

2019 Conference Speakers

John F. Burns, CPC, CPMA, CEMC

Mr. Burns has worked in the healthcare field for nearly 25 years and focuses efforts on clinical documentation improvement, correct coding, optimization of the revenue cycle and managing risk associated with healthcare fraud and abuse. John is Vice President of Audit and Compliance for the Association for Rural and Community Health Professional Coding (ArchProCoding) and has served as a corporate compliance officer of a large physician group and a civilian volunteer to the US Department of Defense promoting efficiencies, maximizing compliance and minimizing waste among military physicians and personnel. He is a certified coder and a certified professional medical auditor who provides coding and documentation audits and specialized provider education for clients of all shapes and sizes. His passion is the rural health environment, specifically the unique challenges facing rural health clinics, community health centers and various other underserved locations. John's professional principles revolve around accurate documentation correct coding and compliance within the ever-changing healthcare field.

Chad Cryer, M.D.

Dr. Cryer is a general surgeon at Kuakini Physicians Tower and is an assistant professor at the John A. Burns School of Medicine, Department of Surgery. He is also the Director of Surgical Medical Student Education and was the recipient of the 2019 Excellence in Medical Education "The Care of Patients" faculty award. Dr. Cryer has been in practice for 13 years after graduating the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences and completing residencies at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the University of Utah. He is a general surgeon with expertise related to the diagnosis and management of various conditions and complications including the GI system, breast, head and neck and more.

Shannon DeConda, CPC, CPC-I, CEMC, CMSCS, CPMA

Shannon DeConda is the Founder and President of the National Alliance of Medical Auditing Specialists (NAMAS) as well as the President of Coding & Billing Services and a Partner at DoctorsManagement, LLC. Ms. DeConda has over 17 years of experience as a multi-specialty auditor and coder. She has helped coders, medical chart auditors, and medical practices optimize business processes and maximize reimbursement by identifying lost revenue. Since founding NAMAS in 2007, Ms. DeConda has developed the NAMAS CPMA® Certification Training, written the NAMAS CPMA® Study Guide, and launched a wide variety of educational products and web-based educational tools to help coders, auditors, and medical providers improve their efficiencies. Ms. DeConda is an experienced presenter and educator and a sought-after speaker. She maintains coding certifications through both AAPC and PAHCS.

Linda R. Farrington, CPC, CPMA, CPC-I, CRC

Linda has over thirty years of experience in healthcare and practice management, specializing in cardiovascular and thoracic surgery and risk adjustment with an emphasis on diagnostic coding. She has served as an AAPC® local chapter president, secretary, and education officer. Linda has presented various audio conferences and workshops nationally, and has spoken at the AAPC national conference. She has served as a representative on the AAPC National Advisory Board (NAB) and as Secretary to the NAB. Linda is employed as a consultant for Optum and is the owner/instructor/consultant of Medisense, a private occupational school, teaching coding certification courses in Colorado Springs and online.

Terry Fletcher, BS, CPC, CCC, CEMC, CCS, CCS-P, CMC, CMCSC, CMCS, ACS-CA, SCP-CA

Ms. Terry Fletcher is a Specialty Coding Industry Coding and Billing Expert, Auditor and Educator based in Laguna Beach, California, with over 30 years medical industry experience. In addition to her multiple certifications in coding, she has a bachelor's degree (BS) in economics. She is a past member of the National Advisory Board for AAPC, past Chair of the AAPCCA, and AAPC National and Regional Conference Educator. She is also the Technical Editor for the *Select Coder®* from DecisionHealth, Editorial Advisor for *Cardiology Coding Alert!* and *Practice Management Coding Alert!* from The Coding Institute. Ms. Fletcher is the co-author of the *Peripheral-Cardiology Coder* from Medlearn and is an Educator for McVey Seminars, MGMA, Audio Educator, AAPC, AHIMA, MedlearnMedia, DecisionHealth and numerous other organizations, teaching over 100 specialty coding seminars, teleconferences, and webinars every year. She also moderates her own *Coding Corner Network* for online CPT/ICD-10-CM Coding Questions from physician coders around the country. In Fall 2017, she introduced her *CodeCast®* Podcast series on iTunes, GooglePlayMusic, StitcherRadio, and other platforms.

Emilie Stickley, M.D.

Dr. Stickley is a graduate of Northeast Ohio Medical University in Rootstown, OH and completed her OB-GYN residency at Tripler Army Medical Center. Dr. Stickley served in the United States Army as a field surgeon until 2013, then returned to Hawaii as an Assistant Professor of the John A. Burns School of Medicine, Department of Surgery. Dr. Stickley has received numerous awards including the Army Commendation Medal for service in Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom, the Army Commendation Medal for meritorious service as a resident at Tripler Army Medical Center, and the Golden Apple Award for excellence in Medical Student Education. She currently practices on the island of Hawai'i and is the second University Health Partners/JABSOM OB-GYN provider in Hilo. She specializes in patient centered prenatal care, minimally invasive surgery and gynecologic care for women of all ages.

Amanda Waesch, J.D.

Ms. Waesch graduated from Mount Union College with a degree in Accounting/Political Science, then received her J.D. degree from the University of Akron School of Law. Ms. Waesch operates a national healthcare law practice and is licensed in both Ohio and Florida. She primarily focuses her practice on healthcare, employment law, corporate law, and healthcare litigation. Amanda is a much sought-after speaker for numerous organizations including NAMAS, the organization which certifies medical coding auditors. She works with all types of clients and employers, in particular healthcare providers, including hospitals and physicians.

Sean M. Weiss, CHC, CEMA, CMCO, CPMA, CPC-P, CMPE, CPC

Mr. Sean Weiss is a Partner and Vice President of Compliance for DoctorsManagement, a medical and health care consulting firm. Mr. Weiss has dedicated his career to helping healthcare facilities reduce the risk of noncompliance and achieve measurable financial results. An accomplished compliance and management professional, he has extensive knowledge of the inner workings of government agencies at both the federal and state level, including the Office of Inspector General, Department of Justice and The United States Attorney's Office. Mr. Weiss presents workable solutions to the latest issues surrounding healthcare compliance, medical auditing, and practice and revenue cycle management. Mr. Weiss attended Life College in Marietta, Georgia and Capella University in Minneapolis, where he studied Business Administration with a concentration in Health Care Management and Legal Studies. He has earned and maintains numerous national certifications including Certified in Healthcare Compliance (CHC), Certified Evaluation & Management Auditor (CEMA), Certified Medical Compliance Officer (CMCO), Certified Professional Medical Auditor (CPMA), Certified Professional Coder (CPC), and Certified Professional Coder-Payer (CPC-P).