



NWOHIMA Symposium and Annual Meeting Speaker Bios

4/22/2026

Speaker 1:

Topic: “Prompting, Privacy, and Practice: AI Essentials for HIM Professionals”

Adam Hoss, MA in linguistics

Adam Hoss is a Professor of English and Communication at Terra State Community College. He has led numerous faculty and staff training seminars on artificial intelligence, presented at the University of Toledo’s inaugural THInC Forum on AI, and is involved in developing an AI literacy certificate program at Terra. He is the author of the AI Playbook, a faculty training manual for integrating AI into college courses and workflows. He has an M.A. in linguistics from the City University of New York.



Speaker 2:

Topic: “Risk Adjustment Coding”

Deb Curry, MBA, RHIA, CDIP, CCS-P, CRC Manager, Risk Adjustment Coding Quality & Operations Medical Mutual

Deb Curry joined Paramount Healthcare in May 2013 and continued her leadership role following Paramount’s acquisition by Medical Mutual of Ohio in 2024. She currently oversees the Risk Adjustment Coding Compliance and Retrieval departments, guiding strategic initiatives that support accurate clinical documentation, optimized reporting, and strong provider engagement. Before joining Paramount, Deb spent 21 years working within the State of Ohio’s workers’ compensation program, serving in both government roles and with managed care organizations contracted by the state. She brought with her extensive expertise in medical coding, provider billing and education, Medicare payment methodologies, quality assurance, and regulatory compliance. Deb earned both her undergraduate and graduate degrees from The University of Toledo and holds a Master of Business Administration with a major in Healthcare Systems Management. She is an active member of the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) and maintains multiple professional credentials, including Registered Health Information Administrator (RHIA), Certified Documentation Integrity Practitioner (CDIP), and Certified Coding Specialist – Physician-based (CCS-P). She is also a member of the American Academy of Professional Coders (AAPC) and is a Certified Risk Adjustment Coder (CRC). Deb contributes to the future of the profession through her service formerly on the University of Toledo Health Information Administration Advisory Board and currently on the Health Information Technology Advisory Committee at Owens Community College.



Speaker 3 (2 presenters):

Topic: “A day in the life of a clinical analyst”

Dana Stricker, RHIT

Manager, CR-RISQS Analytics

Clinical Risk, Regulatory, Infection, Safety, Quality and Service

Dana Stricker is the **Manager of the Acute and Provider Analytics** with the Clinical Risk- Regulatory, Infection, Safety, Quality and Service department at ProMedica. She is a healthcare quality and performance leader specializing in data-driven strategies that improve patient outcomes, operational performance, and regulatory success. She partners with executives, physicians, and cross-functional teams to translate complex data into actionable insights, with a focus on CMS Star Ratings, readmissions, mortality, and patient safety. Dana leads a high-performing analytics team and has developed advanced dashboards and tools that enhance decision-making and accountability. Known for her strategic thinking and ability to influence across all levels, she consistently drives measurable improvements while strengthening organizational readiness in an evolving healthcare environment.

Kelly Nowacki, RHIT

Lead Corporate Quality Data Analyst with Corporate Quality Resources

Kelly Nowacki, RHIT is the **Lead Corporate Quality Data Analyst** with Corporate Quality Resources at ProMedica. She applies health information management (HIM) and informatics principles to support system-wide quality and performance improvement, partnering with clinical, operational, and executive leaders to ensure accurate, reliable data for decision-making. Her work focuses on data governance, data integrity, and analytics to strengthen accountability and efficiency across the care continuum, including developing and analyzing KPIs, provider-level reporting, discharge metrics, and longitudinal trend analyses.



Speaker 4:

Topic: “HIM in Vet Med”

Renee Patton, M.Ed., RHIA, LSSYB
Associate Director, Health Information Operations
Health Information Systems (HIS) and Medical Records
The Ohio State University Veterinary Medical Center

Renee serves as Associate Director of Health Information Management and Health Information Systems at The Ohio State University Veterinary Medical Center. She is a board member of the Ohio Health Information Management Association and has contributed her leadership as Project Manager for the Advocate Pillar and Recognition Committee Chair in FY25. Her expertise spans across health information operations, informatics, and project management within large, complex health systems. With more than 20 years of experience in Health Information Management (HIM) and Revenue Cycle across traditional hospital settings, Renee recently ventured into veterinary medicine in 2024.

Throughout her career, Renee has held a wide range of roles, including medical billing and analytics, financial assistance, and medical records operations such as chart processing, release of information, birth certificate processing, and coding. Her experience also extends to specialized settings, including nursing homes, rural community hospitals, Home Care and Hospice, as well as consulting for a medical coding company. She takes pride in her diverse background as she is deeply passionate about teaching and brings a wealth of real-world knowledge to her work.