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**Global HealthWorkforce Council Releases Curricula  
Grounded In Information Governance Principles**

*Worldwide academic curricula standard  
to guide educational programming, workforce training in HIM, HI and HICT*

CHICAGO – July 23, 2015 – The Global HealthWorkforce Council (GHWC), established by the [American Health Information Management Association \(AHIMA\)](#) and the [AHIMA Foundation](#), in partnership with [International Health Information Management Association \(IHIMA\)](#) has released the first curricula for academic programs and workforce development efforts across health information professions worldwide.

Anchored by the emerging body of knowledge around Information Governance (IG), the [Global Academic Curricula Competencies for Health Information Professionals](#) is a resource for Health Information Management (HIM), Health Informatics (HI) and Health Information and Communication Technologies (HICT).

“In an increasingly global world, these curricula standardize the formal education and workforce preparation for health information professionals and will support patient, provider and population needs,” said AHIMA CEO Lynne Thomas Gordon, MBA, RHIA, CAE, FACHE, FAHIMA. “A major aim of this initiative is to ensure appropriate information governance throughout the healthcare ecosystem.”

The GHWC is a 14-member international and interdisciplinary panel of experts and practitioners representing 13 countries, and working across health information professions. The panel features representation from each of the six World Health Organization (WHO) regions.

“These education and training standards will help elevate the health information profession,” said William Rudman, PhD, RHIA, co-chair of the GHWC, executive director of the AHIMA Foundation and AHIMA vice president of education visioning. “The curricula can serve as roadmaps that allows for customization of academic programs based on the specific needs of a country or region.”

Supplementary workforce materials will be developed through the remainder of this year to support the curricula. Other phase two plans (through December 2015) include:

- Linking supplementary workforce materials to specific health information roles
- Defining relationship of global curriculum adoption to certification and accreditation

- Creating a maturity assessment to address countries' workforce needs with regards to the adoption of HICT and ways to assist users in determination of which module and level of training to select for implementation of HIM/HI/HICT

In 2016, the phase three plans call for:

- Developing faculty and workforce training materials as appropriate for the foundational level of health information maturity
- Producing examples of grouping domains/competencies into courses to support academic adoption
- Linking related Knowledge, Skills and Abilities (KSAs) to both academic competencies and supplementary workforce materials
- Considering further delineation of common employability/professionalism skills as part of academic, continuing education and on-the-job training

The GHWC structure includes two chairs; six regional representatives – one from each IFHIMA/World Health Organization (WHO) regions: Africa, Americas, Eastern Mediterranean, Europe, South East Asia and Western Pacific; and six at-large representatives from Germany, Japan, India, United Arab Emirates and Qatar.

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### **About AHIMA**

The American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) represents more than 101,000 health information professionals in the United States and around the world. AHIMA is committed to promoting and advocating for high quality research, best practices and effective standards in health information and to actively contributing to the development and advancement of health information professionals worldwide. AHIMA's enduring goal is quality healthcare through quality information. [www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org)

### **About the AHIMA Foundation**

Established in 1962, the AHIMA Foundation is a 501(c)(3) philanthropic affiliate of AHIMA. The Foundation envisions the future of healthcare, and we prepare for that future with investments in research, workforce development, education, and innovative strategies that advance the HIM profession and, ultimately, better serve the healthcare community. The Foundation's focuses on readying the HIM professionals of today to be the leaders of tomorrow. We operate under the values of philanthropy, innovation, leadership and integrity and strive to be recognized for excellence in health information leadership and research for the healthcare industry and the public. [www.ahimafoundation.org](http://www.ahimafoundation.org)

### **About IFHIMA**

The International Federation of Health Information Management Associations (IFHIMA) formerly known as IFHRO supports national associations and health record professionals to implement and improve health records and the systems, which support them. IFHIMA was established in

1968 as a forum to bring together national organizations committed to improvement in the use of health records in their countries. The founding organizations recognized the need for an international organization to serve as a forum for the exchange of information relating to health records, health information management and information technology. [www.ifhima.org](http://www.ifhima.org)