

For Immediate Release

Media Contact:
Grant Castle
President, CSPlacement LLC
gcastle@csplacement.com
203-216-3279

DPRC-Digital Patient Record Certification program™ - launches nationally today

- *Ensures integrity and safety compliance among electronic health record (EHR) users*
- *DPRC is consistent with the **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act** intent for certification programs for promotion of health information technology*

Southport, CT, March 23, 2009- CSPlacement LLC, a leading educational testing developer announced today the formal national launch of DPRC™, the nation's first digital patient record certification testing program for EHR.

DPRC was developed because:

- Digital patient records/electronic health records are experiencing explosive growth
- Errors and poor practices could lead to potentially serious adverse patient care
- Until now, a validated and respected standard did not exist

The DPRC certification is intended for healthcare professionals who have access to a computer keyboard with person-specific health information on it and could therefore affect a patient's outcome. This includes the spectrum of healthcare workers from clinical professionals, technicians, coders, compliance professionals, billers, and practice or clinic administrator among others. Holders of a DPRC certificate have demonstrated a strong grasp of the essential knowledge and skills needed to approach any electronic records having person-specific health data.

In addition, today's launch of DPRC is timely due to the call for Certification Programs for promotion of health information technology as identified in the President's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 under TITLE XIII – "Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act." The DPRC program is also consistent with the intent of various healthcare workforce development provisions of the act.

CSPlacement developed and validated the DPRC test in collaboration with the American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA), as well as subject matter experts and experienced psychometricians representing a diverse array of government, academic facilities and professional societies with further refinement by AMIA clinical informaticians. Topics covered include a thorough overview of key attributes and constraints of patient records and HIS systems, current policy and procedural questions on legal documents and financial implications, and authentication, security, privacy and confidentiality. Questions also assess a candidate's knowledge of key data within a patient record, and key HIPAA concepts of electronic protected health information (PHI) as well as general areas covered under the Security Rule. AMIA is the professional home for biomedical and health informatics.

The DPRC program consists of the certification test and comprehensive curriculum elements, including a study guide and online e-learning. The guide, *A Study Guide for Current and Future Healthcare Workers*, is designed to familiarize candidates with the content areas covered on the exam. Brian Gugerty, DNS, MS, RN, President, Gugerty Consulting, LLC; Don E. Detmer, MD, MA, AMIA President & CEO; and John Poikonen, PharmD authored the study guide. The program includes competency-specific learning objectives, a detailed overview of knowledge areas, and sample exam reference information. The e-learning material was developed using content from the Study Guide.

DPRC Certification Program Release

“DPRC was developed in response to growing use of EHR’s and healthcare provider requests for a specific electronic patient record certification program that addresses the unique nature of information contained in electronic systems in the United States. With the rapid growth of electronic patient records deployments and the funding available to established electronic health record training and certification programs in President Obama’s American Recovery and Reinvestment Act package, the timing for today’s DRPC launch is right on target,” according to Grant Castle, CSPlacement’s President.

“As a longtime leader of the effective transition of biomedical and health informatics from paper-based to electronic, AMIA was pleased to collaborate on advising CSPlacement on developing DPRC, and developing the program study guide”, commented Don E. Detmer, President and CEO of AMIA. “There has been a strong need for a comprehensive solution to assure knowledge of patient confidentiality and security policy and practices in electronic health records, and DPRC meets that need.”

DPRC is available as a comprehensive training and certification testing program. For more information, visit www.dprcertification.com or contact Brian Gugerty, brian.gugerty@gmail.com at 410-703-4561.

About CSPlacement

CSPlacement is a leading developer of educational testing programs. Based in Southport, CT, the company’s Computer Skills Placement assessment (CSP) has been deployed nationwide and is available in collaboration with The College Board’s ACCUPLACER program at over 1300 academic institutions. CSPlacement has also developed specific digital skills curriculum and testing programs in the areas of digital patient records management (DPRC Digital Patient Record Certification program™) and information literacy (iLit). Information on CSPlacement LLC is available at www.csplacement.com.

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