

Employee Spotlight



Lauren C., CPC-A

I first became familiar with billing and coding in 2004 at my after-school job in high school. It was for a Radiology department at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia, where we did the preliminary coding as the patients came into the office. As I was doing that, my mother was working remotely with her CPC certification, and I was intrigued with her flexible hours and ability to work from home. In 2009, after attending a year at Drexel University, I sat for my CPC and became certified. More recently, on September 6 to be exact, I received my Bachelor's Degree for Health Services Administration at Drexel University.

I started working as a travel coder for On Assignment HIM in the fall of 2012. After a few months, I came back

home and began working part-time. Now, I am a full-time remote employee.

In my spare time, I enjoy being with my two Yorkie pups, spending time with my newborn niece, and looking for any opportunity to book a vacation as I enjoy traveling and try to as often as possible.

Be Ready, Nat'l Preparedness Month Is Here!

By: CDC.gov editorial staff

Would you be ready if there were an emergency?

Throughout September there will be activities across the country to promote emergency preparedness. More than 3,000 organizations – national, regional, and local public and private organizations – are supporting emergency preparedness efforts and encouraging all Americans to take action.

September 2014 marks the eleventh annual National Preparedness Month, sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the US Department of Homeland Security. One goal of Homeland Security is to educate the public about how to prepare for emergencies.

Join the effort! Visit the CDC's website for "Emergency Preparedness and Response" and follow these four steps: Get a Kit, Make a Plan, Be Informed, and Get Involved.

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Get an Emergency Kit

If disaster strikes your community, you might not have access to food, water, or electricity for some time. By taking time now to prepare emergency water supplies, food supplies and a disaster supplies kit, you can provide for your entire family.

Review the items recommended for a [disaster supplies kit](#) or print the [Homeland Security Emergency Supply checklist](#).

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September 2014



Ask the Expert

The Virus That Has the World's Attention

The current Ebola pandemic rages in West African countries such as Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Nigeria. CDC and WHO representatives have been deployed to Africa to contain the outbreak. Much of their task involves providing education to the locals and stressing the need to isolate the sick to areas where they can be treated.

What is Ebola?

If you can believe it, the Ebola virus was unheard of before 1976! Genus Ebolavirus is a member of the *Filoviridae* family (filovirus) and has five distinct species of itself. It's commonly referred to as hemorrhagic fever because of the symptoms it incurs. The virus was named "Ebola" after the Ebola River that flows beside the village in the Democratic Republic of Congo where the first outbreak occurred in 1976 (simultaneous outbreaks occurred in the Congo and the Sudan that year).

Infected persons tend to present with a progression of symptoms including fever, intense weakness, muscle pain, headache and sore throat. This is followed by vomiting, diarrhea, rash, impaired kidney and liver function, and—in extreme cases—internal and/or external bleeding culminating in death.

Where did the virus come from?

It's believed the virus is found in some animals such as fruit bats, monkeys and chimps. Animal to human transmission occurs if humans eat the raw meat of infected animals or come in contact with the infected animal or their carcasses. Human to human transmission occurs "from direct contact (through broken skin or mucous membranes) with the blood, secretions, organs or other bodily fluids of infected people, and also from indirect contact with environments contaminated with such fluids." Once infected, symptoms will develop within three

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Look for us at the
2014 AHIMA Convention in San Diego!

Visit us and see how we're changing hats!

Employee of the Month

September 2014



Adam Yoeun Associate Recruiter

I was born and raised in Asheville, North Carolina with my younger sister, mother, father, and several pets. I grew up in a very diligent and hospitable family and believe strongly in "the harder we work, the more luck we will have." Growing up I was a Boy Scout, basketball player and active in my local church. A very influential person in my life that taught me a lot about business and life in general is my godmother Leslie Anderson, who in the year 2000 was recognized by the Asheville Citizen Times as one of the visionaries of the past decade. She was honored by the Asheville Downtown Association in 2011 as a Downtown Hero. Following in my Godmother's footsteps, I attended Western Carolina University and graduated with my Bachelor of Science degree from the College of Business in 2007. I was also an active member of the Delta Chi Fraternity while in college. After graduating from college I wasted no time and immediately went to work in corporate America.

In my free time I enjoy spending time with family, going to live musicals, attending live theatre and stage performances and traveling. I have a passion for fast cars; I love customizing them, and attend various car shows throughout the year. I was offered the position of Associate Recruiter in April of 2014, and I am more than happy to be a part of the On Assignment HIM team.

Ask the Expert (Continued from page 1)

weeks. Human to human transmission can only occur once a person is symptomatic. However, the virus has been found in semen of men up to seven weeks after recovery.

ZMapp—A cure?

Zmapp is a drug therapy that works similar to immunoglobulin therapy with neutralizing antibodies that provide passive immunity to the virus. The monoclonal antibodies injected bind to the virus, so that the human immune system can clear the virus. Less than 10 people have been treated with the drug and not all survived the disease. It's important to note that this drug therapy has had a measure of success in animals. While ZMapp has not been approved for treatment of the virus, the FDA has approved it for use on humans in further clinical trials. Mapp Biopharmaceutical, the developer of the drug, has been given funding for further research and large-scale production of the drug.

Coding Corner

ICD-10-CM assigns a specific code to the Ebola virus diagnosis, that is, A98.4 *Ebola virus disease*. However, our current ICD-9-CM code set does not have such an equivalent single-use code. Rather, it is a multi-use code to be used for a grouping of similar diagnoses, that is, 065.8 *Other specified arthropod-borne hemorrhagic fever*. ICD-10-CM's specificity is a major advantage over ICD-9-CM. Organizations like the CDC and WHO can use this data for tracking purposes for epidemics such as Ebola or other similar circumstances that could arise.

References:

- <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs103/en>
- <http://www.webmd.com/a-to-z-guides/ebola-fever-virus-infection>
- <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola>
- <http://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/ebola-virus/basics/causes/con-20031241>

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Oxford's Office

On Assignment HIM, now Oxford HIM,
will be at the 2014 AHIMA Convention in Booth #330.

Schedule of Events:

Sunday: 5:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m.

Join us for champagne and chocolate covered strawberries to celebrate our new name! The HIM team will be able to answer any questions you may have about our name change and how it benefits you.

**Monday-Wednesday:
During exhibit hours**

Bring your friends, grab a hat and strike a pose! Our photo booth will be open and stocked with fun accessories to wear. Take home a memento from this year's conference.

See you Sunday!

Come see how
On Assignment HIM
is Changing Hats!

During AHIMA exhibit hours
Booth #330
September 28 – October 1, 2014

Strike a pose in our photo booth and don't forget to enter to win our giveaway prize!

16GB iPad Air or
\$500 American Express Gift Card

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The Right Talent. Right Now.



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September 2014



Main Article *(Continued from page 1)*

Make an Emergency Plan

Make plans with your family and friends in case you're not together during an emergency. Discuss how you'll contact each other, where you'll meet, and what you'll do in different situations. Read how to develop a [family disaster plan](#) or fill out the [Homeland Security Family Emergency Plan](#).

Ask about planning at your workplace and your child's school or daycare center. The [US Department of Education](#) gives guidelines for school preparedness. Workers at small, medium, and large businesses should practice for emergencies of all kinds. See [Ready Business](#) for more information.

Be Informed

Being prepared means staying informed. Check all types of media – websites, newspapers, radio, TV, mobile and land phones – for global, national and local information. During an emergency, your local Emergency Management or Emergency Services office will give you information on such things as open shelters and evacuation orders. Check [Ready.gov](#) community and state information to learn about resources in your community.

Get Involved

Look into taking first aid and emergency response training, participating in community exercises, and volunteering to support local first responders. Contact [Citizens Corps](#), which coordinates activities to make communities safer, stronger and better prepared to respond to an emergency situation, and the [Medical Reserve Corps, \(MRC\)](#) who are community-based units and function as a way to locally organize and utilize volunteers who want to donate their time and expertise to prepare for and respond to emergencies and promote healthy living throughout the year.

The CDC website "Emergency Preparedness and Response" offers additional information and resources under topics such as hurricane preparedness, extreme heat, and bioterrorism. CDC continually updates information on recent outbreaks and incidents, and lists emergency resources for the general public as well as for clinicians and public health professionals.

This article can be found here: http://www.cdc.gov/features/beready/?s_cid=cdc_homepage_whatsnew_002

Who Knows?

It has been dubbed "the ultimate hard drive" and it's also incredibly small, dense and does not need any power for storage. What is this data center which all organisms have that contain an encoded story and everything you need to know about it?

August 2014 WHO KNOWS?

And the winner is... **Laura J.!**

Answer: Peyer's patches

Send your answers to:

amanda.wells@onassignment.com

All correct answers will be put into a raffle for a chance to win a \$25 gift card from On Assignment HIM!

