

AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIAN

AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIAN PLAYS A CRITICAL ROLE IN THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM BY PROVIDING OUTPATIENT MEDICAL SERVICES THAT DO NOT REQUIRE HOSPITAL ADMISSION. THESE PHYSICIANS SPECIALIZE IN DIAGNOSING, TREATING, AND MANAGING A WIDE RANGE OF ACUTE AND CHRONIC CONDITIONS IN AN AMBULATORY SETTING, INCLUDING CLINICS, PHYSICIAN OFFICES, AND OUTPATIENT SURGERY CENTERS. THEIR EXPERTISE ALLOWS PATIENTS TO RECEIVE TIMELY AND EFFECTIVE CARE WHILE AVOIDING UNNECESSARY HOSPITAL STAYS, WHICH IMPROVES PATIENT OUTCOMES AND REDUCES HEALTHCARE COSTS. THIS ARTICLE WILL EXPLORE THE ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIAN, THE TYPICAL SETTINGS WHERE THEY PRACTICE, THE BENEFITS OF AMBULATORY CARE, AND THE SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR THIS SPECIALTY. ADDITIONALLY, THE CHALLENGES FACED BY AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS AND FUTURE TRENDS IN OUTPATIENT CARE WILL BE DISCUSSED. UNDERSTANDING THE COMPREHENSIVE SCOPE OF AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS IS ESSENTIAL FOR APPRECIATING THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO MODERN HEALTHCARE DELIVERY.

- ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIAN
- COMMON PRACTICE SETTINGS FOR AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS
- BENEFITS OF AMBULATORY CARE FOR PATIENTS AND HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS
- SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS
- CHALLENGES IN AMBULATORY CARE PRACTICE
- FUTURE TRENDS IN AMBULATORY CARE

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIAN

AN AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIAN IS PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR DELIVERING OUTPATIENT MEDICAL SERVICES, FOCUSING ON PREVENTION, DIAGNOSIS, AND TREATMENT OF VARIOUS HEALTH CONDITIONS WITHOUT HOSPITAL ADMISSION. THESE PHYSICIANS MANAGE EVERYTHING FROM ROUTINE CHECK-UPS AND MINOR ILLNESSES TO COMPLEX CHRONIC DISEASE MANAGEMENT.

PATIENT EVALUATION AND DIAGNOSIS

ONE OF THE CORE DUTIES INVOLVES THOROUGH PATIENT EVALUATION, INCLUDING TAKING MEDICAL HISTORIES, PERFORMING PHYSICAL EXAMS, AND ORDERING DIAGNOSTIC TESTS. AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS MUST ACCURATELY DIAGNOSE CONDITIONS TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATE TREATMENT PLANS, OFTEN COORDINATING CARE WITH SPECIALISTS WHEN NECESSARY.

TREATMENT AND MANAGEMENT

AFTER DIAGNOSIS, AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS INITIATE TREATMENT, WHICH CAN INCLUDE PRESCRIBING MEDICATIONS, RECOMMENDING LIFESTYLE CHANGES, AND PROVIDING PATIENT EDUCATION. THEY ALSO MONITOR CHRONIC DISEASES SUCH AS DIABETES, HYPERTENSION, AND ASTHMA, ENSURING PATIENTS MAINTAIN OPTIMAL HEALTH THROUGH REGULAR FOLLOW-UP VISITS.

PREVENTIVE CARE AND HEALTH PROMOTION

PREVENTIVE CARE IS A MAJOR FOCUS, WITH AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS ENCOURAGING VACCINATIONS, SCREENINGS, AND HEALTHY BEHAVIORS TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FUTURE ILLNESS. THEY PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE IN EDUCATING PATIENTS ABOUT DISEASE PREVENTION AND HEALTH MAINTENANCE.

COMMON PRACTICE SETTINGS FOR AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS

AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS PRACTICE IN A VARIETY OF OUTPATIENT SETTINGS, EACH TAILORED TO PROVIDE ACCESSIBLE AND EFFICIENT CARE OUTSIDE THE HOSPITAL ENVIRONMENT.

PHYSICIAN OFFICES AND CLINICS

MOST AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS WORK IN PRIVATE OR GROUP PRACTICES AND OUTPATIENT CLINICS WHERE THEY PROVIDE ROUTINE AND SPECIALIZED CARE. THESE SETTINGS FACILITATE CONTINUITY OF CARE AND LONG-TERM PATIENT RELATIONSHIPS.

URGENT CARE CENTERS

URGENT CARE CENTERS OFFER IMMEDIATE CARE FOR NON-LIFE-THREATENING CONDITIONS, SUCH AS MINOR INJURIES AND INFECTIONS. AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS IN THESE CENTERS PROVIDE RAPID DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT, HELPING TO REDUCE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT OVERCROWDING.

OUTPATIENT SURGERY CENTERS

SOME AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS SPECIALIZE IN PERFORMING MINOR SURGICAL PROCEDURES IN OUTPATIENT SURGERY CENTERS, ALLOWING PATIENTS TO RECOVER AT HOME THE SAME DAY WITHOUT HOSPITAL ADMISSION.

BENEFITS OF AMBULATORY CARE FOR PATIENTS AND HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS

AMBULATORY CARE PROVIDES NUMEROUS ADVANTAGES, IMPACTING BOTH PATIENTS AND THE BROADER HEALTHCARE INFRASTRUCTURE POSITIVELY.

IMPROVED ACCESS AND CONVENIENCE

OUTPATIENT SETTINGS OFTEN OFFER MORE FLEXIBLE SCHEDULING AND SHORTER WAIT TIMES, MAKING HEALTHCARE MORE ACCESSIBLE AND CONVENIENT FOR PATIENTS.

COST-EFFECTIVENESS

BY AVOIDING HOSPITAL STAYS, AMBULATORY CARE SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCES HEALTHCARE COSTS FOR BOTH PATIENTS AND PROVIDERS, LOWERING OVERALL EXPENDITURE WHILE MAINTAINING QUALITY CARE.

ENHANCED PATIENT OUTCOMES

TIMELY OUTPATIENT INTERVENTIONS AND ONGOING MANAGEMENT OF CHRONIC CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTE TO BETTER HEALTH OUTCOMES AND REDUCED COMPLICATIONS.

REDUCED HOSPITAL BURDEN

AMBULATORY CARE HELPS ALLEVIATE THE DEMAND ON HOSPITALS BY MANAGING LESS SEVERE CONDITIONS OUTSIDE INPATIENT SETTINGS, ALLOWING HOSPITALS TO FOCUS RESOURCES ON CRITICAL CASES.

- INCREASED PATIENT SATISFACTION DUE TO PERSONALIZED CARE
- LOWER RISK OF HOSPITAL-ACQUIRED INFECTIONS
- ENCOURAGEMENT OF PATIENT ENGAGEMENT AND SELF-MANAGEMENT

SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS

BECOMING AN AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIAN REQUIRES A SPECIFIC SET OF SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS TO EFFECTIVELY MANAGE DIVERSE OUTPATIENT MEDICAL NEEDS.

MEDICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS MUST COMPLETE MEDICAL SCHOOL FOLLOWED BY RESIDENCY TRAINING IN PRIMARY CARE SPECIALTIES SUCH AS FAMILY MEDICINE, INTERNAL MEDICINE, OR PEDIATRICS. ADDITIONAL FELLOWSHIP TRAINING MAY BE PURSUED FOR SUBSPECIALTIES FOCUSED ON OUTPATIENT CARE.

CLINICAL COMPETENCIES

KEY COMPETENCIES INCLUDE STRONG DIAGNOSTIC SKILLS, PROFICIENCY IN OUTPATIENT PROCEDURES, AND THE ABILITY TO MANAGE MULTIPLE CHRONIC ILLNESSES CONCURRENTLY. EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION AND PATIENT COUNSELING SKILLS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR EDUCATION AND PREVENTIVE CARE.

TECHNOLOGICAL PROFICIENCY

FAMILIARITY WITH ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS (EHRs), TELEMEDICINE PLATFORMS, AND OUTPATIENT DIAGNOSTIC TOOLS IS INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT FOR EFFICIENT AMBULATORY CARE DELIVERY.

CHALLENGES IN AMBULATORY CARE PRACTICE

DESPITE ITS BENEFITS, AMBULATORY CARE PRESENTS VARIOUS CHALLENGES THAT PHYSICIANS MUST NAVIGATE TO PROVIDE OPTIMAL PATIENT CARE.

HIGH PATIENT VOLUME AND TIME CONSTRAINTS

AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS OFTEN FACE DEMANDING SCHEDULES WITH LIMITED TIME PER PATIENT, MAKING THOROUGH EVALUATIONS AND PATIENT EDUCATION DIFFICULT.

CARE COORDINATION

MANAGING REFERRALS, FOLLOW-UPS, AND COMMUNICATION WITH SPECIALISTS REQUIRES EFFECTIVE COORDINATION TO ENSURE CONTINUITY OF CARE AND AVOID FRAGMENTED TREATMENT.

REIMBURSEMENT AND REGULATORY ISSUES

PHYSICIANS MUST NAVIGATE COMPLEX INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES AND COMPLY WITH EVOLVING HEALTHCARE REGULATIONS, WHICH CAN IMPACT PRACTICE SUSTAINABILITY.

FUTURE TRENDS IN AMBULATORY CARE

THE LANDSCAPE OF AMBULATORY CARE IS EVOLVING WITH ADVANCES IN TECHNOLOGY AND CHANGING PATIENT EXPECTATIONS, SHAPING THE FUTURE ROLE OF AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS.

TELEMEDICINE AND DIGITAL HEALTH

TELEMEDICINE IS EXPANDING ACCESS TO AMBULATORY CARE, ALLOWING PHYSICIANS TO CONDUCT VIRTUAL VISITS, MONITOR CHRONIC CONDITIONS REMOTELY, AND ENHANCE PATIENT ENGAGEMENT.

INTEGRATED CARE MODELS

COLLABORATIVE CARE MODELS INTEGRATING PRIMARY CARE, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, AND SPECIALTY SERVICES IN AMBULATORY SETTINGS ARE IMPROVING COMPREHENSIVE PATIENT MANAGEMENT.

PERSONALIZED AND PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

ADVANCEMENTS IN GENOMICS AND HEALTH DATA ANALYTICS ENABLE AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS TO TAILOR PREVENTION AND TREATMENT STRATEGIES TO INDIVIDUAL PATIENT PROFILES.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS AN AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIAN?

AN AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIAN IS A MEDICAL DOCTOR WHO SPECIALIZES IN PROVIDING OUTPATIENT CARE, TREATING PATIENTS WHO DO NOT REQUIRE HOSPITALIZATION.

WHAT TYPES OF CONDITIONS DO AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS TREAT?

AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS TREAT A WIDE RANGE OF CONDITIONS INCLUDING CHRONIC DISEASES LIKE DIABETES AND HYPERTENSION, MINOR INJURIES, INFECTIONS, AND ROUTINE HEALTH MAINTENANCE.

HOW DOES AMBULATORY CARE DIFFER FROM INPATIENT CARE?

AMBULATORY CARE INVOLVES MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDED ON AN OUTPATIENT BASIS WITHOUT HOSPITAL ADMISSION, WHEREAS INPATIENT CARE REQUIRES STAYING IN A HOSPITAL FOR TREATMENT.

WHAT SETTINGS DO AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS TYPICALLY WORK IN?

THEY COMMONLY WORK IN CLINICS, PHYSICIAN OFFICES, URGENT CARE CENTERS, OUTPATIENT SURGERY CENTERS, AND COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS ARE REQUIRED TO BECOME AN AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIAN?

BECOMING AN AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIAN REQUIRES COMPLETING MEDICAL SCHOOL, RESIDENCY TRAINING IN PRIMARY CARE OR A RELEVANT SPECIALTY, AND OBTAINING LICENSURE AND BOARD CERTIFICATION.

HOW HAS TELEMEDICINE IMPACTED AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS?

TELEMEDICINE HAS EXPANDED ACCESS TO AMBULATORY CARE BY ALLOWING PHYSICIANS TO CONSULT WITH PATIENTS REMOTELY, IMPROVING CONVENIENCE AND CONTINUITY OF CARE.

WHAT ROLE DO AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS PLAY IN MANAGING CHRONIC DISEASES?

THEY MONITOR AND MANAGE CHRONIC ILLNESSES BY PROVIDING ONGOING EVALUATION, MEDICATION MANAGEMENT, LIFESTYLE COUNSELING, AND COORDINATION WITH OTHER HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS.

WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES FACED BY AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS TODAY?

CHALLENGES INCLUDE MANAGING HIGH PATIENT VOLUMES, NAVIGATING INSURANCE AND REIMBURSEMENT ISSUES, ENSURING CARE COORDINATION, AND ADAPTING TO RAPIDLY EVOLVING HEALTHCARE TECHNOLOGIES.

HOW DO AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS CONTRIBUTE TO PREVENTIVE HEALTHCARE?

THEY PLAY A KEY ROLE IN PREVENTIVE CARE BY CONDUCTING SCREENINGS, VACCINATIONS, HEALTH EDUCATION, AND EARLY INTERVENTION TO REDUCE THE RISK OF DISEASE PROGRESSION.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

1. *AMBULATORY CARE MEDICINE: PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE*

THIS COMPREHENSIVE TEXTBOOK COVERS THE ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES OF AMBULATORY CARE, FOCUSING ON OUTPATIENT MANAGEMENT OF COMMON MEDICAL CONDITIONS. IT PROVIDES EVIDENCE-BASED GUIDELINES, DIAGNOSTIC STRATEGIES, AND THERAPEUTIC APPROACHES TAILORED FOR PHYSICIANS IN AMBULATORY SETTINGS. THE BOOK ALSO ADDRESSES PREVENTIVE CARE AND CHRONIC DISEASE MANAGEMENT, MAKING IT A VITAL RESOURCE FOR PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS.

2. *PRIMARY CARE MEDICINE: OFFICE EVALUATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE ADULT PATIENT*

A PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS, THIS BOOK DETAILS THE CLINICAL EVALUATION AND MANAGEMENT OF ADULT PATIENTS IN OUTPATIENT SETTINGS. IT EMPHASIZES PATIENT-CENTERED CARE, DIAGNOSTIC REASONING, AND EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION SKILLS. THE TEXT INCLUDES NUMEROUS CASE STUDIES AND CLINICAL PEARLS TO ENHANCE REAL-WORLD APPLICATION.

3. *AMBULATORY CARE NURSING: AN INTRODUCTORY TEXT*

DESIGNED PRIMARILY FOR NURSES WORKING IN OUTPATIENT CLINICS, THIS BOOK OFFERS INSIGHTS INTO THE UNIQUE ASPECTS OF AMBULATORY CARE NURSING. IT COVERS PATIENT ASSESSMENT, CARE COORDINATION, AND HEALTH PROMOTION STRATEGIES ESSENTIAL FOR MANAGING DIVERSE PATIENT POPULATIONS. PHYSICIANS CAN ALSO BENEFIT FROM UNDERSTANDING THE NURSING PERSPECTIVE IN AMBULATORY ENVIRONMENTS.

4. *ESSENTIALS OF AMBULATORY CARE MANAGEMENT*

THIS BOOK EXPLORES THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATIONAL FACETS OF AMBULATORY CARE PRACTICES. IT DISCUSSES QUALITY IMPROVEMENT, HEALTHCARE POLICY, FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, AND TEAM LEADERSHIP SPECIFIC TO OUTPATIENT SETTINGS. PHYSICIANS INVOLVED IN PRACTICE MANAGEMENT OR LEADERSHIP ROLES WILL FIND THIS TEXT PARTICULARLY USEFUL.

5. *CLINICAL PEARLS IN AMBULATORY MEDICINE*

A CONCISE COLLECTION OF TIPS AND BEST PRACTICES FOR MANAGING COMMON AMBULATORY CARE SCENARIOS, THIS BOOK IS IDEAL FOR BUSY CLINICIANS. IT HIGHLIGHTS DIAGNOSTIC SHORTCUTS, MEDICATION MANAGEMENT, AND PATIENT EDUCATION TECHNIQUES. THE PRACTICAL ADVICE ENHANCES EFFICIENCY AND IMPROVES PATIENT OUTCOMES.

6. CHRONIC DISEASE MANAGEMENT IN AMBULATORY CARE

FOCUSING ON THE LONG-TERM CARE OF CHRONIC ILLNESSES SUCH AS DIABETES, HYPERTENSION, AND COPD, THIS BOOK OFFERS STRATEGIES FOR EFFECTIVE OUTPATIENT MANAGEMENT. IT EMPHASIZES MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES, PATIENT ADHERENCE, AND USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN MONITORING. THE TEXT AIDS AMBULATORY CARE PHYSICIANS IN OPTIMIZING CARE PLANS FOR CHRONIC DISEASE PATIENTS.

7. AMBULATORY CARE PROCEDURES AND TECHNIQUES

THIS PRACTICAL MANUAL DETAILS COMMON PROCEDURES PERFORMED IN OUTPATIENT SETTINGS, INCLUDING WOUND CARE, INJECTIONS, AND DIAGNOSTIC TESTS. IT PROVIDES STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS, SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS, AND COMPLICATION MANAGEMENT. PHYSICIANS NEW TO AMBULATORY PRACTICE OR THOSE SEEKING PROCEDURAL REFRESHERS WILL FIND THIS GUIDE INVALUABLE.

8. PATIENT SAFETY AND QUALITY IN AMBULATORY CARE

ADDRESSING THE CRITICAL ISSUE OF PATIENT SAFETY, THIS BOOK OUTLINES STRATEGIES TO REDUCE ERRORS AND IMPROVE QUALITY IN OUTPATIENT FACILITIES. TOPICS INCLUDE RISK MANAGEMENT, REPORTING SYSTEMS, AND CULTURE CHANGE WITHIN AMBULATORY PRACTICES. PHYSICIANS COMMITTED TO ENHANCING CARE QUALITY WILL BENEFIT FROM THIS COMPREHENSIVE RESOURCE.

9. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH IN AMBULATORY CARE: INTEGRATING MENTAL HEALTH INTO PRIMARY CARE

THIS TEXT EXPLORES THE INTEGRATION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES INTO AMBULATORY CARE SETTINGS. IT DISCUSSES SCREENING, DIAGNOSIS, AND MANAGEMENT OF COMMON MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS ALONGSIDE PHYSICAL HEALTH CONCERNS. THE BOOK SUPPORTS PHYSICIANS IN DELIVERING HOLISTIC CARE BY ADDRESSING BOTH MEDICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL NEEDS OF PATIENTS.

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administration, public health, business, medicine, and other health professions with the knowledge and skills for the delivery of more efficient and effective patient care. As the singular reference to managing ambulatory care in outpatient clinics, medical practices, community health centers, and other settings, the textbook describes the evolution of ambulatory care as a significant source of health care services delivery, its continued expansion in the marketplace, and its prominence in population health management, telemedicine, and other service delivery strategies. This text provides the reader with a thorough review of core functional areas of healthcare management through the lens of managing an ambulatory practice, including strategy and leadership; organizational structure; quality, safety, and patient experience; operations; financial management; and human resources. Chapters provide complementary teaching tools and case studies to highlight real-world examples that students and professionals may encounter in practice. Cases investigate topics such as preventive health, healthcare leadership, quality measurement, disruptive physicians, patient flow, operating procedures and metrics, and lessons from COVID-19 among many more. Key Features: Describes the core areas of health management through the lens of leading an ambulatory network or managing an ambulatory practice — strategy and leadership; organizational structure; quality, safety, and experience; operations; financial management; and human resources Provides expert strategies and best practices for managing a diverse array of ambulatory care settings, including outpatient clinics, physician practices, community health centers, medical homes, and more Highlights real-world case studies that students and health professionals may encounter in practice Purchase includes digital access for use on most mobile devices or computers, as well as full suite of instructor resources with Instructor's Manual, PowerPoint slides, and test bank

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arranged for rapid reference; our goal is to provide the information needed while you are walking down the hall to the patient's room. Edition 8.1 provides state-of-the-art information on evaluation and management of common ambulatory conditions in a straightforward, concise, and focused format.

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Nadinia A. Davis, 2023-05-15 **Selected for Doody's Core Titles® 2024 with Essential Purchase designation in Health Information Management**Foundations of Health Information Management, 6th Edition is an absolute must for anyone beginning a career in HIM. By focusing on healthcare delivery systems, electronic health records, and the processing, maintenance, and analysis of health information, this engaging, easy-to-understand text presents a realistic and practical view of technology and trends in healthcare. It readies you for the role of a Registered Health Information Technician, who not only maintains and secures accurate health documentation, but serves as a healthcare analyst who translates data into useful, quality information that can control costs and further research. This edition is organized by CAHIIM competencies to prepare you for the RHIT® credentialing exam, as well as EHR samples, critical-thinking exercises, and expanded coverage of key issues in HIM today. - Clear writing style and easy reading level make reading and studying more time efficient. - Organized for CAHIIM competencies to assure that you are prepared to sit for the exam. - Competency Check-in Exercises at the end of every main section in each chapter encourage you to review and apply key concepts. - Competency Milestone feature at the end of each chapter hosts ample assessments to ensure your comprehension of the CAHIIM competencies. - Ethics Challenge links topics to professional ethics with real-world scenarios and critical-thinking questions. - Critical-thinking questions challenge you to apply learning to professional situations. - Mock RHIT® exam provides you with the opportunity to practice taking a timed, objective-based exam. - Specialized chapters, including legal, statistics, coding, and performance improvement and project management, support in-depth learning. - Professional Profile highlights key HIM professionals represented in chapter discussions. - Patient Care Perspective illustrates the impact of HIM professionals on patients and patient care. - Career Tip boxes instruct you on a course of study and work experience required for the position. - Chapter summaries and reviews allow for easy review of each chapter's main concepts. - SimChart® and SimChart® for the Medical Office EHR samples demonstrate electronic medical records in use.

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of natural disasters, political turmoil, the growing numbers of immigrants to magnet countries, and the increasing costs of associated health care that are being felt by governments around the world.

Format and Scope: The first portion of the encyclopedia contains chapters that are approximately 25 to 40 manuscript pages in length. Each overview chapter includes a list of references and suggested readings for cross referencing within the encyclopedia. The opening chapters are: Immigration in the Global Context, Immigration Processes and Health in the U.S.: A Brief History, Alternative and Complementary Medicine, Culture-Specific Diagnoses, Health Determinants, Occupational and Environmental Health, Methodological Issues in Immigrant Health Research, Ethical Issues in Research with Immigrants and Refugees, Ethical Issues in the Clinical Context. The second portion of the book consists of alphabetical entries that relate to the health of immigrants. Entries are interdisciplinary and are drawn from the following fields of study: anthropology, demographics, history, law, linguistics, medicine, population studies, psychology, religion, and sociology. Each entry is followed by a listing of suggested readings and suggested resources, and also links to related terms within the whole book.

Outstanding Features The book adopts a biopsychosocial-historical approach to the topics covered in the chapters and the entries. Each entry includes suggested readings and suggested resources. The chapters and entries are written graduate level that is accessible to all academics, researchers, and professionals from diverse backgrounds. We consider the audience for the entries to be well educated, but a non expert in this area. The primary focus of the book is on the immigrant populations in and immigration to magnet countries. References are made to worldwide trends and issues arising globally. In addition to the comprehensive subject coverage the text also offers diverse perspectives. The editors themselves reflect the multidisciplinary nature of the topics, with expertise in psychiatry, law, epidemiology, anthropology, and social work. Authors similarly reflect diverse disciplines.

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