Introducing the 2019-2020 IHIMA Board of Directors!

**Elected Officers:**
- President: Jacquie Villarreal
- President-Elect: Alyson Stichter
- Past President: Lynette Thom
- Secretary: Justin Carter
- Treasurer: Deb Grider
- 1st year Delegate: Necole Coots
- 2nd year Delegate: Renee Meunier
- 2nd year Delegate: Jennifer Osborne
- Nominating: Jonathon Jones & Bonnie Wilkins

**Appointed Committee Chairs:**
- Communications: Cathy Wiseman
- Legislative: Bonnie Aspiazu & Ashley Hendry
- Nominating: Nicole Van Andel
- Professional Development/Annual Meeting: Lisa DesNoyers & Sally Haill
- Project Development: Lauren Palfi

**IHIMA Board Bullets**

The IHIMA Board of Directors met on Thursday, June 13th for the Transitional Board meeting where incoming and exiting board members attend together for a responsibility transition meeting. Then on Friday, June 14th the Strategic Planning Board meeting was held with all new incoming board members.

Here are some highlights from the board meetings.

1) The Legislative Committee reported the IHIMA Day at the Statehouse was a huge success. There is another IHIMA Day at the Statehouse scheduled for March 17, 2020. The Indiana Hospital Association (IHA) has partnered with IHIMA regarding the Medical Records Charging Law and discussions with the IN Dept. of Insurance. The committee continues to challenge the IHIMA memberships to attend their state representative’s scheduled town hall meetings.

2) The Professional Development Committee reported the Annual Meeting was a huge success! The committee is starting to plan the 2020 Annual Meeting, i.e., finalizing venue contract, vendor sponsorships, agenda, etc.

3) IHIMA gave out two (2) Student Scholarships this board year.

4) IHIMA Regional Affiliation Agreements were updated and distributed to the IHIMA regional presidents.

5) The IHIMA Coding Learning Labs are in the planning stages. There still is a need for case studies before the learning lab webinars can be scheduled. The kick-off will be Fall 2019.

6) The Communications Committee continues to increase member engagement with IHIMA social media platforms. The IHIMA newsletter has been a huge success this board year. The committee plans to expand by using more digital media.

7) The incoming board updated and approved IHIMA’s Mission & Vision to stay in line with AHIMA’s new Mission & Vision. Our new Mission and Vision are:

   **Mission:** IHIMA leads the advancement of quality health information to impact health in Indiana.

   **Vision:** IHIMA will be the recognized leader advancing trusted health information in Indiana by connecting people, systems, and ideas.
IHIMA Regional Association Updates

Our regional associations are also starting their new board year July 1st! If you want to become involved with your regional association, refer to IHIMA’s region breakdown at https://www.ihima.org/regions to see which region you belong to. Don’t hesitate to email your region with questions!

Northern Indiana Health Information Management Association (NIHIMA)
To stay connected with NIHIMA, refer to their website at http://nihima.com/. Or, you can email them at nihima15@yahoo.com with any questions.

Central Indiana Health Information Management Association (CIHIMA)
My name is Darla Morrison, President of CIHIMA (Central Indiana Health Information Management Association). This year I hope to get our membership excited about being in a growing profession that connects us to many different aspects of healthcare. I can say truthfully that until I had enrolled in an HIM program, and joined IHIMA, I had no idea of the effort HIM professionals make in dealing with patient advocacy, interoperability challenges, and education. I attended the IHIMA Transition and Strategic Planning Meeting on June 13th and 14th and was amazed at the depth of knowledge and skill that the board members have. IHIMA is all about the advancement of quality health information in Indiana and providing HIM professionals and potential professionals opportunities in education, competencies, and skills. The board members took great care in their 2020 strategic priorities and it was a fascinating learning experience. I hope to keep our CIHIMA members very informed of updates that affect the quality of our work, and to provide networking opportunities for members and for students just coming into a HIM career. Our motto: Connect and Learn! Coming to the CEU meetings will be a vital step. There you will hear from those already in the field, and who are eager to share what they know to be important. In closing, I’d like to take this time to say thank you to past president, Kellie Perzee (2018-2019) who kept us going during a difficult transition period (CWIHIMA to CIHIMA), and to the 2019-2020 outgoing president, Lisa Weaver, for all of her work this past year. Cathy Archer has been our Treasurer, who will be serving another year, and Vicki McFall, our Secretary.

Are you in the central regional area? Want to know how you can become involved in your region? Contact them at 2017CIHIMA@gmail.com.

Southern Indiana Health Information Management Association (SIHIMA)
If you’re part of the Indiana southern region and have comments or questions, want to volunteer, or wish to learn more about your region, contact SIHIMA at francie.bishop@gmail.com

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**AHIMA’s New Mission and Vision**

**AHIMA’s Mission:**
Empowering people to impact health

**AHIMA’s Vision:**
A world where trusted information transforms health and healthcare by connecting people, systems, and ideas
**A Message to the IHIMA Membership**

We, the IHIMA Board, would like to share this information with you about this year’s AHIMA ballot, specifically why there is only one candidate for the positions of President-Elect and Speaker-Elect of the House of Delegates (HoD).

**Background:** It is time to vote for AHIMA board members for the upcoming association year. The ballot includes only one candidate for each of the positions of President-Elect and Speaker of the House. The Speaker of the House is elected by the House of Delegates, so this candidate will not appear on the AHIMA member ballot. The Speaker of the House is a very important position and serves on the AHIMA Board of Directors.

The AHIMA Nominating Committee (NC) has the responsibility of selecting candidates for open board positions for the upcoming year. The NC is partially elected by members of the House of Delegates during an annual vote and partially appointed by AHIMA Board of Directors. The NC has a well-defined process and procedure. Potential candidates complete the Volunteer Leadership Competencies self-assessment and the Board of Directors candidates must review the AHIMA Board of Directors Attributes, developed by the Board of Directors and updated yearly to ensure candidates meet the needs of the Board for the upcoming three-year term. According to a message posted on the State Leader/House of Delegates Community on Engage by the current AHIMA President, this year’s instruction to the NC was to find candidates with specific skills to help further the new AHIMA Mission, Vision, and Values in support of the strategic plan. It is not unusual to expect candidates for Board service to support the mission, vision, values, and strategic plan of the organization they wish to serve as they become an active part of the leadership team.

The NC reviewed all of the candidates that were submitted. The candidates were appraised according to the set guidelines. After studying the candidates, the NC believed they had only one candidate that maintained all of the criteria. The NC submitted a request to the AHIMA Board of Directors asking them to approve a ballot with one candidate for the positions of President-Elect and Speaker of the HoD. The Board of Directors approved and supported the request and trusted their decision.

**Assessment:** Two key association leader positions were presented on the ballot uncontested: President-Elect and Speaker-Elect of the HoD. Concerns have been expressed from members, CSAs, and delegates suggesting the NC has in effect determined who will serve in those roles, removing the individual member’s right and opportunity to review multiple, qualified candidates and make a choice. The IHIMA Board wants to inform members of their options.

**Options and Impact:** There are three ways members can respond. **An important note:** AHIMA bylaws require a 3% voter response from members for a valid election.**

- **Vote:** Voting would count your vote for the President-Elect, as there is only one candidate on the ballot and it would also allow you to vote for 3 other roles that are currently on the ballot and do have more than one candidate. This choice counts toward the 3% requirement.
- **Abstain:** If you abstain from voting for certain candidates, this means that you state you are “not voting” for certain positions but the choice **does** count toward the 3% requirement.
- **No Vote:** A no vote, meaning you simply do not complete any part of the AHIMA ballot. This option is the only option that removes you from the percentage of members placing a vote. This does not count toward the 3% requirement.

AHIMA sent an email out to the membership on June 21, 2019 explaining as to why the 2019 ballot includes only one candidate for the roles of President/Chair-elect and Speaker-elect. Please see the AHIMA Membership and Business Community on Engage to review a list of FAQs.
The IHIMA Board encourages you to think about the above options and impacts and make the decision you feel is best for you.

Should you have questions, please contact any of your IHIMA delegates.

Jacquie Villarreal  jacquelyn.f.villarreal@gmail.com
Lynette Thom  lynettethom@gmail.com
Nicole Van Andel  nvanande@iupui.edu
Jennifer Osborne  josborne1@r1rcm.com
Renee Meunier  renee.meunier2@parkview.com
Necole Coots  ncoots@ecommunity.com

*The IHIMA Board is taking no position in this matter but merely informing the membership of their options and its impact to the election outcome.*

The Indiana Delegates are here for members and to advocate for, and help advance, the profession. Please continue to share your feedback with your delegates! Your 2019-2020 IHIMA Delegates are: Necole Coots = ncoots@ecommunity.com (1st year delegate), Renee Meunier = renee.meunier2@parkview.com (2nd year delegate), Jennifer Osborne = josborne1@r1rcm.com (2nd year delegate), Alyson Stichter = a.stichter@ibm.com, and Jacquie Villarreal = jacquelyn.f.villarreal@gmail.com

**IHIMA’s New Website and Email Provider!**

After months of hard work and dedication, the IHIMA Executive Board is excited to officially announce the launch of our new website and provider. The website address, www.ihima.org, will remain the same. You will still update your contact information through www.ahima.org.

Our website offers you, our members, a user-friendly, easy to navigate fresh new website. We will be continuously updating our content to make sure that we give you current information. You will continue to receive e-mails, newsletters, e-blasts, etc. Electronic communication will come from the IHIMA Central Office (ihima@memberclicks-mail.net). You may want to check your spam folder if you missed our June newsletter. Our previous newsletters are in the ‘IHIMA News’ section.

The IHIMA Executive Board would like to give a special thanks to MemberClicks who helped us transition to our new website. We hope you enjoy our new website. For any questions, suggestions, feedback or comments, please e-mail us at latonya.centraloffice@gmail.com.

**Is Your AHIMA Member Profile Up-To-Date?**

By keeping your information in the AHIMA membership profile database current, IHIMA can continue to keep in touch with YOU! Update your information here: myAHIMA. Under Profile – ‘Personal Profile’ and ‘Professional Profile’ – these areas should be up-to-date. Also, under ‘Personal Profile’, scroll down to the bottom under ‘Other Communication’. Make sure you check ‘CSA Email’ and ‘CSA Mail’ to receive all IHIMA communication.

**Consider Writing for AHIMA Periodicals!**

Are you interested in writing for AHIMA periodicals like the *Journal of AHIMA* and others? You may earn CEUs for your article. Visit the following listings in the Engage Volunteer Center to learn about available opportunities:

- Author Opportunity: Write about Coding Topics for Various AHIMA Publications
- *Journal of AHIMA* Author: Sign Up to Write for the *Journal*
- *Journal of AHIMA* Author: Submit Your Manuscript
IHIMA Communications News
We are excited to announce the Indiana Health Information Management Association’s LinkedIn page has reached **over 1,070 followers**! We are grateful for the Indiana members who has connected with us! Your support is vital as we continue to support and advocate for HIM professionals at the national, state, and regional levels to bring awareness to the HIM profession.

Connect with us at IHIMA’s LinkedIn Page. New to LinkedIn? Create an account and ‘Join now’. [https://www.linkedin.com](https://www.linkedin.com). Connect with IHIMA by searching ‘IHIMA HIM’ in your LinkedIn account. Here are a few tips to help you get started! New to LinkedIn - Tip Sheet

Become a member of IHIMA’s LinkedIn Community TODAY and share your thoughts on #HIM #MedicalCoding #Healthcare #EHRs #HealthIT and more!

Unique Patient Identifier News!
**AHIMA Applauds House Move to Remove National Patient Identifier Ban from Appropriations Bill**
On June 19, the US House of Representatives passed HR 2740, the FY2020 Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), and Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Act with an amendment striking language in the Labor-HHS Appropriations bill that prohibits HHS from spending any federal dollars to promulgate or adopt a national patient identifier. The narrow interpretation of the struck language that has been included in Labor-HHS bills since FY1999 has effectively halted any meaningful progress related to developing effective patient matching solutions.

"AHIMA is pleased that the House today has taken the first step in repealing an archaic ban that has stifled innovation and industry progress for nearly two decades," said Wylecia Wiggs Harris, PhD, CAE, AHIMA CEO, in a media statement.

AHIMA led a group of 26 other healthcare organizations in sending a letter to all US Representatives asking them to support the Amendment. Additionally, many AHIMA members reached out to their US Representatives via AHIMA’s Advocacy Action Center asking them to support the amendment. AHIMA thanks its members for helping to ensure successful passage of the amendment in the US House of Representatives.

The US Senate is currently working on its own version of the FY2020 Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. Please stay tuned for future updates as we seek to ensure that the Foster Kelly Amendment is included in a final spending package approved by Congress.

**Coding Corner - Denial Prevention: Understanding Common Culprits and How to Avoid Them**
As the volume of coding denials steadily increases, providers need a proactive approach to manage and prevent denials rather than accepting them and writing them off. According to the Advisory Board, about two-thirds of denials are recoverable and 90 percent are preventable.

This article explores reasons for coding denials and offers practices to promote optimal reimbursement. Building a dedicated denials team is one effective strategy being implemented today.

Read full article here


AHIMA members may earn CEUs for the article above by successfully completing the following quiz. *Journal of AHIMA* Continuing Education Quiz - Quiz ID: Q1939005 - Expiration Date: May 1, 2020 - HIM Domain Area: Clinical Data Management - Review Quiz Questions and Take the Quiz at [https://my.ahima.org/store](https://my.ahima.org/store)
AHIMA Election Opens July 8th

The 2019 AHIMA election for President/Chair-elect and Directors of the AHIMA Board, Commissioners on the Commission on Certification for Health Informatics and Information Management (CCHIIM), and members of the Council for Excellence in Education (CEE) will open to AHIMA members, with the exception of students, on the morning of Monday, July 8th. Voting will remain open for two weeks, closing on Monday, July 22 at 6 p.m. EST.

The list of candidates is available here. You can learn about the duties for these elected roles and the election timeline on AHIMA’s website. The Journal of AHIMA will cover the candidates in the July/August issue. Find more about the candidates on Engage – AHIMA Membership and Business Engage Community. The candidates will also be on Engage to answer your questions June 24–July 5.

Newly Credentialed IHIMA Members

Congratulations to each of these Indiana members who have studied hard and demonstrated their skills through credentials exams last month! You should be very proud!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>RHIA</th>
<th>RHIT</th>
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<tr>
<td>Brooke Gardner, RHIA</td>
<td>Courtney Davis, RHIT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angeline McDonald, RHIT, CCA</td>
<td>Shayla Wikle, RHIT</td>
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Find Indiana’s newly credentialed professionals who earned an AHIMA credential within the last year here:


AHIMA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

AHIMA Paperwork Is Going Paperless

Taken from AHIMA’s weekly E-Alert for May 23, 2019:

To improve the security and privacy of our customers’ information, AHIMA is taking new steps to better protect your data. The first such change is that as of May 15, certification holders may no longer send us information using handwritten forms on paper, PDF, or image, nor submit information via unsecure means such as US mail, fax, or email.

Instead, AHIMA certification holders will use our secure online system to submit important information such as their continuing educational units (CEUs), self-review answers, and reinstatement requests. AHIMA will no longer accept handwritten forms for these transactions, regardless of how they are submitted. All forms will be removed from AHIMA websites and replaced with instructions on how to submit online.

CEUs, self-review answers, and reinstatement requests can be submitted via our secure online system under the "CEU Center" tab.

We are making this improvement for a number of reasons:

- **Security and privacy:** Your personal data will be handled in a more secure and private manner and will not risk possible compromise by being sent via unsecure means (US mail, fax, email).
- **Accuracy:** When you enter your own information, you can make sure it is correct. Additionally, our system will validate entries for accuracy and make sure you enter all required information. This also eliminates issues such as the need to interpret handwriting or poor fax/scan quality.
- **Timeliness:** You will be able to enter your information in a matter of minutes whenever it is convenient for you, 24/7. This also eliminates delays such as mail delivery and manual data entry by our staff.
- **Environment- and budget-friendly:** You no longer need to spend money on postage, and a paperless process will help conserve resources for everyone.

We will be rolling out additional changes in the coming months.
CCHIIM Announces Sunset of Credentials

Taken from AHIMA’s weekly E-Alert for May 16, 2019:

Beginning May 31, AHIMA will no longer offer the Certified Professional in Health Informatics (CPHI) credential or any of the various Certified Healthcare Technology Specialist credentials (specifically CHTS-CP, CHTS-IM, CHTS-IS, CHTS-PW, CHTS-TR, and CHTS-TS).

The decision was made by the Commission on Certification for Health Informatics and Information Management (CCHIIM) in an effort to align with AHIMA’s current strategy as well as trends in the health information management field. CCHIIM provides strategic oversight of all AHIMA certification programs and is the sole and independent authority in all matters pertaining to certification and ongoing recertification of HIM professionals.

An assessment of the credentials found that demand for the CPHI and the CHTS credentials is low, while the level of resources needed to develop exams for the credentials is high.

Individuals who hold these credentials can continue to use them, but will no longer be required to report CEUs to maintain them. In addition, AHIMA will no longer offer exams for these credentials. If you applied for the credential but have not taken the exam, AHIMA will refund your exam fee.

The sunsetting of these credentials does not affect other AHIMA credentials. If you do not hold a CPHI or CHTS credential, there is no action needed. For more information, contact certification@ahima.org.

The Best IHIMA Social Media Posts of Last Month

1) Today the IHIMA Board of Directors are meeting for the Transitional Board Meeting. Thanks to the 2018-2019 Board Members for your leadership, time, and dedication to the association, the profession, and your fellow members! (Facebook: Click here)

2) Today is the strategic planning meeting for the 2019-2020 IHIMA Board of Directors. Great things are in the works!! (Facebook: Click here)

3) REMINDER! The Northern Indiana HIMA (NIHIMA) meeting is ONE (1) WEEK FROM TODAY! Join them on Friday, June 28th at St. Mary’s Hospital in Hobart, IN. Questions? Contact NIHIMA at nihima15@yahoo.com (Facebook: Click here)

4) LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS! IHIMA is gearing up for our virtual Coding Learning Labs! We are excited to provide this educational opportunity to the membership but there is ONE LAST ITEM NEEDED before dates can be scheduled…. WE NEED INPATIENT & OUTPATIENT CASE STUDIES! If you can provide case studies, please message us. If you have any questions, have case studies to share, or want to help with any of the sessions, message us to get your name on the list! (LinkedIn: Click here)

5) Check out AHIMA’s new podcast – “HI Pitch”. The podcast covers topics of HIM and more! (LinkedIn: Click here)

6) Here’s the June AHIMA Advantage! The lead story recommends how HIM professionals can keep up on the latest privacy & security developments. Also, learn more about the updated Code of Ethics as well as a preview of AHIMA Conference general session speakers. (Twitter: Click here)

7) According to CMS, there will be fewer procedural codes in 2020 to choose from - facility procedural code set will go from 78,881 codes to 77,559 codes effective Oct. 1, 2019. There are 734 code additions, 2,056 deletions, and two revisions. (Twitter: Click here)

8) When Healthcare Providers and Privacy Legislation Collide (Twitter: Click here)

Recent News from AHIMA

AHIMA Advantage - June 2019
NEW! HI Pitch: AHIMA Podcast!
AHIMA19 Health Data and Information Conference - September 14 - 18, 2019
CodeWrite - June 2019
Journal of AHIMA - June 2019
We’ve Heard You: The Ballot
For The Record Magazine – June/July 2019
Career Minded - June 2019
AHIMA’s Discounted Continuing Education Opportunities
AHIMA’s 2019 Coffee and Coding series is a smart way to work through today’s most challenging topics for both Coding and CDI. Each month, an AHIMA expert takes you through a focused, half hour curriculum that you can watch on your own time – on demand. The nominal fee of $10.00 each helps ensure AHIMA covers the costs to produce these valuable segments now and in the future. Register here for these on demand webinars.

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<tr>
<th>Calendar of Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AHIMA Candidate Community Discussion opens, AHIMA Membership and Business Engage Community June 24 – July 5, 2019</td>
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<td>2019-2020 IHIMA Board of Director’s year starts July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020</td>
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<td>AHIMA Program Committee Volunteer Applications – Applications open until July 8</td>
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<td>AHIMA Foundation 2019 Silent Auction items for Student Merit Scholarship program donation form due July 12, 2019</td>
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<td>AHIMA Foundation Veterans Scholarship Program - Applications open July 1 to September 30, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>AHIMA Foundation Merit Scholarships – Applications open July 1 to September 30, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>IHIMA Delegate Webinar July 17, 2019, 3 p.m. EST</td>
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<td>AHIMA Election Polls open July 8, 2019 9:00 am EST through July 22, 2019 6:00 pm EST</td>
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<td>AHIMA CSA Leadership Symposium, Chicago, IL – July 12-13, 2019</td>
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<td>Assembly on Education Symposium/Faculty Development Institute (AOE/FDI) July 27-31, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>IHIMA Delegate Webinar August 14, 2019, 3 p.m. EST</td>
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<td>AHIMA Fellowship Applications 2019 Submission Deadline – August 16, 2019</td>
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<td>IHIMA Board of Director’s Meeting August 23, 2019</td>
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<td>AHIMA House of Delegates (HoD) Meeting, Chicago, IL – September 15, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019 AHIMA Health Data and Information Conference (formerly known as AHIMA Convention and Exhibit), Chicago, IL – September 14-18, 2019 - Register here (#AHIMACon19)</td>
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<td>AHIMA Fellowship Applications 2019 Submission Deadline – November 15, 2019</td>
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<td>IHIMA Day at the Indiana Statehouse, March 17, 2020 – SAVE THE DATE! (#IHIMAAAdvocate)</td>
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<td>Health Information Professionals (HIP) Week - March 22-28, 2020 - SAVE THE DATE! (#HIPWEEK20)</td>
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<tr>
<td>AHIMA Advocacy Summit (formerly known as Hill Day) March 23-24, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>IHIMA Annual Meeting, Noblesville, IN - April 20-21, 2020 – SAVE THE DATE! (#IHIMA20)</td>
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