

# American Health Information Management Association

Chrisann Lemery, MS, RHIA, FAHIMA

AHIMA Board Director

HIPAA Security Officer and Assistant Privacy Officer

Madison, Wisconsin

[clemery@weatrust.com](mailto:clemery@weatrust.com)

# AHIMA

- American Health Information Management Association -  
Founded in 1928
- Focused on management of medical records
- Evolved in 1996 to Health Information Management
- Accrediting college programs at AS and BS levels since 1943
- Considered ‘allied health’ in the 1960’s-2000’s
- AHIMA – professional association for health information management professionals and anyone working with health information
- Membership – 61,000
  - Executive Office – Chicago, IL
  - International Office – Brussels, Belgium

# A Focus on Education

- AHIMA offers a broad spectrum of education
  - Seven certifications



- AHIMA Press publications
- Distance education
- Audio seminars and webinars
- Virtual Lab for classrooms
- Workshops, academies, and seminars

# Professional Domains of HIM

- Data content, structure, standards
- Electronic health record life cycle
- Clinical content: terminologies, classification, nomenclature, and vocabularies
- Data administration and analytics

# Professional Domains of HIM

- Personal health information management
- Privacy, confidentiality, security management
- Reimbursement, regulatory compliance, fraud surveillance
- Organization and management

# Resources to Improve Knowledge and Skills

- AHIMA offers resources to improve knowledge and skills of anyone working with health information
  - Journal of AHIMA
  - *Perspectives in HIM* (research)
  - E-newsletters
  - AHIMA Body of Knowledge
  - Practice Guidance
  - Virtual Communities of Practice



[www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org)

# Building Tomorrow's Workforce

- AHIMA is committed to education and ensuring a skilled workforce
  - Approves coding and medical transcription certificate programs
  - Offers continuing education learning opportunities
  - Develops curricula and promotes research
  - Provides career planning and development resources
    - [www.HealthInformationCareers.com](http://www.HealthInformationCareers.com)
    - [www.Careerassist.ahima.org](http://www.Careerassist.ahima.org)

**PROFESSIONAL & ACADEMIC TOOLBOX**

ACADEMIC ADVISOR

- > Find an HIM or HI Program
- > Program Recognition
- > Financing your Education

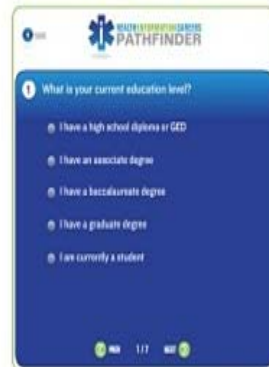
FIND YOUR PATH

- > Pathfinder
- > View all Career Paths
- > Certificate vs. Degree

JOB RESOURCES

- > Career Assist Job Board
- > Landing that First Job
- > Salary Study

## Your all-in-one health information careers resource.



Not sure which path to take? Use our pathfinder to identify the health information career path that is right for you.

After answering simple questions about your education level and background, you'll see the education and career opportunities that would be the best fit for you.



## Real health information stories.

In The Blog

Industry News

# Building Tomorrow's Workforce

- AHIMA Foundation
  - Scholarships and grants for HIM students
  - Faculty and leadership development
  - Policy and research



# Advancing National Initiatives

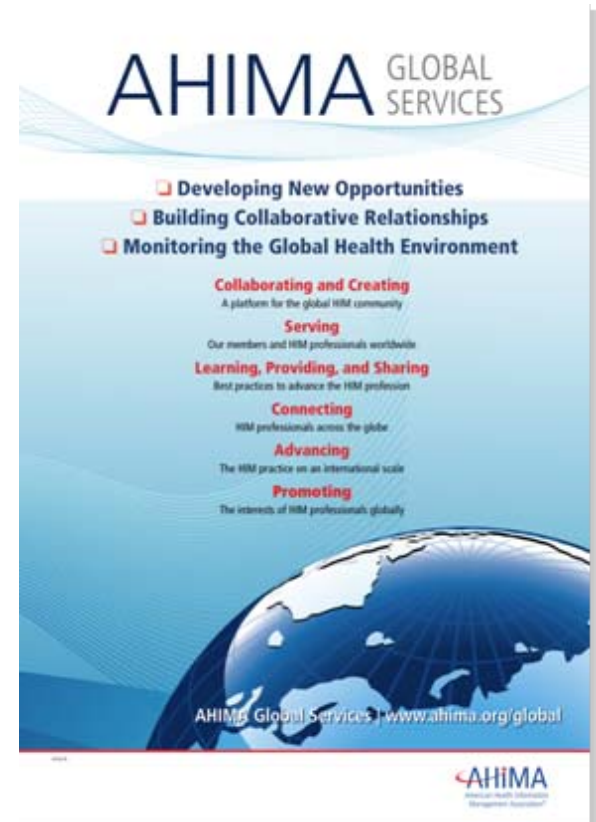
ADVOCACY  
& PUBLIC POLICY CENTER



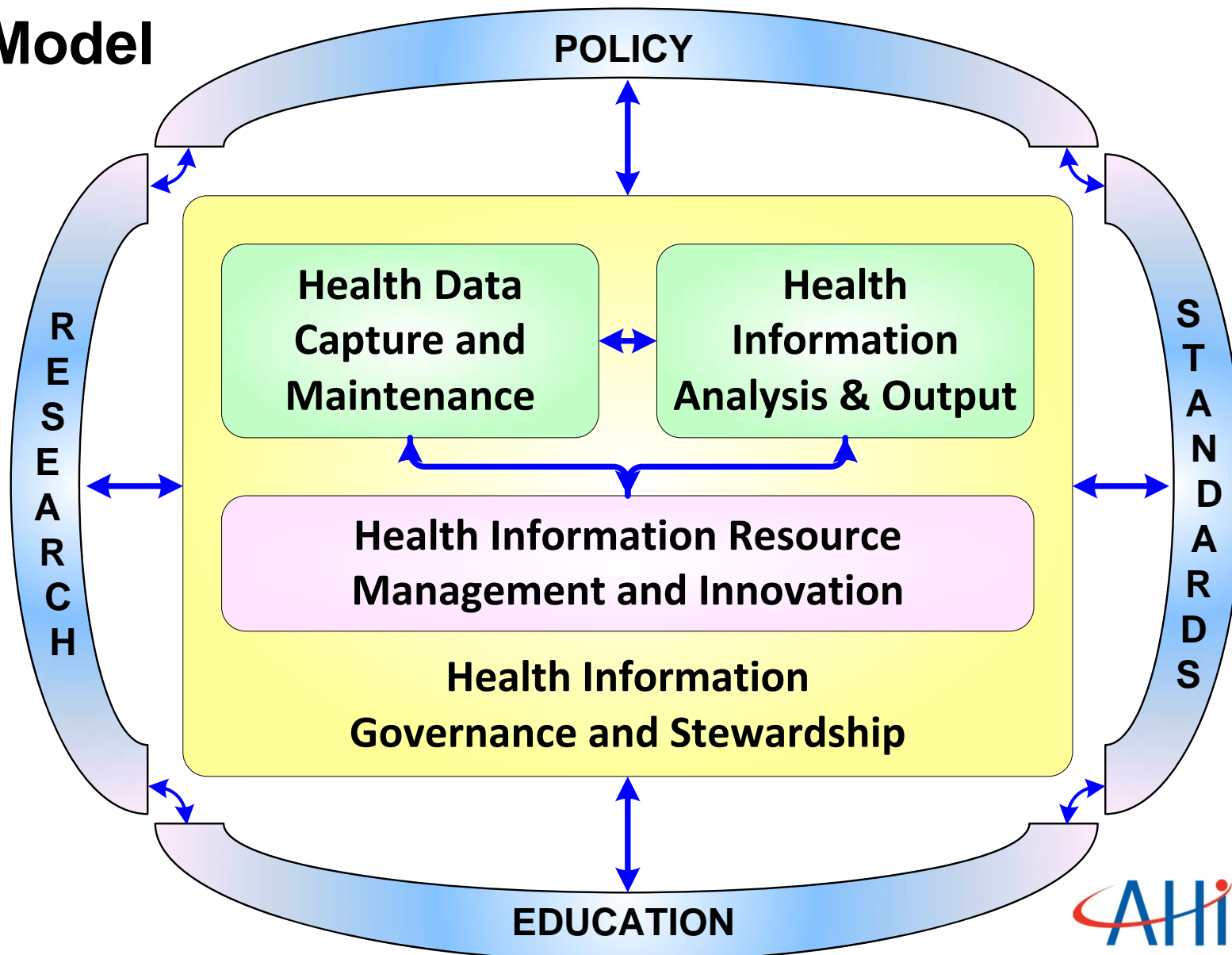
- AHIMA dedicated staff
  - Communicates with legislators and government officials
  - Communicates with industry and standards policymakers
  - Keeps members' and HIM professionals' interests at the forefront

# Global HIM Community

- AHIMA Global Services Office—  
Brussels, Belgium
- First multinational member  
association serving HIM  
professionals on a global scale
- [www.ahima.org/global](http://www.ahima.org/global)



# AHIMA Core Model



# Forces That Impact HIM

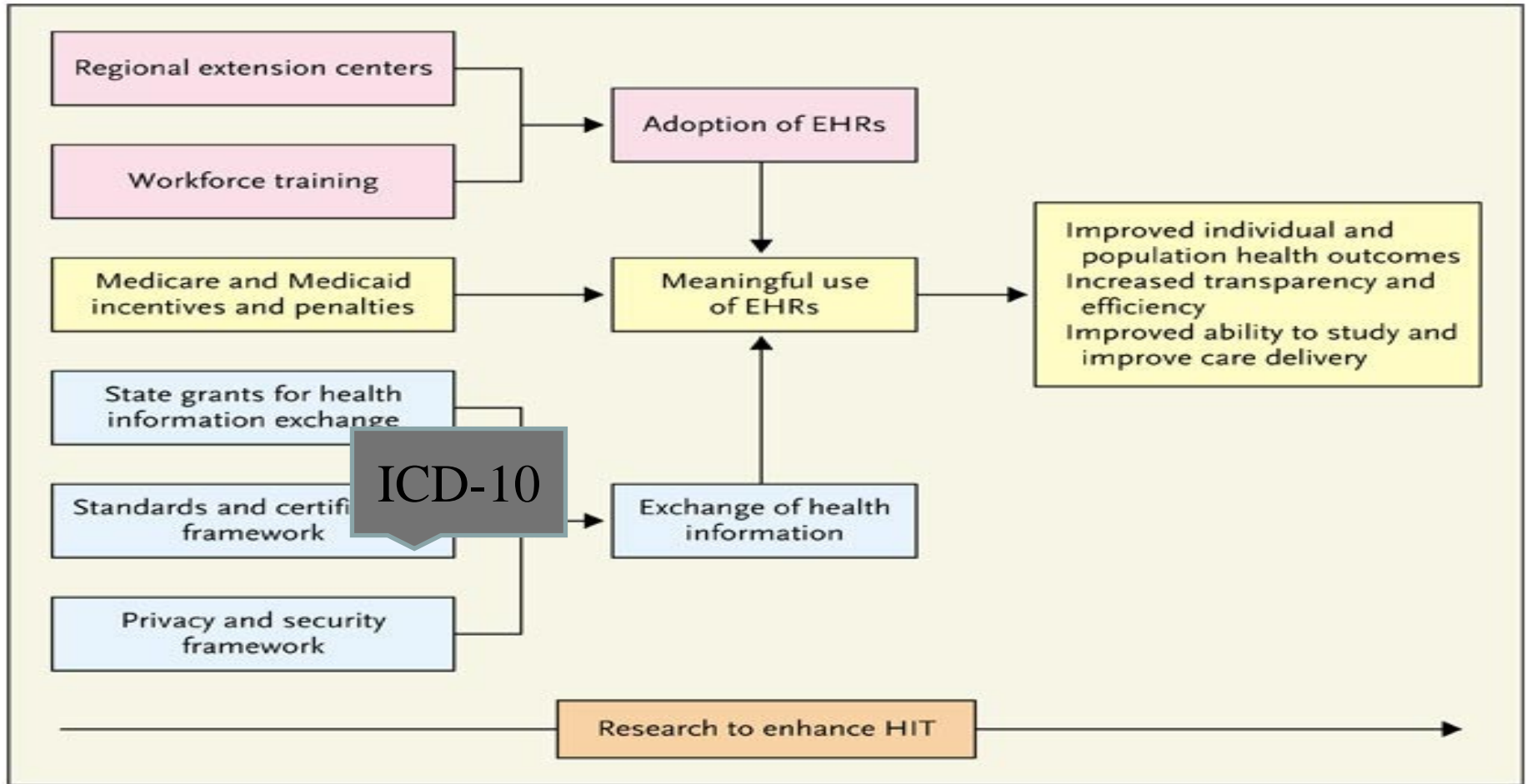


Diagram from: Blumenthal, David, New England Journal of Medicine, December 30th, 2009

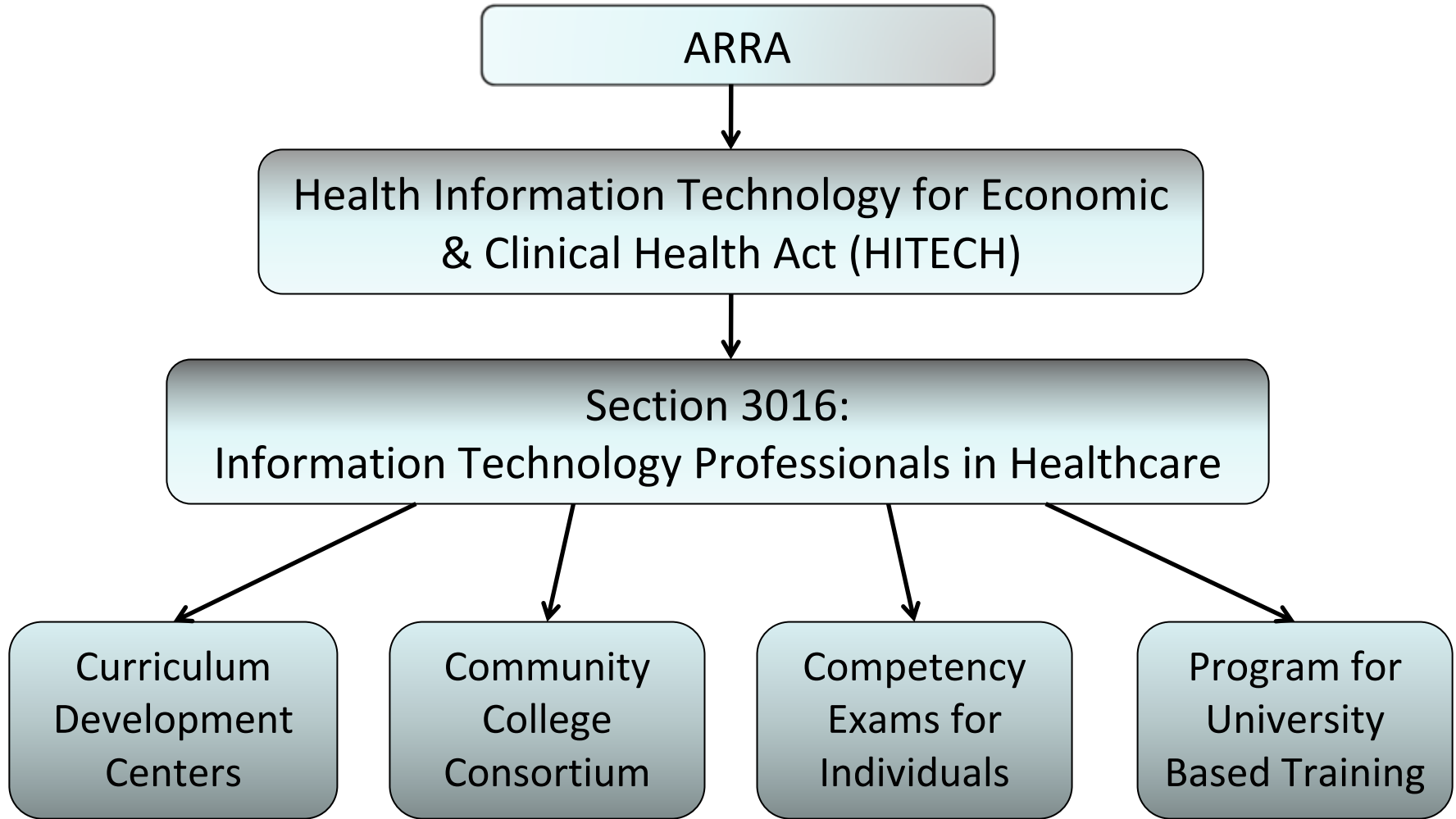
# Key Challenges for Healthcare Workforce

- Achieving Meaningful Use of electronic health records
- Understanding the impact of Healthcare Reform
- Bridge ICD-9 to ICD-10 Adoption
- Link or exchange data between information systems to support patient care and secondary use
- Link quality measurement data to reimbursement

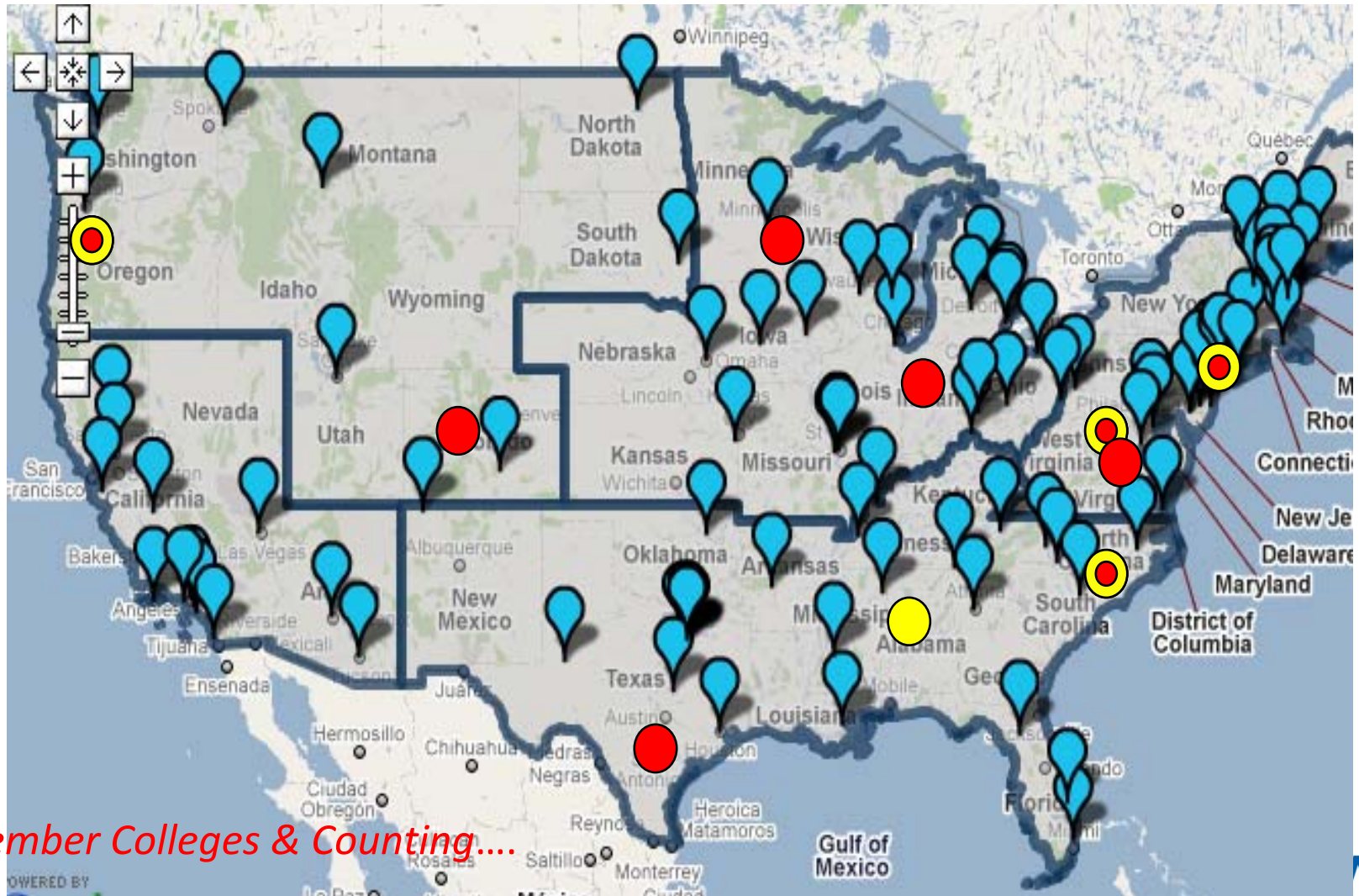
# Healthcare Workforce Initiatives

- Goal: Anyone working in the healthcare industry should be capable of using electronic health information technologies to do their job.
  - Trained health IT workforce
  - Professional workforce retraining
  - Infusion into academic curricula across all health professions

# ONC-Funded HITECH Programs



# ONC locations



85 Member Colleges & Counting....

# Mobile Adoption Support Positions

- Implementation support specialists
- Practice workflow specialists
- Information management redesign specialists
- Clinician consultants
- Implementation Managers

These are 3-6 month certificate training programs for persons with clinical or IT background

# Permanent Staff of Health Care Delivery and Public Health Sites

- Clinician leaders (CMIO, CNIO, etc)
- Technical/software support staff
- Trainers
- Health Information Management and Exchange Specialists
- Health Information Privacy and Security Specialists

# Health Care and Public Health Informaticians

- Research and development scientists
- Programmers and software engineers
- Sub-specialists: masters or doctoral training in fields as ethics, human factors, interfaces, industrial/systems engineering

# Success

A workforce capable of innovating, implementing, and using health communications and information technology will be critical to healthcare's success.

*Building the Work Force, AHIMA & AMIA*

...we can avoid dangerous medical mistakes, reduce costs, and improve care.

President George W. Bush

