



NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

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May 10, 2013

WHA Calendar:

WHA Board Meeting Riverton	5/16
Trustee Education Program Riverton	5/17

Other Events:

WSHE Spring Meeting Casper	5/22-5/24
NE Wyoming Skin and Wound Symposium Sheridan	6/7-6/8

Hospitals Recognized for Excellence in Patient-Centered Care

Wyoming hospitals continue to show commitment to improving healthcare delivery and providing consistent patient-centered care.

Mountain-Pacific Quality Health (MPQH), serving as the state's quality improvement organization, recently recognized numerous Wyoming hospitals for excellent performance – specifically in the prevention of patient infections in the hospital setting.

Focused efforts towards improved quality and patient safety are grounded in multiple statewide programs, including the Wyoming Healthcare Associated Infection (HAI) Prevention Project, as well as the AHA's Health Research & Educational Trust "hospital engagement network" initiative.

All Wyoming hospitals are currently participating the HAI project to aggressively achieve goals of ZERO central line blood stream infections and ZERO catheter associated urinary tract infections. In 2012, this goal was reached in one or both areas by 24 Wyoming hospitals.

MPQH recently issued clinical data facts that can clearly be viewed in a positive manner in comparing Wyoming hospitals to national standards in many areas.

Wyoming is currently the

only state in the country that has every hospital reporting infection rate data to the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN), the federal CDC healthcare acquired infection database and to implement research based best practices.

Specifically drawn from this recent data – the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services set key goals for hospitals to meet 50% reduction in central line infections and a 25% reduction in catheter associated infection rates. All Wyoming hospitals have exceeded both target goals.

The dedicated staff members in Wyoming hospitals have worked through complex challenges to implement research-based best practices and have effectively completed many cycles of quality improvement to achieve these performance markers.

At the 3rd Annual Wyoming Infection Prevention conference, which took place April 17-18 in Casper, MPQH recognized nine hospitals in having achieved zero central line infections and fifteen hospitals for having zero infections attributed to central line and catheter cares combined.

These positive results in clinical quality are also in keeping with Wyoming hos-

pitals' participation in the HRET hospital engagement network.

In addition to the focused areas regarding infection prevention practices, the HRET program is very comprehensive in analyzing data and establishing refreshed protocols in areas of adverse drug events, ventilator acquired pneumonia, early elective deliveries, and readmission rates.

Wyoming hospitals participating in the HRET program have also taken advantage of staff educational opportunities, most notably an improvement leadership fellowship that provides current up-to-date hospital practices, development of analytical skills, and critical review of all aspects of delivering consistently high-quality care.

To date, staff members from nine Wyoming hospitals have participated in this HRET fellowship.

The leadership of Mountain-Pacific Quality Health and the WHA takes this opportunity to congratulate Wyoming hospitals and their staff for the dedication they have shown in striving for genuinely patient-centered care and effectively achieving these excellent results in documented quality measures.



Community Hospital Receives Banner Health Awards

Banner Health presented Community Hospital with four Banner’s Best Awards to recognize the hospital’s achievements in 2012.

Each year Banner Health recognizes hospitals based on a scorecard with strategic initiatives. The initiatives have targets in areas of clinic excellence, patient experience, learning and financial performance.

Community Hospital

received Banner’s Best Awards in:

- Responsiveness of hospital staff;
- Decreasing readmission rates for patients who have had a heart attack;
- Cleanliness and quiet of the hospital environment; and
- Pediatric asthma in ED care.

“The awards received by Community Hospital for

meeting and exceeding these strategic initiatives show our continued commitment to the patient experience and providing exceptional care,” said Vincent DiFranco, CEO for Community Hospital.

“I am very proud of our staff, leaders and physicians for their dedication to our community and success in achieving this outstanding accomplishment.”

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



LeadingAge Wyoming Meeting to Focus on Public Policy

With Medicaid undergoing fundamental reforms, including changes to the reimbursement methodology and a look at managed care, the LeadingAge Wyoming spring conference will focus on major long-term care public policy issues in Wyoming.

The spring conference is set for May 22 – 24 at the Best Western Inn in Lander.

The conference will feature discussions about nursing home quality, including a detailed look at new quality requirements under the Affordable Care

Act.

A second key theme will explore the increasing role of technology in delivering long-term care, including the importance of health information exchanges to long-term care providers, as well as ways to use – and be reimbursed for – telehealth.

The Wyoming Department of Health will deliver sessions on two of the most pressing public policy issues to emerge from the 2013 legislative session. The first will update long-term care providers on a study of the feasibility of managed care in Wyoming.

The second includes two parts. State Medicaid Agent Teri Green will discuss the department’s review of the current methodology for reimbursing nursing homes. Her session will be followed by a facilitated discussion that will be LeadingAge Wyoming members’ first opportunity to contribute to this important conversation. CEUs are available to attendees. Attendees can register online at www.leadingagewyoming.org.

For more information, call (307) 287-4594, or email Steve Bahmer at steve@qhcf.org.

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Syndromic Surveillance

The WDH has been utilizing EpiCenter from Health Monitoring Systems (HMS) for securely collecting syndromic surveillance data since 2006 from 9 hospitals.

In the past, the WDH has worked directly with HMS to provide funding, however, due to cuts in federal emergency preparedness funding, the WDH does not

have the ability to continue funding these ongoing annual maintenance costs for Wyoming hospitals.

The current contract with HMS ends August 31, 2013. Following this date, WDH will not have a contract to continue the connection between hospitals and HMS. HMS has set a fee schedule to allow hospitals to directly fund their contin-

ued submission of syndromic surveillance data if hospitals wish to continue the interface to HMS to meet the syndromic surveillance Meaningful Use requirement.

For more information on how to apply to HMS, contact Katie Bryan, WDH, (307) 777-5522 (office) or e-mail at katie.bryan@wyo.gov