BEST PRACTICE CATALOG

Project Title: HIM DEPARTMENT/CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL HIM WEEK/OPEN HOUSE

Function Category: ☑ PATIENT-FOCUSED ☑ ORGANIZATION ☐ STRUCTURES

Subcategory: Leadership

Heading: Planning

Key Word(s): Health Information Management department; Medical Records

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Purpose: Promote recognition of the profession, awareness of our hard work, and the importance of our role in the hospital for patient care, and the myriad of services we offer. It is an excellent opportunity to share this information with the rest of the hospital staff through a departmental open house. It really is an educational tool in that it gives others a greater understanding of what we do. It fosters cooperation by creating a feeling that we are all on the same team. Planning this event ahead of time ensures a successful celebration.

History: National Health Information Management Week is celebrated in facilities across the nation. This special week got its start in 1988 at American Medical Record Association, which is now called the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA). During the annual meeting in Dallas a resolution was introduced in the House of Delegates for all state associations to celebrate National Medical Record Week two weeks prior to the national meeting. Before that, every state had its own week at different times during the year. It was then decided it would bring us more recognition if we all celebrated at the same time. Delegates voted unanimously in favor of the resolution, and the following year the first National Medical Record Week was celebrated. In general, National Health Information Management (HIM) week is slated for the first week of each November.

Brief Description: The following items are available regarding this Best Practice:

☐ Photographs ☐ Video Tape ☐ Drawings ☐ Manual

☐ Other: ________

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