

Hawkeye Highlights

Iowa AAHAM Chapter

Winter 2014

Volume 6, Issue 1

Photo By: Steph Hultman

Message from the President....

I can't believe it is winter already! Where did the summer and fall go? I hope everyone enjoyed the fall meeting in Des Moines. We would like your input on speakers you would like and any topics you would like to see us cover in the next year. Please contact any board member with your ideas.

For those of you who were not able to attend the fall meeting two awards were given out.

President's Award: [Connie Dudding](#)

Connie has been willing to step in and help when needed. When we lost our Treasurer Connie said, "I will do it". When I need someone to do the nominations and it was a rush, Connie jumped in and did it. I want to thank Connie for her dedication and hard work.

Distinguished Service Award: [Carrie Kuennen](#)

Carrie was willing to fill a vacant position and work as Co-Treasurer for a short time before taking over as Treasurer. I have found Carrie to be a good person to work with and very dedicated to the organization.

The ANI in New Orleans was great. The education sessions were good and I can say we had a great time! I hope more people can make it in 2014. Don't forget about our scholarship you can apply for.

I want to once again remind everyone that this organization is only as strong as its members. ***Please get involved.***

As the year comes to an end I want to thank all of you for the opportunity to serve as the President of this Association. It has been an honor and a thrill. I hope you all have a Great New Year! ▲

Respectfully,

[Luke Gruber](#)



Luke Gruber
President, Iowa AAHAM

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For Corporate Sponsor Program inquiries, contact:

Melissa Puck, Corporate Sponsorship Chair
 Crawford County Memorial Hospital
 100 Medical Parkway
 Denison, IA 51442
 Phone: (712) 265-2524
 Email: mpuck@ccmhia.com

For membership information, or to submit changes of address, contact:

Stephanie Hultman, Membership Chair
 Palmer Lutheran Health Center
 1126 Linbud Lane
 Waterloo, IA 50701
 Phone: (319) 240-5306
 Email: sjhultman@mediacombb.net

For questions and comments regarding Hawkeye Highlights, contact:

Stephanie Hultman, Publisher
 Palmer Lutheran Health Center
 1126 Linbud Lane
 Waterloo, IA 50701
 Phone: (319) 240-5306
 Email: sjhultman@mediacombb.net

Laurie Gaffney, Editor
 Buena Vista Regional Medical Center
 1525 West Fifth Street
 Storm Lake, IA 50588
 Phone: (712) 213-8678
 Email: gaffney.laurie@bvrmc.org

Hawkeye Chapter

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Connie Dudding	<i>Secretary / Registration</i>
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Laurie Gaffney	<i>Newsletter Editor</i>

HAWKEYE HIGHLIGHTS EDITORIAL POLICY & OBJECTIVES

The HAWKEYE HIGHLIGHTS newsletter is published four times annually by the AAHAM IOWA CHAPTER to update the membership regarding chapter and national activities as well as to provide information useful to health care administrative professionals. Opinions expressed in articles or features are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Iowa Chapter. AAHAM, the NATIONAL AAHAM organization or the editor. Reproduction and/or use of the format or content of this publication without the expressed permission of the author(s) or the editor are prohibited. © Copyright 2013. ▲

Troy L Medina

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2014 AAHAM Annual National Institute (ANI) Scholarships AVAILABLE

The 2014 Annual National Institute will be held at the Manchester Grand Hyatt in San Diego, California from October 15-17, 2014.

Put the date and location in your Outlook Calendar now! The Hawkeye Chapter of AAHAM is sponsoring [2 scholarships](#) to the Annual National Institute (ANI), to be held at the Manchester Grand Hyatt in San Diego, California. The scholarships will cover registration, plus \$300 towards travel/hotel expenses. The scholarships will be awarded based on points earned between July 1st and June 30th. Members can earn points in a variety of ways:

- 1 Point earned: Every article referred to and published in the Hawkeye Highlights
Every new member referred (as documented by National)
- 2 Points earned: Every article authored and published in the Hawkeye Highlights (not including required committee reports) Membership on a committee of the board, as verified by the committee chair
- 3 Points earned: Every meeting attended (e.g. Spring Meeting, Fall Meeting, educational meetings sponsored or cosponsored by the Hawkeye chapter).

Points will be tabulated for members that apply and in the event of a tie; a random drawing will be held. Winners will be selected around August 1st and will be notified by August 15th. The Board is excited to be able to offer this opportunity to members.

The ANI always offers informative, timely educational sessions. And the networking opportunities are limitless. So, start reading those industry magazines and refer those articles. Or, get out your pen and author an article on the topic nearest and dearest to your heart. Better yet, attend the Spring Conference in May or one of the joint educational conferences coming up and you may find yourself already on your way to San Diego!! ▲

See the Scholarship Program rules on the next page.

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Hawkeye AAHAM Chapter Scholarship Program

Eligibility:

- Local Hawkeye Chapter member for at least 1 year;
- If not a National member, recipient will be responsible for national dues;
- The President & Chair of the Board are ineligible;
- Points are accumulated for the 12 month period beginning July 1st and ending the following June 30th

1 Point	2 Points	3 Points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Every article referred & published in Hawkeye Highlights ■ Every new member referred 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Every article authored & published in Hawkeye Highlights ■ Membership on a committee of the board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Every AAHAM sponsored meeting attended

Name: _____ AAHAM ID # _____

Address: _____

E-Mail: _____ Telephone: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Date	Activity	Points	Verification*

** To be completed by the AAHAM Board*

Please submit completed application by July 15th to:

- Stephanie Hultman - sihultman@mediacombb.net

April 23-24, 2014

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Represent your facility, your state and your industry at the one political event that directly impacts you, your facility and your bottom-line; AAHAM Legislative Day. Our strong grassroots program creates new opportunities for our industry but we need your continued support! We need you to make the trip to Washington to make a difference in our industry, attendance is limited, so register to attend today. It is all about strength in numbers. The more AAHAM members participate in this effort, the stronger the voice AAHAM will have. Remember, if you don't speak up someone else will.

"AAHAM has really understood the legislative and regulatory process and this is why they have had so much success in the past. AAHAM's leadership has gone the extra mile to ensure AAHAM has a strong voice in Washington" said AAHAM's lobbyist, Paul Miller.

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Credit Bureau Services of Iowa, Inc.

Deal Struck on Medicaid Expansion Waiver

Reprinted from: The IHA Friday Mailing - December 13, 2013

Written By: Iowa Hospital Association

Submitted By: Stephanie Hultman, CHFP, CRCS-I, P

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced approval of the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan (Medicaid expansion) waivers that could provide health insurance coverage to as many as 150,000 Iowans. IHA and other advocacy groups have been urging CMS action over the past few weeks to comply with the January 1, 2014 enactment date and prevent coverage disruptions for IowaCare beneficiaries as that program sunsets at the end of this year.

Initially, CMS did not approve potential premiums to be assessed in 2015 on people earning less than 100 percent of Federal Poverty Level (FPL) if they do not comply with annual physicals and health risk assessments. This has been a key point of contention between CMS and the Iowa governor's office throughout the waiver negotiations, with the governor maintaining that potential premiums create incentives for individuals to take ownership of their personal health status.

However, late in the week it was announced that CMS and the governor had struck a deal allowing for premiums, though the precise premium cost has yet to be worked out.

This action represents the culmination of an intensive lobbying and communication strategy by IHA and thousands of hospital advocates around the state. Without the strong grassroots support of community hospitals on this issue, this historic opportunity to provide access to health care to as many as 150,000 uninsured Iowans might have been missed.

Iowa Health and Wellness Plan

Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME) has been aggressively moving forward with implementing various components of the Iowa Health and Wellness plans in an attempt to ensure the program can be launched on January 1, 2014. Now

Continued on Page 8 . . .



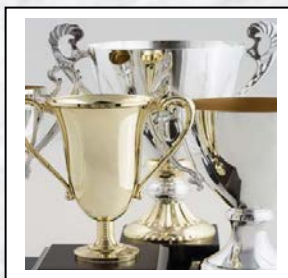
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The Iowa Hawkeye Chapter wishes to thank its Corporate Sponsors. Their generous financial contributions help ensure our chapter meets its goals and objectives, and allow us to provide educational programs, social functions, training programs for member certification, and the Hawkeye Highlights newsletter.

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Website Alert

The Iowa Hawkeye Chapter is excited to announce our website for members at www.hawkeyeaaham.org. The site includes:

Chapter officers and board members
Upcoming events-Calendar of events
Chapter Bylaws
Sponsor Information

Membership information
Link to the National AAHAM Website
Current and Past Newsletters
Photos from past meetings

Watch for more information to be added every month. Since the site is new, we are looking for any ideas for additional information from our members. Please contact board member Luke Gruber at lgruber@aamsonline.com with ideas. ▲

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that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has conditionally approved Iowa's proposed waivers to implement the programs (see previous article), it's expected the progress will continue speeding up in the coming weeks and months.

The Iowa Health and Wellness Plan is comprised of two separate programs to cover newly eligible individuals between the ages of 19 and 64: the Iowa Wellness Plan covers individuals with incomes between 0 and 100 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), while the Iowa Marketplace Choice Plan covers individuals with incomes between 101 and 138 percent of FPL.

The most notable differences between the two plans are how and by whom they are administered and the provider networks under each. Hospitals should be aware that the Marketplace Choice plans are commercial plans offered by CoOpportunity Health and Coventry Healthcare that will be sold through the Health Insurance Marketplace, with premiums paid by Medicaid. The provider network for the Marketplace Choice plans will be established between hospitals and those insurers.

The Iowa Wellness plan, however, is a state-administered plan that has developed a managed-care style approach. The provider network for this plan will be established between providers and the state and includes all Medicaid-enrolled providers.

To assist hospitals in understanding the Iowa Wellness Plan specifically, IHA has developed a frequently asked questions document outlining key components of the plan.

IME Proceeding with Presumptive Eligibility

Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME) has announced plans to allow hospitals to utilize "presumptive eligibility" to determine eligibility for Medicaid in advance of official enrollment. This will allow patients to be temporarily enrolled in the program and provided services while ensuring that providers are reimbursed. IME has designed a new Medicaid Presumptive Eligibility Portal (MPEP) for hospitals to use to provide real-time eligibility determinations.

Presumptive eligibility will be available starting January 2 and hospitals need to apply in advance with IME to become a "qualified entity". Because the technology is new, MPEP users are being asked to complete a brief, self-guided online training module.

IME will be providing a daily meeting for providers via conference call to receive global systems updates and ask policy questions. The calls will take place from 3:30-4 p.m. beginning January 2 until January 15.

Other resources available include the Iowa Department of Human Services' contact center, which is available weekdays from 7 a.m.-6 p.m. by phone (dial 855/889-7985, press 3 to speak to a live representative) or e-mail. For specific policy questions, IME has developed an FAQ for initial reference.

Note that retroactive enrollment will not be available under Medicaid expansion and presumptive eligibility is the only way for providers to receive reimbursement for treating an individual who qualifies, but is not yet enrolled in Medicaid.

IME has also released several related informational letters for review: 1302, 1304, 1333 and 1334.

Claim Forms for IME Change in January

Beginning January 6, 2014, the Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME) will begin accepting the new paper version of CMS-1500 (02/12) health insurance claim form which was recently released by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

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HFMA/AAHAM - All Panel of Payers Event

Submitted By: Stephanie Hultman, CHFP, CRCS-I, P

November 21st started out to be a rather cold day for late fall in Iowa and before it was over, we had our first official Winter Weather Warning Issued. Between that 9:00 am and 3:30 pm the 2nd Annual HFMA/AAHAM All Panel of Payers program at Mercy Medical Center in Cedar Rapids. The meeting kicked off with 'What Every Hospital Should Know About Consumer Credit Compliance', which was presented by Huntly McNabb from CarePayment. This presentation left many ideas with the attendees on issues they needed to review to ensure that they were in compliance with their consumer credit practices.

We moved on with Payer presentations from UHC, Meridian, Wellmark, Medicaid and WPS (Medicare); followed by individual roundtables held by each of the payers that presented. There were lots of great updates; sharing of information and networking were done by those in attendance.

A special thank you goes out to Shawn Steffen, Shelly O'Neal, Angela Busch as well as other key staff a Mercy Medical Center for opening up your facility for this education session; and to Keith Bull (Medical Recovery Specialists) for his assistance with the registration table.

If you missed this event, we are planning our 2nd HFMA/AAHAM – Panel of Payers on **March 27, 2014** in Des Moines at the Iowa Methodist Medical Center campus in the Education and Resource Center, Kelly Conference Room. More details to come in the following weeks! ▲



<p>Joe O'Malley 13506 A St Omaha, NE 68144 p. 402-758-1263 f. 402-334-7038 e. joco@on-lincimaging.net w. www.on-lincimaging.net</p>		<p>On-Line Imaging</p>
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The new paper version CMS-1500 (02/12) form will replace the current paper form CMS-1500 (08/05). This change supports the use of the ICD-10 diagnosis code set and provides the ability for providers to indicate whether they are using ICD-9 or ICD-10 diagnosis codes.

Paper claims received on the old CMS-1500 (08/05) claim form after April 1, 2014, will not be processed and will be returned to the provider.

Claim form information is located on the IME website. Questions can be directed to IME Provider Services Unit at 800/338-7909 or by e-mail.

Please contact Dan Royer at IHA with questions or for more information on these IME topics. ▲

AAHAM Certification Announces Changes

Submitted By: Rebecca Gough, HIA, ALHC, FLMI, CRCE-I

The national office of the American Association of Healthcare Administrative Management (AAHAM) announced on October 17, 2013 the renaming of their renowned certifications. These new names are designed to more accurately reflect current job and industry titles and reinforce the association's growth and continued focus on healthcare revenue cycle professionals.

"By updating the titles, AAHAM designations now accurately reflect the scope of knowledge and skills required to secure these prestigious certifications," said AAHAM President, Christine Stottlemeyer, CRCE-I.

Current Designation	Designation as of October 16, 2013
CPAM	Certified Revenue Cycle Executive –I CRCE-I
CCAM	Certified Revenue Cycle Executive -P CRCE-P
CPAM/CCAM	Certified Revenue Cycle Specialist –I, P CRCE-I, P
CPAT	Certified Revenue Cycle Specialist –I CRCS-I
CCAT	Certified Revenue Cycle Specialist –P CRCS-P
CPAT/CCAT	Certified Revenue Cycle Specialist –I, P CRCS-I, P
CCT	Certified Compliance Technician, CCT

Those who have earned one of the above designations will continue to be certified, but the designation names will be changed. New certificates and pins will be sent out in 2014 to replace current certificates and pins. CEU's will continue to be maintained the same as in the past.

A new mid-level certification was also announced, the Certified Revenue Cycle Professional, CRCP. This new exam is designed for mid-level managers and tests the participant's knowledge of the revenue cycle. With the addition of this new certification, AAHAM now offers a complete career ladder, beginning with the CRCS and culminating with the CRCE.

The new exam is a four (4) hour exam designed specifically for mid-level supervisory staff and managers. The exam is multiple choice and is designed to be a stepping stone as the individual's career advances. The CRCP exam will be offered four (4) times a year during the same time period the CRCS is offered. (February, May, August and November) At least two sections must be passed to qualify for retake of one or two sections within 12 months of the initial exam date. If a minimum of 2 sections are not passed, the entire exam must be re-taken.

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Meet Iowa's Newest CRCE-I's ...



Becky David, CRCE-I

Business Office Manager at Waverly Health Center

Becky David has served as the Business Office Manager at Waverly Health Center (WHC) for the past 4 years; handling patient access, billing, claims and accounts receivable for the hospital. Prior to coming to WHC she had been the business manager in long term care facility for 7 years and also spent 14 years as claims manager for life, health and

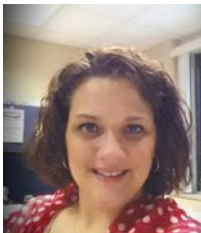
disability claims at

Becky has a BA in Management from the University of Northern Iowa; she has been married for 32 years to her husband, Dan and they are the parents of two grown children. In her spare time she enjoys reading, genealogy and quilting.

Becky was inspired to obtain her CRCE-I (formerly CPAM) certification because she wanted to increase her knowledge level of all aspects of the revenue cycle. Since testing she has been able to apply what she learned to move WHC ahead in charge capture and efficient and proper billing

Becky stated that she “encourages others to pursue the various levels of AAHAM designations. I was a little naïve when I decided to go for the CPAM; I probably should have started with the CPAT. I did not have much opportunity to prepare with a group; that would have been helpful. I really appreciated the questions that were sent out each week – be sure to take advantage of the opportunity to quiz your knowledge. I am extremely glad I did not procrastinate my studying; I had ample time for review and that probably saved me.”

Going into 2014 Becky looks forward to getting more involved in AAHAM and taking advantages of the many opportunities it offers and she will begin by taking a position on the Iowa AAHAM Board. ▲



Bobbie Jo Harrings, CRCE-I

Marshalltown Medical and Surgical Center

Bobbie Jo has been with Marshalltown Medical and Surgical Center going on nine years. For the last six years she has been the Iowa Medicaid Billing Clerk. After 18 years of managing the billing for her husband's home based DME Company, she decided it was time for me to rejoin the working world for the sake of our marriage!

My husband Jeff and I celebrated 20 years of marriage this past year. We have seven children a combination of mine, ours, and someone else's. While living in Wisconsin we had a desire to help older kids going through hard times so we started doing Treatment Foster care. For about 5 years our family continued to grow. It is a long term dream of mine to someday have my own group home for troubled teens. In my spare time I enjoy crafts, scrapbooking, reading, and spending time with my eight grandchildren.

Bobbie Jo has always enjoyed learning and a challenge. With encouragement from my Director, Mike Dobbs, “Thanks for believing in me more than I did myself at times!”, I started the journey to earning my CRCE-I. Although the study and prep time for the CRCE-I was a great challenge at times, the pride I felt when I received my letter that I passed was...well let's just say I was speechless and for me that says a lot! ▲

Certification Passed Exams ~ CRCS-I, P and CPAM

Submitted By: Rebecca Gough, CPAM

Congratulations to the following people on their recent certification testing! These folks were successful in obtaining their CRCS-I and CRCS-P Certifications. The exams were taken this past November - Congratulations on a job well done!!

Passed CRCS-I Exam in November		Passed CRCS-P Exam in November	
Nicole Caryl	Mercy – Cedar Rapids	Rachael Lowman	Avadyne Health
Michelle Fraiser	Avadyne Health	Deb Meldrem	Avadyne Health
Dee Kirkeby	Avadyne Health	Debra Sammons	Henry County Health Ctr
Katherine Reichert	Mary Greeley Hospital	Paula Vargas	Avadyne Health
Terri Schratz	Avadyne Health	Lois Widener	Mercy – Cedar Rapids
Bridget Sheeder	Avadyne Health	Christine Zunkel	Avadyne Health
Marcia Smith	Avadyne Health		
Cara Tjelmeland	Van Diest Medical Center		
Kellie Vroegh	Mahaska Health Partnership		

Certification Schedule

CRCS-I and CRCS-P

Mar 3, 2014	Deadline for May 2014 Exam Period (May 12-23, 2014)
June 2, 2014	Deadline for August 2014 Exam Period (August 11-22, 2014)
Sept 2, 2014	Deadline for November 2014 Exam Period (November 10-21, 2014)
Dec 1, 2014	Deadline for February 2015 Exam Period



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Thirty CEU's must be earned over the course of a three year period for those who are National AAHAM members. The CRCP exam fee is \$199.00 for the full exam, \$50.00 for each section retake. The study manual is \$199.00.

For questions about any of the exams you may contact the Hawkeye Chapter's Certification Chair, Rebecca Gough at 712-755-4528, rgough@myrtuemedical.org.

Enrollment forms and additional information is available at www.aaham.org. ▲

Save the Dates

2014 AAHAM Hawkeye Chapter Meetings
Spring Meeting – May 15-16, 2014
Fall Meeting – September 18-19, 2014


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To update your AAHAM Records please contact Stephanie Hultman, Membership Chair by calling 319-240-5306, or by emailing her at sjhultman@mediacombb.net.