



**\*\*\*For Immediate Release\*\*\***

## **AAMT and MTIA Discuss Mutual Goals and Potential Collaboration for Redefining the Niche and Value of MT in Healthcare Delivery**

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MODESTO, July 24, 2006 — Determining how the medical transcription industry can best meet the evolving needs of healthcare delivery and its customers was the focal point of discussion when leaders from the American Association for Medical Transcription (AAMT) and the Medical Transcription Industry Association (MTIA) met in Atlanta last week. Recognizing the mutual stake both associations have in the future of the industry, AAMT and MTIA leaders met to explore the potential for closer collaboration in preparing the industry for that future.

"AAMT and MTIA have successfully collaborated on various projects and programs in the past. However, our industry is evolving in a way that will make things quite different in 5-10 years. Preparing for this requires cohesive strategic planning that the organizations seem uniquely positioned to provide," said Sean Carroll, president of MTIA.

Facilitated by leadership and organizational development coach Bruce Mast, the group explored the present state of healthcare and the new shift in healthcare delivery toward emphasis on *operational efficiency*, recognizing that facilities all over the country are taking a closer look at processes and work flow issues that have created redundancies and high cost in the system. The emerging model of value-add is the one that facilitates increased efficiency in patient care, where a patient is given quality-focused care utilizing the fewest resources necessary to restore that patient to optimum health. For the medical transcription industry, this will mean taking a closer look at how documentation specialists can contribute to that new goal.

"We discovered that what healthcare delivery needs most from the documentation community is *useable, relevant information*, or data at the right time and at the right location that informs clinical decision-making," stated Peter Preziosi, PhD, CAE, AAMT Executive Director. "Healthcare needs solutions that create efficiencies in the system,

including how clinical information is captured, what data is truly deemed useable and relevant, and how that information is accessed by those at key points along the patient care pathway. Figuring out how to insert the current skill set of the medical transcriptionist into that pathway to create a value-add solution in this new model needs to be the mutual goal of both AAMT and MTIA, whose members need a real strategy for the future."

Both associations agreed to explore a closer collaboration toward these ends and will be meeting again in the near future to discuss that potential.

The American Association for Medical Transcription (AAMT) has been the professional organization representing medical transcriptionists since 1978. AAMT sets standards of practice and education for medical transcriptionists, administers a certification program, has established a code of ethics, and advocates on behalf of the profession. There are over 135 component associations of AAMT, each of which holds regular educational meetings and symposia. For more information, visit [www.aamt.org](http://www.aamt.org)

The not-for-profit Medical Transcription Industry Association is the world's largest trade association serving medical transcription service operators. Its mission is to create an environment in which medical transcription companies can prosper, grow, and deliver the highest level of healthcare documentation services. For more information, visit [www.mtia.com](http://www.mtia.com).