

## Health Information Compliance Alert

### Privacy/Security Certification: AHIMA, HIMSS OFFER NEW CERTIFICATIONS

The **American Health Information Management Association** and **Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society** announced May 20 a collaborative agreement to offer certification in the areas of health information security and privacy programs.

AHIMA will offer the Certified in Healthcare Privacy credential and HIMSS will offer the Certified in Healthcare Security credential. The two organizations will also jointly offer a combined certification that covers both areas, the Certified in Healthcare Privacy and Security credential.

"The implementation of effective privacy and security programs in healthcare requires strong leadership and these certification programs establish the standards of competency," stated **Linda Kloss**, AHIMA's executive vicepresident and CEO. "Well-implemented privacy and security programs further our mission and policy goals of advancing the intelligent use of information technology to support healthcare delivery," added **H. Stephen Lieber**, president and CEO of HIMSS.

AHIMA will begin administering the CHP program in Fall 2002, and HIMSS will start administering the CHS examination in February 2003. The CHPS exam also will be offered in February 2003.