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The [GOCHIA November 2018 Newsletter](#) is now available online.
Check it out to stay current with local news, events, job openings and more!

In the News:

Look for House updates in the CHIA Journal

Environmental Update:

At the end of 2017 and into the beginning of 2018, the OIG began talking about Medicaid Fraud Control Units (MFCUs). Shortly after, many local facilities began seeing a sudden increase in RAC audit reviews. These audit reviews are initiated by private entities such as VARIS who provide recovery audit reviews to a variety of clients ranging from commercial payers to Medicare Advantage contractors or Medicaid Managed Care contractors.

Announcements:

This past August 2018, Providence St. Joseph Health (PSJH) centralized the HIM departments from three Orange County hospitals. St. Joseph Hospital in Orange, St. Jude Medical Center in Fullerton and Mission Hospital Mission Viejo/Laguna have combined their HIM services. The Record Scanning and the Release of Information functions for all 3 hospitals are all now centralized at St. Joseph Hospital in Orange. The Physician Record Completion/Suspension, Transcription support and RAC Coordinators are all located at the PSJH System office in Irvine. The Record Analysts and Data Stewards are working remotely from home. The HIM Departments at St. Jude Medical Center and Mission Hospitals have been closed and all patients needing medical records are being referred to the hospital websites for electronic requests or the St. Joseph Orange location. Liz Alvarez, RHIA is the Exec Director of HIM and Coding, Kathy Fitzgerald, RHIA is the HIM Director over the SoCal HIM departments and St. Jude Heritage HIM department. Lizbeth Felix, RHIA and Kathleen Witte, RHIA, CCS are both Senior Managers and oversee the daily operations at St. Joseph Hospital and Irvine.

Upcoming Events:

November 8, 2018

Preventing Fraud and Supporting Compliance with Jacqueline Bloink, Vivian Thomas, and Eric Tapper
6-8pm, at TODOS Conference Rooms, 1st floor of the Center for Cancer Prevention and Treatment
Across the street from St. Joseph Hospital. 1000 West La Veta, Orange 92868, 2 CEU

December 13, 2018

CPT Updates with Judy Holloway
6-8pm at CHOC South Tower (Main Hospital), Conference Room C, 2 CEU