

Health Information Professionals week is April 16-22!

Health information professionals are trusted by patients and providers alike to protect, interpret, and transmit the most sensitive data that exists about a person, while making sure it is available where and when it is needed.

Our trusted team at Stoughton Health includes medical coding specialists Sue Meseberg, Nichole Rothenburger, Kathy Muhs, Priscilla Amador, Emily Goetz, Chelsie Schyvinck, Megan Kollmansberger, Health information technician Lisa Bear, eHealth Information Associate Aimee Sands, and coding and reimbursement coordinator Victoria Valdez.

Health information is the data related to a patient's medical history, including symptoms, diagnoses, procedures, and outcomes. Health information records include patient histories, lab results, x-rays, clinical information, and notes. A patient's health information can be viewed individually to see how a patient's health has changed; it can also be viewed as a part of a larger data set to understand how a population's health has changed, and how medical interventions can change health outcomes.

Health information management (HIM) professionals work in a variety of different settings and job titles. They often serve in bridge roles, connecting clinical, operational, and administrative functions. These professionals affect the quality of patient information and patient care at every touchpoint in the healthcare delivery cycle. HIM professionals work on the classification of diseases and treatments to ensure they are standardized for clinical, financial, and legal uses in healthcare. Health information professionals care for patients by caring for their medical data.

Having skilled HIM professionals on staff ensures an organization has the right information on hand when and where it is needed while maintaining the highest standards of data integrity, confidentiality, and security. As technology advances, the role of the HIM professional expands. The HIM professional's duty is to adapt to new methods of capturing healthcare information, storing that information, and easily accessing it electronically. Their role is important in order to maintain organized and accurate electronic data that allows daily healthcare routines to carry on smoothly with the new technological advancements.