

Table 8

Knowledge Frequency and Importance Average Weightings

Domain	Knowledge Item	Frequency and Importance Average
Clinical & Coding Practice		
1	Medical terminology and anatomy and physiology	4.89
1	Diagnostic, laboratory, and surgical procedures	4.79
1	Pathophysiology and disease processes and treatment	4.67
1	Definitions of principal and secondary diagnoses	4.57
1	Pharmacology	4.51
1	Complex clinical documentation	4.49
1	Encoder software, DRG grouper, and coding manuals	4.48
1	Assigning ICD-9-CM coding	4.45
1	Procedural techniques	4.45
1	Coding references	4.41
1	Definition of CCs, MCCs	4.23
1	DRG reimbursement methodologies	3.79
1	Assigning CPT coding	3.53
Leadership		
2	Effective communication skills	4.87
2	AHIMA Practice Briefs	3.97
2	Professional organizations available for resource	3.87
2	Conflict resolution	3.86
2	Presentation skills	3.73
2	Performance audits	3.68
2	Interpretation of statistical reports	3.48

Record Review & Document Clarification		
3	Medical record structure	4.55
3	Best practices for clinical documentation	4.35
3	Best practices for data integrity	4.18
3	AHIMA and compliance standards related to query process	4.02
3	Core measures	3.53
3	National patient safety indicators	3.33
CDI Metrics & Statistics		
4	Effective reporting and communication techniques	4.15
4	Presentation and spreadsheet software knowledge	3.41
4	Statistical reports	3.38
4	Development of statistical graphs and reports	3.10
4	CDI benchmark metrics	2.87
Research & Education		
5	Communication skills	4.82
5	Writing skills	4.53
5	Web navigational skills	4.46
5	Coding Clinics and other reference resources	4.30
5	Variety of uses of clinical data within an organization	3.99
5	CDI trends and best practices	3.38
5	Effective presentation techniques for behavior modification	2.80
Compliance		
6	Privacy concepts	4.82
6	Security concepts	4.72
6	Fraud and abuse regulations	4.26
6	Key components of data record exchange	3.81

Note: DRG, diagnosis-related group; ICD-9-CM, International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification; CC, complication or comorbidity; MCC; major complication or comorbidity; CPT, Current Procedural Terminology; AHIMA, American Health Information Management Association; CDI, clinical documentation improvement.