

Health Information Management Association of Australia (HIMAA) 2021 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

**Pullman Melbourne Albert Park
Melbourne, Victoria**

25-27 October 2021

**“Health Information Management: the intersection of health care
and data science”**

Abstracts and conference paper submissions are invited for the 2021 National Conference of the Health Information Management Association of Australia (HIMAA).

As the long-standing, pre-eminent specialists in health information and systems, the health information management profession – Health Information Managers, Health Data Analysts, Health Information Researchers, Clinical Coders, Clinical Documentation Specialists and Health Data Auditors - ensures the quality, integrity and security of patient information from the bedside to the highest levels of government. This critically important work ensures that data scientists, researchers and clinicians can confidently use Australia’s health information for internationally recognised research and our governments can trust our high-quality health information for planning, funding and critical decision-making: these have been highlighted particularly critical during the COVID-19 pandemic.

While the uncertainty brought by the pandemic continues in 2021, we reflect on the many challenges and opportunities encountered and embraced by the HIM profession and others since early 2020. The demands of the pandemic have magnified the vital importance of our specialist work in classifying, measuring, analysing and reporting data on the vast clinical and healthcare system impacts of COVID-19. We have provided crucial, timely data and information to inform the functioning of Australia’s hospitals, health services, public health authorities and governments during this period of unprecedented pressure and challenge. Concurrently, our profession has maintained our pre-COVID work in providing myriad, reliable data to underpin the ongoing performance of Australia’s healthcare system.

During 2020, the health sector faced rapid adoption of new technologies and care delivery models such as telehealth and mobile health, and the establishment and operation of testing centres at multiple sites. Health Information Managers were instrumental in implementing new

and updated electronic medical records and other innovative technologies and systems to increase the availability of health information at the clinical coalface, and for research. These developments produced new challenges for our protection of patient health data and information privacy. They also created unparalleled demand for high quality data to assess the new digital technologies' impacts and outcomes for clinicians, patients, government health departments, scientists and researchers, pharmaceutical manufacturers, and public health officials.

The health information management profession operates at the **intersection of health care and data science**, and health care and technologies that enable the collection of, and access to, health data. The connections we secure between the 'technology' and 'medicine' branches of science are the primary pathway for the successful enabling of digital technologies in the health care setting.

Please consider submitting a paper or an abstract to the 2021 HIMAA Conference to share your experiences, your knowledge and research projects, for the benefit of your colleagues.

Session Topics

1. **eHealth/digital Health** – Health Informatics, EMRs, health information systems development and implementation, personal health records including the My Health Record, consumer health informatics, aged care health informatics, primary care health informatics, mHealth (mobile technologies in health), health information and social media.
2. **Health Classifications and Clinical Coding** – health classification, coding quality, activity-based funding and casemix, clinical costing, applications of coded data.
3. **Clinical Documentation Integrity/Improvement** – best practice strategies, program development and evaluation, quality measures, advancing CDI through technology.
4. **Health Data Quality and Analytics** – health data standards, data quality, clinical data management, data analytics, business intelligence, applications of health data.
5. **Health Information Governance** – Medico-legal issues and practices, ethical governance, privacy, confidentiality, health data and information security policies and practices, cybersecurity and protection of health information.
6. **Health Information for Patient Safety and Quality of Care** – recording strategies and formats for patient safety, clinical indicators, patient outcome measures, data for value-based healthcare, health data underpinning models of care.
7. **Health Information Leadership and Management** – strategic planning, change management, human resource development and management, staff engagement, accreditation.
8. **International Health Information Management** - practice and perspectives, comparative systems.
9. **Education and Training** – professional pathways, scholarship of learning and teaching, workforce, approaches to staff training, professional development.

Conference formats and guidelines

1. **Research paper** – submissions are welcome for both new research findings, and for smaller scale, narrower questions that focus on a process and early effects of interventions relevant to the session topics. Specific guidelines for research papers are:
 - papers are to be between 2,000 and 3,000 words (excluding title and references), prepared as a word document following the template accessible [HERE](#), with the following structure:
 - i. Title of the paper
 - ii. A structured abstract, including headings: Introduction, Aim, Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusion
 - iii. The body of the paper should be structured according to the headings presented in the abstract (Introduction, Aim, Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusion)
 - iv. Reference list
 - v. Acknowledgements (if relevant). **NB:** If acknowledgements could identify the authors or affiliations, please DO NOT place them here. Insert 'to be advised' under the Acknowledgement heading
 - text should be double-spaced, and margins should be 2.5cm on all sides
 - Australian spelling should be used, conforming to the Macquarie Dictionary
 - Referencing should employ the Harvard (Author, date) style. For further details see: <https://libguides.library.usyd.edu.au/c.php?g=508212&p=3476130>
 - Papers should be submitted through the submission portal available [HERE](#)
 - Nominate the most relevant **session topic** from the list above, and that the submission is a **research paper** (see '**General submission guidelines**' below for further information)
 - Do not list authors or affiliations on the paper. Author details should be provided via the online submission portal only (this is to accommodate the double-blind peer-review process)
 - Nominate the presenting author, who should provide contact details and a 50-word biography, to be included in the submission form. The number of presenters is limited to one.
 - Selected papers will be allocated 15 minutes presentation time with an additional 5 minutes to address questions from delegates.
2. **Research abstract** – 650-word submission: 10-minute presentation (+5 mins questions). Abstracts should be structured and must include: Title of the presentation; Introduction, including aims; Methods; Results; Discussion; and Conclusion. The abstract should be prepared on the template (available [HERE](#)) through the submission portal and saved as shown below under '**General submission guidelines.**' These abstracts are for work that will be completed in time for presentation at the conference, but not for a full-length paper to be prepared by the submission deadline.

3. **Professional practice abstract** – 650-word submission: 10-minute presentation (+5 mins questions). Abstracts should be structured and must include: Title of the presentation; Introduction (background/setting); Professional practice/case study description; Outcome/experience; Conclusion – what was learned. The abstract should be prepared on the template (available [HERE](#)) through the submission portal and saved as shown below under ‘**General submission guidelines.**’
4. **Poster** – 250-word abstract submission. Posters are invited for any relevant topic, informing about: research being developed/in progress; process or practice improvements; education and training; other issues relevant to health information managers or clinical coders. Abstracts should be structured and include headings appropriate to the topic and formats for either a research or professional development abstract as set out above. The abstract should be prepared on the template accessible through either the ‘Research abstract’ portal (at point 2 above) or the ‘Professional practice abstract’ portal (at point 3 above), as appropriate to your topic, and saved as shown below under ‘**General submission guidelines.**’
NB – you will be able to identify that your submission is for a poster at the top of the abstract template.
5. **Workshop** – 650-word abstract submission. Workshops will be of 90 minutes duration. Abstracts should be structured and must include: Title of the workshop; Target audience (HIMs Clinical Coders, SIG members, etc); Learning objectives; Intended outcomes; Evaluation. Every effort will be made to accommodate your preference, but the final time allocated will be determined based on the number of submissions and the Program capacity. The abstract should be prepared on the template (available [HERE](#)) through the submission portal and saved as shown below under ‘**General submission guidelines.**’

Students are encouraged to participate by submitting abstracts in **categories 2-4** above, where they have topics appropriate to a category and to the Conference theme. **NB** – you will be able to identify that your submission is for a Student abstract at the top of the abstract template.

Abstract review process

All papers and abstracts will be double-blind peer-reviewed. The review process will be undertaken by the HIMAA Conference Academic Panel.

Research papers will be double-blind peer-reviewed by two-three independent reviewers. The review process will be coordinated by the HIMAA Conference Academic Panel. Papers will be assessed on originality; rationale; coherence; relevance to the conference theme; clarity, description and suitability of the Methods, Results and Discussion.

Research Abstracts will be assessed on originality; coherence; relevance to the conference theme; clarity, description and suitability of the Methods, Results and Discussion.

Professional practice and student abstracts will be assessed on originality; relevance to the conference theme; and coherence.

Poster abstracts will be assessed on relevance to the conference theme; originality of design; and coherence.

Workshop abstracts will be assessed on relevance to the conference theme; originality; coherence; and capacity of structure to meet the stated learning objectives.

Notification

Authors will be notified of the outcome of their submissions via email by **Friday 26 June**. Revisions may be required, based on reviewers' comments, and these will be reassessed on resubmission. Final acceptance of the abstract is conditional on revisions being satisfactory to the review panel.

Publication of papers and abstracts

Papers and abstracts will be published in the Conference Proceedings. During the submission process you will be asked to provide your consent for the abstract to be published if selected. Conference Proceedings will be published on the HIMAA website and indexed with an International Standard Book Number (ISBN).

General submission guidelines

All abstracts should be created in the formats as described above. When creating your paper or abstract, please use the filename structure of:

Conference2021_format category_topic.docx

For example: Conference2021_ProfPrac_medico-legal.docx

NB: To enable a double-blind peer-review process, please **DO NOT include any author names or affiliations in the abstract document (word file)**. These details should **ONLY** be entered into the online portal when you are submitting your paper or abstract.

Number of submissions per author

Authors may submit more than one paper/abstract, however the Conference Committee reserves the right to limit the acceptance of papers/abstracts per author. Should this occur, the Conference Committee will consider the author's preference in this decision.

Submission deadline

Papers and abstracts should be submitted through the 2021 HIMAA submission portal on the HIMAA website, available [HERE](#).

The submission portal will be open from 6 April 2021 and closes on 10 May 2021.

Key dates

Call for submissions	Friday 26 February 2021
Submission portal available	Tuesday 6 April 2021
Papers/Abstracts due for submission	Monday 10 May 2021
Notification of outcome	Friday 26 June 2021

Closing date for submission of abstracts is 5.00pm (AEST), Monday 10 May 2021.

Registration of presenters

Successful presenters are responsible for meeting all costs associated with attending the conference and the presentation of their research paper, abstract, poster or workshop. A discounted rate on conference registration is offered for presenters of research papers, professional practice abstracts, posters and workshops. The exception is successful student posters, whereby the student is not required to attend the conference.

PD points will be available for Certified Health Information Managers or Practitioners attending or presenting. We look forward to welcoming you.

Enquiries:

Milla Krivozhnya
Marketing and Events Manager
HIMAA
Phone: +61 2 9887 5821
Email: events@hima.org.au