

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 45, Number 43

November 14, 2014

WHA Calendar:

Labor Health and Social Services Interim Committee Cheyenne	12/15-12/16
2015 General Session of the Wyoming Legislature Cheyenne	1/13

Other Events:

HFMA Fall Meeting Laramie	11/19-11/21
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Patient Safety Summit a Success

A highly successful third annual Wyoming Patient Safety Summit was held November 7th in Laramie, with an excellent roster of 60 participants attending the 2014 version of this event.

Co-hosted by the Wyoming Medical Society and the Wyoming Hospital Association, the program organizers were very pleased with the degree of diversity and statewide representation of those in attendance.

As an active family practice physician in Powell, and former WMS President, Dr. Mike Tracy has provided tremendous leadership to this program effort over the past several years.

Having been initiated in 2012, this year's agenda was again comprised of outstanding topics and dynamic presentations from a variety of professionals in the areas of clinical quality and excellence, patient satisfaction and safety.

Dr. Tracy opened the day's events personally, in establishing a clear focus and motivations for the intentions of the forum – the presentations slated for the day, in addition to the networking and learning opportunities that all would have occasion to gain from the event.

The practical and personal nature in which Dr. Tracy

engaged the participants clearly paid dividends through the balance of the day.

As director of education with the MMIC Insurance Group, Robert Thompson talked extensively regarding patient and medical team communication. Proper communication protocols are found to assist greatly in defining expectations and play a critical role in consistent patient outcomes, satisfaction with their services and risk management strategies.



Mike Tracy, MD, Alan Price, Sheila Bush and Dan Perdue

Kim Werkmeister, working as a clinical improvement advisor with the firm CynosureHealth, very appropriately followed on the agenda with an engaging presentation on quality improvement initiatives taking place aggressively in hospitals across the country.

Cynosure has recently been involved with multiple hospitals in Wyoming, in providing quality improvement strategy and coaching

connected to the HRET Hospital Engagement Network program facilitated by WHA to its member hospitals.

A clear highlight of the day came as somewhat of a closing keynote presentation and dialogue led by Alan Price, bringing background from an amazing career spent in aviation.

From a perspective of "Rethinking Highly Effective Leadership" – Mr. Price led lively open discussion regarding the necessary skills in driving effective teamwork, communications, and leadership in crisis management.

He worked from practical illustrations and real-life scenarios from throughout his career in providing positive initiative and defining the demands that healthcare organizations face.

The commitment to highly reliable care, quality of service and consistently safe and effective care were addressed and driven home in a manner that all in attendance could clearly apply in their roles and responsibilities.

WHA is very pleased to have been able to join with the leadership and expertise of the Wyoming Medical Society in hosting this event, as served as an educational and motivating experience for all participants.



Don't forget to send us a story about your hospital so we can feature you in our Member Spotlight



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GENE Training at SMH

The mission at Sheridan Memorial Hospital (SMH) Foundation, Cultivating Community Health, continues to evolve with constant changes and advances in healthcare.

One recently added funding focus is clinical education. It has a tremendous impact on patient care SMH, and the Foundation is a huge proponent and supports this concept.

The Geriatric Emergency Nursing Education course

focuses on topics including assessment, environmental and toxicological emergencies, infectious diseases, mental health, pain management, trauma and falls.

The specialized training was selected for funding through a generous grant for nursing and clinical staff from the Sheridan Memorial Hospital Foundation's Educational Endowment.

Originally a nursing scholarship program for Sheridan College students,

the program has evolved into one which has primary focus on clinical education for current Sheridan Memorial Hospital staff members.

Charlotte Mather, CNO, and her team of managers along with the Foundation Board, developed the new guidelines and established an excellent application process.

The goal is to ensure that SMH patients and their families receive excellent medical care.

Infection Control Orientation Manual (IPOM)

The Wyoming Infection Prevention Orientation Manual is a collaborative effort among multiple organizations including the Wyoming Department of Health, Mountain-Pacific Quality Health-Wyoming, Inter-mountain End-Stage Renal Disease Network #15, Wyoming Infection Prevention Advisory Group, and many other topic experts from Wyoming and across the nation.

The purpose of the manual is to provide tools to broaden knowledge and direct the Infection Preventionist (IP) to resources to learn more.

The manual contains 18 topic areas, written by experts from Wyoming and across the nation.

It can be used in its entirety or as individual self-studies of each section topic. It is recommended that new IPs complete each section in sequential order.

Key components of the manual include various exercises for the reader to perform to assist in the learning process, and at the end of each section is a list of Helpful Contacts in WY or the U.S. The list includes specific people an IP may contact for further questions or help understanding the topic.

The IPOM is free and can be accessed at <http://www.health.wyo.gov/phsd/epiid/HAIManual.html>.

AHA Unveils Toolkit to Help Hospitals Hire Veterans

The AHA has issued a toolkit to help hospitals recruit and hire veterans with clinical and leadership skills into nursing, physician assistant and other hospital careers.

Part of AHA's continued efforts in support of the federal Joining Forces initiative, the toolkit was developed with input from nearly 20 groups represent-

ing hospitals, nurses, physician assistants, community health centers, the federal government, veterans and military members.

It includes information on veterans' skills and transition assistance programs, employer best practices and potential community partners.

"America's hospitals know that hiring military

veterans is more than just the right thing to do – it's the smart thing to do," said AHA President and CEO Rich Umbdenstock. "The veterans we hire contribute much more than clinical skills; they have leadership experience that may prove critical for patient care."

To access the toolkit, visit www.aha.org/hiringveterans