

# 2026 Virtual Coding Conference Program\*

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2026 Virtual Sessions Only (up to 6.0 CEUs)	
8:30 AM - 9:00 AM EST	Get connected to Zoom.  Grab your cup of coffee and get ready to learn!
9:00 AM - 9:55 AM EST	<i>E&amp;M Deep Dive - Comparing Levels of Service 3, 4, &amp; 5</i>  <b>Linda Galocy, MS, RHIA</b> PB Medical Coding Educator at Northwestern Medicine
10:00 AM - 10:55 AM EST	<i>2026 Hot Topics: Navigating the OBBA, Medicare Physician Fee Schedule, and AI in Healthcare</i>  <b>Jan Hailey, MHL, CMC, CMCO, CMIS, CMOM, CMCA-E/M</b> CEO, Practice Matters, LLC
11:00 AM - 11:55 AM EST	<i>Topic: Hysterectomy Approach's</i>  <b>Anne Phillips, RHIA, CCS</b> Outpatient Coding Compliance Auditor at Memorial Healthcare Systems
12:00 - 1:00 PM EST	Lunch Break
1:00 PM - 1:55 PM EST	<i>Think Like An Auditor; Catch Common Mistakes Before They are Made</i>  <b>Deborah Grider, CPC, CPC-I, CPC-P, COC, CEMC, CPMA, CCS-P, CDIP</b> Executive Consultant at Karen Zupko & Associates
2:00 PM - 2:55 PM EST	<i>The Heart of the Matter: Navigating Heart Conditions</i>  <b>Patrea Darringer, CCS, CDIP</b> Inpatient Training Educator at Community Health Network
3:00 PM - 3:55 PM EST	<i>Working Smarter Together: Leveraging Microsoft Tools for Efficient, Collaborative Workflows</i>  <b>Andrew Erbse, RHIT</b> Outpatient Coding Compliance Auditor at Memorial Healthcare Systems

\*Agenda may be subject to change without notice.

Last revised 1/26/2026

# 2026 Virtual Conference Program Description

**Friday, February 20, 2026**

**8:30 AM – 9:00 AM EST**

## **CONNECT TO ZOOM**

Grab your cup of coffee and get ready to learn!

**9:00 AM – 9:55 AM SESSION**

### *E&M Deep Dive - Comparing Levels of Service 3, 4, & 5*

**Linda Galocy, MS, RHIA**

PB Medical Coding Educator at Northwestern Medicine

This presentation will review the key elements that make up medical decision making for billing levels of service 3, 4, and 5.

At the conclusion of this session, attendees will:

- Understand the difference in documentation requirements for levels 3, 4, and 5
- Analyze documentation examples
- Identify best practices in E & M documentation

**Domain:** Data Structure, Content, and Information Governance – 1 AHIMA CEU

**10:00 AM – 10:55 AM SESSION**

### *2026 Hot Topics: Navigating the OBBA, Medicare Physician Fee Schedule, and AI in Healthcare*

**Jan Hailey, MHL, CMC, CMCO, CMIS, CMOM, CMCA-E/M**

CEO, Practice Matters, LLC

Prepare for 2026 Hot Topics in Healthcare. This session will provide a comprehensive overview of the Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBA), the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule, and the transformative role of AI in healthcare. Learn how the OBBA is reshaping policies, explore how proposed CMS payment reforms and conversion factor changes could impact reimbursement, and discover how AI technologies are supporting compliance, improving efficiencies, and enhancing care delivery. With so many changes on the horizon, understanding these key topics is vital for staying compliant and ahead of the competition in 2026.

Learning Objectives:

- Gain a clear understanding of the OBBA and its potential impact on healthcare practices and reimbursement.
- Explore the key changes in the 2026 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule and their effect on your bottom line.
- Discover how AI in healthcare is transforming operational efficiency and compliance, while still maintaining accountability.

**Domain:** Revenue Cycle Management – 1 AHIMA CEU

## 11:00 AM – 11:55 AM SESSION

*Topic: Hysterectomy Approach's*

**Anne Phillips, RHIA, CCS**

Outpatient Coding Compliance Auditor at Memorial Healthcare Systems

Presentation description coming soon!

## Noon – 1:00 PM EST

**Lunch Break**

## 1:00 PM – 1:55 PM SESSION

*Think Like An Auditor; Catch Common Mistakes Before They are Made*

**Deborah Grider, CPC, CPC-I, CPC-P, COC, CEMC, CPMA, CCS-P, CDIP**

Executive Consultant at Karen Zupko & Associates

Accurate coding is crucial for proper reimbursement and compliance in the healthcare industry. This session, "Think Like an Auditor: Catch Common Coding Mistakes Before They Are Made," is designed to help healthcare and coding professionals identify and prevent common coding errors. Frequent mistakes will be discussed, such as incorrect modifier use, unbundling, upcoding, downcoding, diagnosis linkage, outdated codes, and more. This fast-paced session aims to equip coders, billers, managers, and providers with awareness and knowledge to enhance coding accuracy, reduce denials, and ensure coding compliance.

Learning Objectives:

- Identify and Prevent Common Coding Errors Before They Happen!
- Detect Incorrect "Unbundling" of Services Prior to Claim Submission
- Recognize "suspicious" modifier usage in code combinations
- Collaborate with others to ensure clean claim submission and resubmissions

**Domain:** Revenue Cycle Management – 1 AHIMA CEU

## 2:00 PM – 2:55 PM SESSION

### *The Heart of the Matter: Navigating Heart Conditions*

**Patrea Darringer, CCS, CDIP**

Inpatient Training Educator at Community Health Network

Heart coding can get your pulse racing! Let's break down some of the most confusing conditions. Understanding the pathophysiology is the key to being a better coder. We will discuss topics such as - myocardial infarctions - rheumatic heart disease- congestive heart failure- cardiomyopathy and more.

**Domain:** Data Structure, Content, and Information Governance – 1 AHIMA CEU

## 3:00 PM – 3:55 PM SESSION

### *Working Smarter Together: Leveraging Microsoft Tools for Efficient, Collaborative Workflows*

**Andrew Erbse, RHIT**

Outpatient Coding Compliance Auditor at Memorial Healthcare Systems

Most organizations rely heavily on Microsoft products—but are they being used to their full potential? This session explores practical, real-world ways to leverage familiar Microsoft tools to work more efficiently, collaborate more effectively, and organize information in meaningful, accessible ways. Attendees will learn how applications such as Microsoft Teams, Outlook, OneDrive, SharePoint, OneNote, Word, and Excel can be used together to create “living” documents that stay current and accessible through simple hyperlinks. The presentation will demonstrate how everyday tools can be transformed into powerful productivity and collaboration resources. Participants will see how emails can be converted into meetings, Microsoft Teams sessions, tasks, and shared workspaces that link directly to supporting documentation and resources. The session will also cover efficient hyperlink creation from traditional server folders, OneDrive, and SharePoint, allowing users to quickly share up-to-date content without duplicating files or relying on outdated attachments.

#### Learning Outcomes:

- Use OneNote to improve personal organization and resource management
- Increase efficiency and collaboration using Teams, OneDrive, and SharePoint
- Leverage Outlook to turn emails into meetings, tasks, and collaborative tools
- Create and use hyperlinks to share internal education, policies, and resources effectively

**Domain:** Organizational Management and Leadership – 1 AHIMA CEU

## 2026 Virtual Coding Conference Speakers

---



### **Patrea Darringer, CCS, CDIP**

Inpatient Training Educator at Community Health Network

Patrea is the Inpatient Coder Trainer for Community Health Network. She started coding in 2011 and knew early on she wanted to be an inpatient coder. She became the trainer at Community in 2016. She teaches an in-depth training course to new coders as well as monthly trainings with all staff.



### **Andrew Erbse, RHIT**

Outpatient Coding Compliance Auditor at Memorial Healthcare Systems

Andy is a seasoned healthcare professional with over 16 years of experience in facility coding, serving as a coder, educator, and auditor across diverse healthcare settings. His career began in hospital systems in Indiana and has continued in Florida, where he has supported organizations in maintaining accuracy, compliance, and quality in coding practices. Throughout his career, Andy has demonstrated strong expertise in facility coding, regulatory research, and auditing, paired with a passion for education and professional development. He is known for his ability to translate complex coding and compliance requirements into clear, practical guidance that empowers coders and healthcare professionals to grow in their roles and advance their careers. Andy also brings a strong interest in technology and innovation, leveraging digital tools and collaborative platforms to create more connected and efficient learning environments. By integrating education, technology, and collaboration, he helps teams improve performance while fostering a culture of continuous learning and shared success. Driven by a commitment to excellence and mentorship, Andy remains focused on supporting both individual growth and organizational improvement within the evolving healthcare landscape.



### **Linda Galocy, MS, RHIA**

PB Medical Coding Educator at Northwestern Medicine

Linda Galocy is a healthcare educator and coding consultant with more than 30 years of experience in health information management. She currently serves as a Professional Fee Coding Educator with Northwestern Medicine, where she develops and delivers coding education for specialty service groups and charge capture teams. Previously, Linda spent nearly two decades at Indiana University Northwest as Program Chair and Clinical Associate Professor, where she launched a bachelor's degree in Health Information Administration, contributed to national accreditation work, and published scholarly chapters in health information management. She has also worked extensively as a consultant, providing coding audits, compliance reviews, and physician education. A Fellow of AHIMA, Linda has served in leadership roles with national, state, and regional HIM associations, including as past president of the Indiana Health Information Management Association (IHIMA) and Northern Indiana Health Information Association (NIHIA). She remains active in professional development through writing and speaking engagements.

---



---

**Deborah Grider, CPC, CPC-I, CPC-P, COC, CEMC, CPMA, CCS-P, CDIP**

Executive Consultant at Karen Zupko & Associates

Deborah is an executive consultant with Karen Zupko & Associates and a nationally sought-after leader in the industry. She is passionate about assisting physicians and hospitals in improving their coding, documentation, and business operations to maintain compliance and improve revenue. Deborah holds multiple coding certifications, including Certified Professional Medical Auditor, and is a certified Clinical Documentation Improvement Practitioner. Deborah brings over forty years of healthcare industry experience as a practice administrator, medical record auditor, clinical documentation improvement practitioner, and sought-after speaker, author and educator. She has worked with a variety of medical specialties. She works with physicians, hospitals, and outpatient facilities, both small and large, and provides practice assessments, revenue cycle guidance, coding, auditing, CDI development, education, and project management. She also provides litigation support to attorneys nationally for their physician and health-system clients. Deborah combines teaching with practical advice on coding and revenue cycle issues for many national organizations. She has numerous book and publishing credits, including publications for the American Medical Association, Delmar Publishing, and the Society for Critical Care Medicine. She has also developed coding program curricula for organizations including IU Health and Martin University. She currently serves on the ICD-10 Monitor Editorial Board and Indiana Health Information Management Association Executive Board of Directors as the treasurer. She is the past president of the Indiana Health Information Management Association and the past president of the American Academy of Professional Coders National Advisory Board. Deborah has served on the CPT Editorial panel and the editorial board of Contexo Media. She is the 2017 AHIMA Triumph Literacy Legacy Award Recipient.

---

**Jan Hailey, MHL, CMC, CMCO, CMIS, CMOM, CMCA-E/M**

CEO, Practice Matters, LLC

As the CEO and Founder of Practice Matters, LLC, Jan Hailey is dedicated to providing expert education and process improvement solutions in the areas of medical billing, coding, compliance, and practice management. With years of hands-on experience in healthcare management, Jan is a trusted advisor to practices across the nation, empowering them to thrive in today's complex healthcare environment. Jan is also a faculty instructor for Practice Management Institute (PMI), where she develops curriculum and teaches specialized certification programs. Her passion for education extends beyond the classroom, where she regularly designs and delivers training sessions, webinars, and seminars for healthcare professionals. Throughout her career, Jan has worked with practices to optimize their revenue cycles, navigate regulatory changes, and enhance patient engagement. She has a deep understanding of the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (PFS), Risk Adjustment (HCC) coding, billing and compliance. She is committed to delivering results-oriented solutions, helping clients increase efficiency, reduce administrative burdens, and improve financial performance. Jan's approach is grounded in collaboration, ensuring that each client receives the personalized attention and expertise they need to succeed.

---

**Anne Phillips, RHIA, CCS**

Outpatient Coding Compliance Auditor at Memorial Healthcare Systems

Anne is a skilled coding professional with more than 15 years of experience within a hospital environment in remote and onsite settings. Anne's career began in a hospital system in Indiana and has continued in Florida. She has managed an inpatient coding and auditing team and worked in conjunction with a CDI team. Anne has educated coders on ICD-10 in face to face and teleconference settings. She was also involved with the ICD-10 Subcommittee as team lead.

---