

# e-Perspectives

on the Medical Transcription Profession

**Published by**  
**Health Professions Institute**  
**Modesto, CA**

April 2007  
Issue 54

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*e-PERSPECTIVES on the Medical Transcription Profession* is published periodically by Health Professions Institute, P.O. Box 801, Modesto, CA 95353-0801. Phone 209-551-2112, fax 209-551-0404. Send e-mail to [hpi@hpisum.com](mailto:hpi@hpisum.com). Web site: <http://www.hpisum.com>. Copyright ©2007, Health Professions Institute.

Address changes and updates may be made on-line at <http://www.hpisum.com/register.ihtml>, or by mail or fax to Health Professions Institute, P.O. Box 801, Modesto, CA 95353-0801, fax 209-551-0404.

This electronic magazine is available to the public on-line at the Health Professions Institute Web site: <http://www.hpisum.com>. Correspondence should be sent to [hpi@hpisum.com](mailto:hpi@hpisum.com), and manuscripts to Editor, *e-Perspectives*, [spitman@hpisum.com](mailto:spitman@hpisum.com).

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## Spring Fever

It's the middle of April here, and spring has come to my part of the country. I live in the Intermountain West where the four seasons are apparent on the landscape and in the weather, and spring renews our spirits with the anticipation of new freedom to enjoy the outdoors. Those of us who are only fair-weather walkers (and no excuse to avoid exercise is too flimsy for serious consideration) look forward to warmer weather and the proliferation of flowers and blossoms. So where's the fever?

If you didn't know how old you are, how old would you be? Younger in the spring than the winter? More vigorous in the fall after the sluggishness of long summers? How much are we affected by the seasons, the climate, and how many are so absorbed with our work that we hardly notice what's going on outside our workplace? Some of us never even notice the weather or climate. The seasons might as well be mere sentiments. I'm often guilty of that.

My husband Leon always notices the weather and climate. He enjoys each of the seasons for their unique offerings. Seasons aren't just a state of mind to him, although he would be the first to admit he's unusually affected by his surroundings. After all, he's a geographer and he taught cultural, physical, and economic geography and anthropology for 33 years. We celebrated our 45th wedding anniversary yesterday, and, though no cause-effect relationship is suggested here, next week Leon will undergo open heart surgery. This is a spring we will probably never forget, or if we are especially lucky, maybe we won't remember it at all.

This is the 54th issue of *Perspectives* magazine, which has evolved over 18 years of publication to its present electronic format. As an e-zine, *e-Perspectives* is now available to a wider audience of healthcare professionals who value the substantive original articles we publish. *e-Perspectives* is now available worldwide to anyone with an Internet connection. The PDF articles may be downloaded and printed by those who want a print copy for reference or sharing.

In this issue of *e-Perspectives*, Dr. John H. Dirckx provides an update of an article he wrote in the early 1990s: Pharmaceutical Nomenclature: A Lawless Language. Many medical transcriptionists, students, and teachers have asked for an update of the naming of drugs over the past 17 years.

Rich Lederer provides a column on verb tenses. Only he could make the past tense of verbs funny and informative.

Phil Cohen of PRN Funding reminds us of why we attend association and business trade shows—for networking and information. Making the most of attending a trade show or conference is good business and good education.

Four pages of terms in the What's New in Medicine column round out this issue. Many of the new terms will appear in the 11th edition of Vera Pyle's *Current Medical Terminology* (2007). Watch for additional information on the release date of the new edition.



Sally C. Pitman