



KAHRMM

Kansas Association for Healthcare
Resource & Materials Management



SPECIAL EDITION 2018 AHRMM CONFERENCE

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- AHRMM CONFERENCE
- MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR AHRMM19
- COREY SCHMIDT'S CONFERENCE PERSPECTIVE
- CHICAGO, CQO AND CONNECTIONS BY LORI KNOEBER
- PAT TABOR'S CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

In August 2018, a group of KAHRMM members took the opportunity to attend the 2018 AHRMM National Conference & Expo in Chicago, IL. Those fortunate to attend participated in some great educational sessions to help them improve their job skill set. Attendees had the opportunity to network with their peers from hospitals and clinics across the U.S. and learn about new products and technology introduced during the Vendor Expo. The KAHRMM members that I've talked to stated the 2018 conference was great, and they plan to attend others in the future.

Several of the KAHRMM members who attended took the time to note some of their experiences to share with those of us who were not able to attend. Based on the comments from these members, we thought it appropriate to prepare this "Special Edition" newsletter, to pass along the information.

I encourage you to take a few minutes and read the following articles included here and begin to make your plans now to attend the 2019 Conference & Expo in San Diego, CA. If funds are a concern, and they usually are, remember AHRMM and KAHRMM both offer scholarships to help you offset the costs. The knowledge you'll gain and the contacts you'll make will pay you dividends in the future.

Please make your plans to attend today.



AHRMM19
July 28-31, 2019
San Diego, CA

More information about the upcoming 2019 conference will be coming soon. Stay tuned!

AHRMM Conference and Exhibition

Top Five Reasons to Attend

- 1. Develop New Skills**
Attend learning labs and pre-conference educational sessions and workshops to discover new best practices.
- 2. Build Your Network**
Catch up with colleagues and make new connections that can be the start of long-lasting, mutually beneficial relationships. Meet face-to-face with thought leaders, subject matter experts and peers to exchange experiences, ideas and best practices.
- 3. Hear from Dynamic, Innovative Speakers**
AHRMM Conference offers a chance to capture a year's worth of healthcare supply chain news and best practices in just four days. Tap into the knowledge of field experts, fellow healthcare supply chain professionals and executives.
- 4. Discover New Products and Solutions**
Explore and discuss the latest supply chain trends, products and solutions to see if they may bring efficiency for your healthcare organization.
- 5. Uncover AHRMM Member Benefits**
Meet AHRMM's board, volunteers and staff and learn how AHRMM can help you keep in touch with your professional community, advance your career and support your profession.

2018 AHRMM Conference **By Corey Schmidt**

AHRMM18 started out with a few of us meeting in Kansas City to take the Amtrak train to Chicago. We shared an Uber to Union Station where I lost my perfect Uber rating while listening to talk radio to learn how to control pond scum!! It was a great start to the day and experience on the Amtrak train. One objective of this year's conference was to attract young professionals to the aging profession of the Healthcare Supply Chain. A large gap is projected in the industry over the next five to ten years with a 30 to 50 percent turnover due to retirement. How do we attract top talent and continue to improve the healthcare supply chain in pursuit of the triple aim?

As an organization, the KAHRMM board has determined this is an important initiative as well, and has offered scholarships to members of the K.U. supply chain student organization to attend CPE. We hope this will be the beginning of a great relationship where we can help to produce the next generation in healthcare supply chain. We also will be looking at new offerings as we expand this relationship with students across the state.

As usual, AHRMM18 was full of networking, professional development, education and fun-filled events. If you've never attended the national conference, it is well worth the experience. The educational sessions provide best practices from leading healthcare organizations across the country. Multiple tracks are available, so there is something for everyone.

The vendor fair has many opportunities to see new technology in action, as well as learn about new products. In between activities, there is time to talk to more than 1,000 supply chain professionals from around the country.

Building relationships is one of the most important pieces of your career development, and is always an underlying part of any conference, whether it is an AHRMM or KAHRMM event. Somewhere, someone else has experienced the same problem you are having at your facility; and through collaboration, we can all learn from each other!

Chicago, CQO and Connections **By Lori Knoeber**

The conductor sounded the horn with our Amtrak train starting down the tracks from Union Station in Kansas City. Let the AHRMM18 Annual Conference's adventure begin!

A group of KAHRMM members enjoyed a week in Chicago, taking in the sights and savoring the cuisine of the big city. We attended Chicago's annual Hot Dog Fest at Lincoln Park before the start of the conference. I'd never had a 'Chicago Dog' which tastes pretty good; but nothing like the Pronto Pup at the Kansas State Fair. (#VisitHutch) During the conference, we connected with fellow supply chain leaders from across the country with an evening at the Adler Planetarium. Before heading home, the Navy Pier fireworks show set to music entertained us after a leisurely stroll in the misty rain.

The conference venue sat on the edge of Lake Michigan, offering a peaceful view between educational sessions. With the most popular conference topic as implementation of the Cost, Quality, and Outcomes (CQO) initiative, other themes included attracting young professionals into healthcare supply chain, as well as addressing day-to-day challenges of clinical engagement, disruptions leading to changes in healthcare, and development of the value analysis process.

We learned the healthcare industry anticipates 50 percent of its supply chain leaders will retire in the next five to ten years. A new focus is on attracting college graduates and young professionals into this field through university partnerships, internships and mentoring. Likewise, our current workforce consists of four generations, which presents unique challenges. Sessions were offered discussing how to improve communication and collaboration across the multiple generations.

Various topics were offered in the breakout sessions. One explained the importance of educating the supply chain team of the principles of standardization and utilization, as well as efficiency in logistics. Another offered the benefits of implementing a supply chain department marketing plan as a way to educate and engage stakeholders, as well as build the department's reputation of providing high product quality at a lower cost. Detailed elements were displayed in managing linen expense for cost reduction across the organization. Numerous value analysis sessions shared process workflows, bridging the gap between supply chain and clinical leaders, as well as provided success stories of significant savings.

Personally, as a volunteer for an AHRMM national task force this past year, I was able to meet the director of supply chain from Temple Health University in Philadelphia, whom I was paired with to complete the project. The conference provides the opportunity to share ideas and lessons learned in managing expense categories, like inbound freight. Establishing connections with leaders across the country provides a valuable conduit for collaboration, consultation and thought-provoking conversation of how we can better manage the constant changes to the marketplace we face daily.

As always, the conference hosted a CMRP review course, as well as several opportunities to sit for the exam. This certification signifies to organizational leadership and peers that you satisfy eligibility requirements that incorporate a blend of education and professional experience while demonstrating a commitment to ongoing professional development through participation in professional activities.

Our small group was easy to spot on Tuesday in the vast sea of more than a thousand people with our lime green KAHRMM shirts. Fellow conference attendees recognized our annual tradition, congratulating KAHRMM members with our continuing Diamond chapter status in recognition of our consistently active member participation.

This was my second year attending the AHRMM conference. Besides offering the opportunity to build relationships with KAHRMM peers, what I have found different than other healthcare conferences I've participated in over the years is AHRMM's focus on the common challenges we face every day, whether leading supply chain at a community hospital, large health system or physician clinic. I appreciate this professional organization's attention to the needs of its members while providing a forum for supply chain leaders to connect. The conference successfully updated and educated its members to quickly respond to the constant market changes, and encouraged us to step out in front in our organizations to participate in leading the change.

I encourage you to consider attending next year's conference with your fellow KAHRMM friends in sunny San Diego on July 28-31st!



2018 AHRMM Conference By Pat Tabor

I attended a great session on Ortho implant costs. What I learned from this session is helping my facility with a strategy to lower the costs significantly on these type products. This information alone may yield significant savings that more than justified the cost of the education. In addition, I saw some great sessions and some not so great. That is typical of the conference. Usually, the tell-tale sign of a great session is mass attendance, and everyone stays in attendance.

Overall, the conference attendance has reduced significantly and the vendor show participants included. I think that is an example of our continued consolidation in the industry with fewer facilities and mergers amongst vendors.

At the vendor fair, I assisted AHRMM at their educational booth with a presentation on the Fellow program. We reviewed the program and offered insight as to how other members can become AHRMM fellows.

The conference had not been in Chicago since 1997, and that was when Dale Montgomery was president of AHRMM. Chicago provided a great atmosphere and a lot to do besides the conference activities. I think it continues to be a necessary conference for the connectivity it provides and a platform for improving the industry as a whole.