



Background Information on the Buckeye Area Chapter (BAC) of the Association for Healthcare Documentation Integrity (AHDI)

The Buckeye Area Chapter is a local group/network/component (not for profit group) directly tied to the national level association – the Association for Healthcare Documentation Integrity (AHDI), which is located in California. AHDI is the world's largest organization working to advance health data capture and documentation by setting standards for education and practice in the field of medical transcription/editing. Our goal as an area component is to work to support AHDI's vision and mission on a local level.

AHDI's Vision & Mission Statement

AHDI Vision: To direct the evolution and ensure the integrity of healthcare documentation and data capture

AHDI Mission: To promote the integrity of healthcare documentation through development of an educated, prepared workforce in clinical documentation

AHDI Purpose: To set and uphold standards for education and practice in the field of clinical documentation that ensure the highest level of accuracy, privacy, and security for the U.S. healthcare system in order to protect public health, increase patient safety, and improve quality of care for healthcare consumers.

AHDI Goals and Objectives: To provide healthcare documentation professionals the tools to ensure accuracy, privacy, and security that promotes patient safety and quality of care through the following objectives:

1. Participating in the development of healthcare documentation standards to protect consumer privacy and security of medical information.
2. Advocating for legislation and regulations that protect the public's healthcare information.
3. Setting standards of education and practice for healthcare documentation.



BAC members keep each other informed, connected and focused on changes in the profession by networking/talking/sharing and through continuing education and professional development. For the isolated at-home MT, a local component can afford much-needed access to other professionals. Through local chapter meetings members enjoy many opportunities to network with other professionals in the industry and related fields. Chapter members have access to our chapter reference library, which currently contains the CMT and RMT study guides. Members may check out references at no charge.

The Chapter has educational, face-to-face meetings throughout the year, normally in March, May, September and November. The meetings are usually on the third Saturday of those months. These meetings are open to the public and generally consist of two speakers sessions (on an educational topic) and a chapter business meeting. The meetings are generally three hours or so in length. The Chapter also periodically has symposiums, which may have 5 to 7 speaker educational sessions. In 2007, our chapter began hosting our own internet meetings via a webinar room, which allows members to tune in via a high-speed internet connection for an educational session and/or a business meeting. We anticipate offering several webinar meetings throughout the year in months when we do not have a face-to-face meeting. Please see our website **[www. BAC-AHDI.org](http://www.BAC-AHDI.org)** for our event details. The educational speakers are a means to assist members in their continuing education in the profession of medical transcription for maintaining of the CMT certification and for general self-improvement/professional development. Most speaker sessions are pre-approved by AHDI as continuing education credit for maintaining the CMT (certified medical transcription) credential.

The Chapter also has an e-newsletter, which is published prior to each of the meetings in March, May, September and November, in addition to as-needed to share news with our members. BAC chapter members receive free and/or reduced meeting attendance costs. Meeting costs are announced on the event/meeting flyer prior to the event. In general, meetings where there are 2-speaker sessions chapter members attend for free the majority of the time. In some instances there may be small fees to cover food/and or speaker fees for the event for those two-hour sessions. For our larger events, BAC members receive discount attendance fees from the nonmember attendance cost.

BAC meetings are open to the public and do not require membership to attend, although membership in the chapter does provide discounts on chapter events.



Employment Resources

Attending our meetings gives an individual an opportunity to meet and talk with potential employees or employers.

Discounts on Events

Members receive discounts on all BAC events, such as our educational/business meetings and our live webinars, etc. Many times our events are free for BAC members, please see the event flyer for costs/discounts for each event.

Network/Brainstorming Opportunities/Continuing Education

BAC events give individuals the opportunity to meet, talk and build relationships with other professionals from all over the healthcare spectrum, inside and outside of the transcription arena. You may attend a meeting and be sitting next to your future boss or your future employee. The chapter also hosts a CMT/RMT Study Group email BAC-AHDI@BAC-AHDI.org for full details and dates for this group.

Questions? Please let us know and we will do our best to answer your questions.

Email BAC-AHDI@BAC-AHDI.org

Please also visit our website for current events and news items too. www.BAC-AHDI.org

Thank you for your interest in the Buckeye Area Chapter/AHDI!

Sincerely,

Peggy Allwardt, CMT, AHDI-F
BAC-AHDI E-newsletter Editor

MISC Resources:

AHDI publishes two magazines *Matrix* and *Plexus*, in addition to their e-newsletter, which are available for no charge to AHDI members. AHDI has their own web site with many great resources listed there. www.ahdionline.org

More MT Resources:

One company that has been very kind to donate items for our meetings to use as door prizes and give-always is www.transcriptiongear.com as far as different kinds of equipment/electronics for doing work in the transcription field.

The word expander software that I used was called InstantText (their current version is \$189)...it is at their website or at the one above for TranscriptionGear too www.textware.com

One other company for equipment is www.marteldirect.com

Other MT info site www.mtdesk.com

Health Professions Institute <http://www.hpisum.com/home.ihtml>



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