASC) X12 Version 5010 standards (Version 5010) for electronic health care transactions. Compliance with Version 5010 is necessary prior to implementation of ICD-10.

All covered entities must transition to ICD-10 at the same time to ensure a smooth transition to the updated medical data code sets. Failure of any one industry segment to achieve compliance with ICD-10 would negatively impact all other industry segments and result in rejected claims and provider payment delays. HHS believes the change in the compliance date for ICD-10, as proposed in this rule, would give providers and other covered entities more time to prepare and fully test their systems to ensure a smooth and coordinated transition among all industry segments.

Provisions of the proposed rule announced today

HHS is proposing to change the ICD-10 compliance date to October

As stated, the ICD-10 compliance date change is part of a proposed rule that would adopt a standard for a unique health plan identifier (HPID), adopt a data element that would serve as an "other entity" identifier (OEID), and add a National Provider Identifier (NPI) requirement.

Standards compliance date

HHS proposes that covered entities must be in compliance with ICD-10 on October 1, 2014.

The proposed rule, CMS-0040-P, may be viewed at www.ofr.gov/inspection.aspx.

A news release on the proposed rule may be viewed at <http://www.hhs.gov/news>

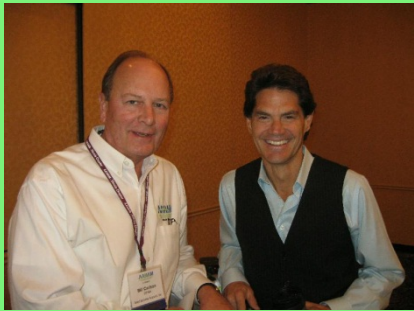


*Happy 30th
Birthday
IL AAHAM!!!*



*IL AAHAM ASI--
Celebrating 30 Years
of IL AAHAM at
The Chateau Hotel,
Bloomington, IL
Dec.1-2 2012*









The Value of Performance

Evaluations...

[The Value
of
Performance
Evaluations](#)

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the left to open the
PDF.



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***AAHAM/ICAHN Raises \$21
41.81 for Harrisburg
Hospital***



AAHAM and ICAHN partnered to raise money for the devastation that took place after Harrisburg Medical Center was hit by this spring's devastating tornado. A total of \$2141.81 was raised and presented to the hospital.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the community of Harrisburg and the staff of the hospital as they begin to rebuild and pick up the pieces.





2012 AAHAM Legislative Day

The American Association of Healthcare Administrative Management (AAHAM) Holds 8th Annual Legislative Day.

Fairfax, VA - The American Association of Healthcare Administrative Management (AAHAM) www.aaham.org, a professional association, held its eighth annual Legislative Day, April 11-12, 2011 at the Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill.

Speakers included:

Dan Elling, Staff Director of the House Ways & Means Committee, Subcommittee on Health

Julia Harris, Kaiser Family Foundation

Paul A. Miller, Miller/Wenhold Capitol Strategies

Adam J. Peterman is the Director of Federal Government Affairs for ACA International

Brad Schweer, Legislative Director, Rep. Lee Terry (R-IN)

"We were delighted with the participation by our members and have seen the benefits of repeated meetings with our elected officials. It was rewarding to see how our members place such a high level of importance in attending and participating, said



Patient Accounting, Memorial Hospital, York
Pennsylvania.

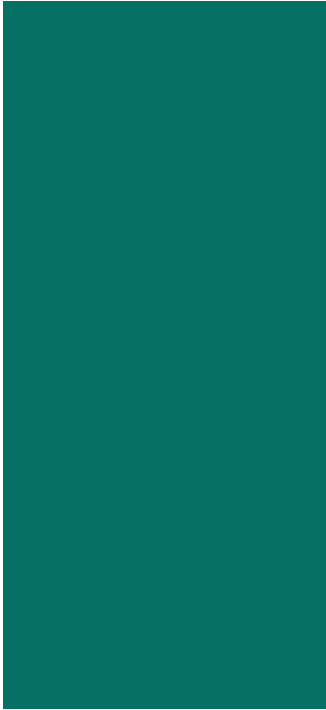
AAHAM's 2012 Legislative Day focused on the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA). AAHAM feels it is imperative that Congress take immediate action to modernize the TCPA for the 21st Century. AAHAM feels the TCPA should recognize a consumer's right to consent to receive phone calls that are made to their wireless phones, including use of an auto dialer or prerecorded message, by those with whom the consumer has an established relationship, if that number is provided by the consumer.

AAHAM says healthcare providers and their agents need to be able to contact consumers on any phone number they provided and by any methods such as auto-dialers and pre-recorded messages. Prohibiting contact via wireless results in greater uncollectible balances and higher uncollectible balances increase the cost of healthcare.

"AAHAM continues to impress with their annual Legislative Day. They are well attended and organized, and their members have proven to be effective in their ask to Congress. This type of effort and commitment has made AAHAM one of the most effective healthcare advocates in Washington."

2012 Legislative Day sponsors included "President Level" sponsor PFS Group. "Senator Level" sponsors; Client Financial Services of Michigan, Greater Florida Buccaneer and the Keystone chapters. "Representative Level" sponsors were. The Gopher, Illinois, Maryland and Philadelphia chapters and Progressive Management Systems.

For more information regarding AAHAM and its programs, please visit www.aaham.org or contact



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ILLINOIS CHAPTER 2012 Corporate Partners

The Illinois AAHAM Chapter would like to thank our Corporate Partners for their continued support and dedication to the Chapter. Their partnership and generous financial support enable us to provide quality educational and networking opportunities throughout the year.

PLATINUM LEVEL

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