



For The Record



OCTOBER2010



Hello Everyone! Here is the latest edition of our newsletter!
Thanks to everyone for the submissions!

A Message from our New President.....

Greetings from your new President! I want to congratulate the Education Committee for putting off a great PDD in Grand Falls/Windsor. The presentations were great and a good time was had by all!

The AGM went well. The members voted to raise the NLHIMA dues to \$40.00 for Active members. The Associate dues will remain the same. Free membership for 2011 was won by Ellen Jones. Years of Service certificates and pins were given out to members for 5, 10, 15 and 20 years of service. The Georgina Williams Scholarship was given out in December 2009 to Sarah Bourgeois, Susan Bourgeois' daughter in Labrador. Congratulations!

Goodbyes from the Executive: Elizabeth Hunt, Past President; Michele Bishop, Secretary; and Kelly Appleby, Treasurer. Thank you for your hard work!

Our new President Elect is Blake Collett, Secretary is Marion Beckett and Treasurer is Jennifer L. Butler and our Past President is now Alicia Trask. Welcome aboard, new members of the Executive!

Please don't hesitate to contact me with your concerns and I will bring it to our Executive meetings,

Thank you,

Karen Squires

President, NLHIMA

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY 2010



The winner of the beautiful quilt by Valerie Knight was Joyce Whiffen, from Bonavista, Ticket #1287. Congratulations Joyce—that's a gorgeous prize!!



Such a beautiful quilt—what a great prize!! Fabulous job Valerie!!



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY 2010

Five Year Service Pins were
awarded to:

Ann Barrow
Janet Blackmore
Theresa Butland
Darlene Costigan
Elaine Hutchings
Margaret Molloy
Lisa O'Connell
Callista Silver
Cynthia Tucker

Ten Year Service Pins were
awarded to:

Valerie Doyle
Linda Hanlon
Michelle Reid
Patricia Sampson
Genevieve Tucker

Fifteen Year Service Pins were
awarded to:

Elizabeth Hunt
Judy Lynn Wiseman
Agnes Butler

Twenty Year Service Pins were
awarded to:

Roxanne Clarke
Janet Forward
Gloria Perera
Cindy Smith

Congratulations to everyone!!



HI&T Week

Health Information and Technology (HI&T) Week Will Be Held November 7–13, 2010

HI&T Week is a showcase for the thousands of health information management (HIM) professionals who perform their duties masterfully throughout the year. The American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) is honored to provide support, representation, and training to HIM professionals for these valuable contributions to the healthcare industry.

AHIMA proudly partners with the Canadian Health Information Management Association (CHIMA) in promoting our shared goals. We thank the members and facilities that make each HI&T Week a memorable addition to our rich history and for supporting HI&T Week.

Suggested Activities for Healthcare and HIM Professionals

Below are some ideas to get you started, but use your imagination and enthusiasm to create your own special week!

Promote the Week ahead of time through your organization's intranet site, in-house publications, flyers, tent cards, and e-mail messages.

Lunch and Learn—Hold a brown bag lunch and learn for all facility employees, using the PowerPoint presentation, which can be found on the AHIMA website.

HI&T Week Quiz Drawing—Distribute copies of the quiz and article for HIM professionals. Have employees turn in the quiz for a chance to win a prize in a drawing. Or, create word search and other puzzles using HIM and HIT terms. Web sites such as <http://puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com>.

Hold Tours of Your Department—Let visitors and colleagues know just what the HIM and IT Departments do. Use staff photos and “tools of the trade” to get your message across, and include this information in your facility's newsletter. Invite a vendor to demonstrate high-tech industry advancements.

Display Posters and Flyers promoting HI&T week events in your department, waiting areas, and other high-traffic locations.

Celebrate Your Team's Accomplishments

- Recognize the contributions of staff with commemorative items offered by AHIMA and CHIMA.
- Have a party for the HIM and IT Departments with gifts for everybody.
- Plan a potluck lunch, pizza party, or ice cream social.
- Recognize physicians and other staff who make vital contributions to managing health information.

Be proud of what you do and what you contribute to healthcare in Newfoundland & Labrador!!
Shine a little light on yourselves!!

Suggested Activities to Reach Out to the Public and Community Members

Community Seminars—Hold a patient safety seminar for members of your community, using PowerPoint found on the AHIMA Web site.*

- Distribute and discuss the quiz and article for the public.
- Have attendees turn in the quiz for a chance to win a prize in a drawing.

HI&T Week Lobby Display—Using the information in this kit, set up an HI&T Week lobby display. Photocopy the “Consumers Request Health Information Integrity” article and quiz for the public to take. Use the HI&T Week poster and balloons for a display.

Local Media Coverage—Use the sample press release available on the AHIMA Web site* to get the word out to local media.

Contact Guidance Counselors at your local high schools and colleges and follow up with recruitment materials.

Ensuring Health Information Integrity

Health Information & Technology Week

November 7–13, 2010

sponsored by
AHIMA
American Health Information Management Association

CHIMA
Canadian Health Information Management Association
Canadian College of Health Information Management

with the support of
perceptive software

Health Information and Technology (HI&T) Week educates healthcare professionals and consumers on the importance of the people and practices behind health information management (HIM). Help spread our message of awareness and pride by participating in HI&T Week.



REGIONAL UPDATES



CENTRAL

NEWS FROM CENTRAL HEALTH

We would like to congratulate to three ladies from Central Health that have completed and passed the National Exam in July 2010: they are Sonya Hickey of Harbour Breton Hospital, Karyn Reid of Central Newfoundland Regional Health Centre and Tracy Burt of James Paton Memorial. Congratulations again and good work! Welcome aboard.

We have a student with us completing a five week Practicum from Eastern College Christa Colbourne. Christa has just completed her first year of Health Information Management Program. She comments that it has been a real learning experience and she has enjoyed her time with us. Christa is looking forward to working in Health Information Management field. Good luck Christa.

This years AGM was held at Central Health in Grand Falls-Windsor. Both James Paton and Central Newfoundland Regional Health Center took part in organizing this event. It was a lot of hard work and we feel it paid off. Our speakers were well presented and certainly informative. All present seemed to enjoy the evening. The social went over well and it was fun conversing with colleagues from across the province. It was a great time and we gained new friends and enjoyed the opportunity interacting with old friends. Hope to see you all next year!

Congratulations are extended to our new President Karen Squires, president-elect Blake Collett and Treasurer Jennifer L Butler. Thank you to all committee members for all your hard work! Thank you to the dedication of our outgoing executive Elizabeth Hunt, Michelle Bishop and Kelly Appleby.

Central Health held a Data Quality session at Grand Falls-Windsor on October 6th, 2010. CHIMS from Grand Falls-Windsor, Springdale, Gander and Twillingate attended. This was presented by Ann Barrow a member of the PCC. Thank you Ann for an informative Data Quality session.

WESTERN

The coders at Western Memorial in Corner Brook had a great time at the AGM in Grand Falls in September. It was welcoming, well-organized and had great speakers. We all agreed we would have stayed longer just to hear Dr. Boodhum continue his talk and slide show. Hats off to Ann Barrow and her fellow coders for a wonderful job.

The staff of Medical Records at Western are pleased to welcome back Janet Simms to the coding circle. Janet spent a year in Diabetes Education and enjoyed it thoroughly. But soon she'll be back and is looking forward to being a coder again.

EASTERN

Sharon Mullett is the new Project Manager, Meditech Consolidation replacing Evelyn Connors

Beverley Brushett is temporarily replacing Sharon as Manager of Health Information Services & Informatics for the Burin Peninsula.

Congrats to Helen Adams on accepting the Scanning Supervisor position.

Congrats to Anne Donovan, on challenging and passing the CHIMA national exam!! Anne is joining the Release of Information team at the Health Science Centre.

Several students from Eastern College are enjoying their work terms throughout Eastern Health—our coders are equally enjoying the opportunity to help the students!

The Health Information Services and Informatics department of Eastern Health would like to wish our Administrative Assistant, Alexis Morgan, congratulations and best wishes—she's expecting a new baby girl in December and will be leaving us in the most capable hands of Paula Moore for her maternity leave replacement! Welcome aboard Paula!



NEWS FROM THE CENTRE FOR HEALTH INFORMATION

Knowing is Better Than Not Knowing – Raising Awareness About EHRs in Canada

Whether it's the provincial Pharmacy Network enabling health care professionals to provide better medication care to patients, the provincial PACS system allowing clinicians to view diagnostic images regardless of where they were taken, or the laboratory system in development that will make lab results available province-wide, Electronic Health Records (EHRs) have increasingly become a core part of health care delivery. This is true not only in Newfoundland and Labrador, but also nation-wide. And Canada Health Infoway, with its partner jurisdictions, has launched a national public awareness campaign to help Canadians understand the high-level benefits of EHRs in health care.

The national campaign was developed based on extensive research among Canadians, including what they know and believe about EHRs today. It will run throughout October with a second flight to follow early in 2011 and includes television, print, and online advertising in national and provincial media. In the provincial market, the Centre for Health Information is partnering with Canada Health Infoway to bring the messages to Newfoundlanders and Labradorians. Given our progress with EHR development in this province, particularly with community pharmacies connecting to the Pharmacy Network, partnering on this national campaign is a very timely opportunity to educate our population about the EHR.

The campaign tag line, *Knowing is Better*, along with the clinical scenarios developed by Infoway clearly depict the advantages of EHRs in patient care, including timelier and increased access to important information, like current medications, regardless of where prescriptions have been written or filled.

In campaign pretesting, an average of 71% of the viewers said they would be likely to seek out more information on EHRs after viewing the television ads. To support this anticipated demand for information, the campaign also includes a micro-website, www.knowingisbetter.ca, providing more detail on the status of EHR development. On the site, Canadians can take a quiz to see how many different places their personal health information might be held and how EHRs can help. There are also FAQs, videos detailing pan-Canadian progress, and other interactive features.

In Canada, health care is a point of national pride – we have access to health care when we need it. With EHRs, there is an opportunity to enhance the care we receive and help change health care in Canada. Adopting electronic health records (EHRs) will help change the health care industry in Canada for the better. Once EHR systems are in place the possibilities of future development in areas of prevention and treatment are vast. As, ultimately, knowing is better than not knowing.

For more information about the EHR public awareness campaign or the Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information, please contact 709-752-6000 or visit www.nlchi.nl.ca.

About the Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information (The Centre)

The Centre provides quality information to health professionals, the public, researchers and health system decision-makers. Through collaboration with the health system, the Centre supports the development of data and technical standards, maintains key health databases, prepares and distributes health reports, and supports and carries out applied health research and benefits evaluations. The Centre's mandate also includes the development and implementation of a confidential and secure provincial electronic health record, including the change management required to support adoption by end user clinicians .

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Did you know?

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among Canadian women (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer).

In 2010, an estimated 23,200 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer and approximately 5,300 will die of it.

An estimated 180 men will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 50 will die of it.

On average, 445 Canadian women will be diagnosed with breast cancer every week and 100 Canadian women will die of the disease each week.

The breast cancer death rates have declined in every age group since the mid-1980s

There is hope...

The 5 year survival rate for breast cancer has improved by nearly 5% over the last 10 years. Today, the 5 year survival rate for women aged 40 – 79 is between 87 – 90%. For women under 40, survival is 82%.

How we're fighting back against breast cancer

The Canadian Cancer Society fights cancer by funding research to outsmart this disease:

Recently, a Canadian Cancer Society study showed that a significant drop in breast cancer incidence among post-menopausal women from 2002 to 2004 coincided with a drop in hormone replacement therapy (HRT) use during the same period. This is the first study to show the link between HRT use and breast cancer among Canadian women.

These new findings add an important Canadian perspective to growing international evidence that HRT use is linked to increased breast cancer risk and supports the Society's recommendation that women avoid taking HRT for any reason other than to relieve severe menopausal symptoms that have not responded to other treatment.

The Society encourages women to talk to their doctors about the risks and benefits of taking HRT to determine the best course of action for them.

What you can do to fight back

The Canadian Cancer Society empowers Canadians with timely cancer information so that they can make informed decisions about their health. Many women are alive and well today because their breast cancer was detected and treated early. We recommend that women:

- Have a mammogram every 2 years if you are between the ages of 50 and 69. If you are between the ages of 40 and 49, discuss your risk of breast cancer and the benefits and risks of mammography with your doctor;
- Have a clinical breast examination by a trained health professional at least every two years if you are between 40–69;
- If you are 70 or older, talk to your doctor about a screening program for you;
- Get to know your breasts. Talk to your doctor about any changes.

Source:
Canadian Cancer Society

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

- **Have adult supervision.** Accompany your kids if you don't think they're old enough to trick-or-treat on their own.
- **There is safety in numbers.** If they're old enough to trick-or-treat without an adult, tell your kids to stay in a group.
- **Map out your plan.** Designate a route before your kids begin trick-or-treating, and make sure they stick to it.
- **Take the long way 'round.** Have your kids trick-or-treat in areas where there are a lot of people around. They should also avoid taking short-cuts through alleys and parking lots.
- **Try trick-or-treat-friendly homes.** Ensure your kids only visit houses with lights on. And, you might also suggest the houses they visit have some sort of Halloween decoration on the porch.
- **Stay outside.** Make sure your kids don't go inside someone's house. They can get their candy from the porch.
- **Remain visible.** Dress your kids in a bright costume so others can see them. If their costume is dark, have your kids wear reflective strips or carry a glow stick or flashlight.
- **Remember, shorter = safer.** Goes without saying but just in case you forget, ensure your kids' costumes aren't so long that they can trip over them.
- **Don't cover the face.** Instead of masks, have your kids wear make-up so they can see better.
- **Quality-check treats.** Check your kids' candy before they eat it. Throw out any candy that is not in its original wrapper or looks like it has been tampered with.
- **Say "no" to strangers.** Tell your kids to never accept a ride or go anywhere with a stranger.
- **Obey the law.** Encourage your kids to follow all the regular rules for walking around. That includes looking both ways before crossing, obeying all traffic laws and using cross walks and crossing lights where available.

Have a great time! Finally, make sure your kids have tons of fun and get lots and lots of candy.

Things Got Ya Down? Well Then, Consider This . . .

In a hospital's Intensive Care Unit, patients always died in the same bed, on Sunday morning, at about 11:00 am, regardless of their medical condition. This puzzled the doctors and some even thought it had something to do with the super natural.

No one could solve the mystery as to why the deaths occurred around 11:00 AM Sunday, so a worldwide team of experts was assembled to investigate the cause of the incidents. The next Sunday morning, a few minutes before 11:00 AM all of the doctors and nurses nervously waited outside the ward to see for themselves what the terrible phenomenon was all about. Some were holding wooden crosses, prayer books, and other holy objects to ward off the evil spirits. Just when the clock struck 11:00, Pookie Johnson, the part-time Sunday sweeper, entered the ward and unplugged the life support system so he could use the vacuum cleaner.



We hope you have enjoy this newsletter! If you would like to submit information, jokes, cartoons, pictures or anything else of interest to our membership, please contact one of the Communications Committee Members:

Lisa McKenzie, Chair
Janet Forward, Eastern Region
Diane Ryan, Eastern Region
Nikita Burton, Eastern Region
Marion Beckett, Eastern Region
Cindy Barker, Central Region
Harriet Powell, Western Region
Susan Bourgeois, Lab-Grenfell Region

Thanks again—we'll see you again in January!