

GLOBAL VIRTUAL SUMMIT ON ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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Population Health: Identifying skill sets and Education alignment for him Professionals**Linda Sorensen***University of Michigan, USA*

The COVID-19 pandemic has increased the emphasis on population health, therefore potentially amplifying demand for healthcare workforce professionals in this area. There is an urgent need to explore and define the roles of health information management (HIM) professionals in the population health workforce. This study sought to identify the skill sets and qualifications needed, and HIM education alignment with skills necessary for HIM professionals entering the population health workforce. An intentionally broad internet search of job postings was conducted to determine skills in population health. Population health-related job descriptions and qualification requirements were abstracted and analyzed using ATLAS.ti. Three common job categories were identified: management, analytics, and coding. Skill set requirements included soft skills, problem solving, project management, research, and data analysis. The study results identified HIM educational alignment and found that HIM professionals are generally a good fit to meet the increased need in the population health workforce.

Biography

Linda received her Doctorate in Educational Leadership as well as her Master's degree in Public Health Administration from the University of Michigan. She holds an undergraduate degree in Health Information Management as well as the RHIA and CHPS credentials through AHIMA. Linda is currently the Associate Dean/ Department Chair for the Allied Health and HIM departments at Davenport University. She has 20 years of professional experience in a variety of roles that include pharmacy technician, health information technician, health information director, privacy officer, utilization review coordinator, program director, and instructor. She has worked in traditional hospital settings, as well as nontraditional settings (such as long term care, physical rehabilitation, and education). Linda has participated in many speaking opportunities at state and national levels and was involved in the creation of HIM Reimagined.

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