

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 42, Number 30

July 20, 2012

WHA Calendar:

WCAHN Financial 8/14
Workshop
Webinar

WHA PAC Golf 9/25
Tournament
Cheyenne,

Annual Meeting & 9/26-
Convention 9/27
Little America
Cheyenne

Other Events:

Wyoming Quality 8/22-
Conference 8/23
Lander, WY

Mid America 9/5-9/7
Summit
Des Moines, IA

Health Department Offers Online Tool for Medicaid Study

Residents interested in Wyoming Medicaid are being asked by the Wyoming Department of Health to provide online input as part of a study of the program.

A link to a brief survey will be available online at www.health.wyo.gov until August 6. The survey invites Medicaid clients, providers and anyone else interested in Wyoming Medicaid to provide their ideas and comments about strengthening the program and using available funding responsibly.

Tom Forslund, Wyoming Department of Health director, said the Wyoming Legislature approved legislation earlier this year requiring the

department to carry out a study of Wyoming Medicaid.

“We expect the study to examine cost drivers, identify areas of Medicaid programs that may benefit from redesign and evaluate design options,” he said.

As part of the study a number of public forums were also scheduled. Remaining forums are:

Riverton - Tuesday, July 24, 5-7 p.m.—Central Wyoming College - RAP Theater (Arts Center Building)

Rock Springs - Wednesday, July 25, 5-7 p.m.—Rock Springs City Hall Council Chambers

Jackson - Tuesday, July 31, 5-7 p.m.—Teton County Administrative Building- Commissioners Chambers

The Department is also conducting interviews with providers to gather suggestions for improving the Medicaid program. Hospitals participated in a focus-group style interview during the Hospital Advisory Group meeting on July 12.

For hospitals that have not an opportunity to provide input, the Wyoming Hospital Association has arranged for an additional focus group on July 27 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. The meeting will be held at Wyoming Medical Center’s Support Services Building.

CMS Offers Webinar on EHR Attestation

CMS has announced a new webinar with information on how eligible facilities can attest to meaningful use and qualify for an EHR incentive payment.

The webinar is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, August 1.

Part one of the webinar is a pre-recorded presentation that can be viewed prior to August 1.

Part two is a live webinar including 1) A presentation by the Office of the National

Coordinator (ONC), 2) Tips on attestation from a provider who has attested and received an incentive payment and 3) An opportunity to ask CMS experts attestation questions.

Before August 1, click on the link below, scroll down to Attestation Information and view the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Attestation Webinar for EPs or EHs:

<https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/HER-Incentive->

[Programs/Educational Materials.html](https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/HER-Incentive-Programs/Educational-Materials.html)

Registration is not required. The session will accommodate 150 webinar and teleconference participants on a first come, first served basis. If several people are calling from one location please use one line if possible.

Use the following information to login to the webinar: <https://webinar.cms.hhs.gov/attestation/>, dial 877-267-1577 and enter Meeting ID 3206.



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



Mountain Pacific Quality Health Education Dates
 July 31—Kemmerer
 August 1—Wheatland
 August 2—Gillette
 August 3—Lovell

Wyoming Hospital Association
 2005 Warren Ave.
 Cheyenne, WY 82001
www.wyohospitals.com
 307.632.9344

Lander Regional Partners to Construct Helipad

Lander Regional Hospital cut the ribbon last month on its own helipad.

The helipad was built through a partnership with Classic Lifeguard Aeromedical Services. The hospital supplied the land, and Classic donated the construction of the pad.

“This has been exciting news for us,” Board Chairman Joe Quiroz said to a crowd of hospital officials,

staff, air ambulance providers and community members at the June ceremony.

Although it was built in partnership with Classic, the helipad will be available for all air ambulance providers’ use.

Before the helipad was built, helicopters landed at Hunt Field Airport, which is very near the hospital, and patients were transported to the hospital via ambulance.

Now, ambulances will be needed for transfers only when patients are transported by fixed-wing plane.

Additionally, the helipad broadens Lander’s ability to deliver emergency services. In the past, air ambulances have passed by Lander because there was no helipad available. Shorter transport times improve the chances of survival and recovery for emergency patients.

Mountain Pacific QIO Hosting Upcoming Education

Hospital staff statewide will have multiple opportunities to take part in upcoming educational programs hosted by Mountain Pacific Quality Health.

Most significantly, an excellent agenda has been developed for the MPQH Wyoming Quality Conference – to be held in Lander on August 22-23.

The two-day agenda will include key areas of focus – including effective care transitions, fall prevention strategy and protocols, and reducing adverse drug events.

Presentations on each of

these topics will be delivered by an outstanding roster of nursing and physician speakers, with breakout sessions planned for small group interactions with colleagues as well.

WHA is very pleased to be co-sponsoring this event and encourages all hospitals across the state to participate in this timely program.

In addition, Mountain Pacific is scheduled to provide education and clinical training on pressure ulcer & wound care at multiple sites in the coming weeks.

This will be a highly focused boot-camp style pro-

gram that will be delivered in an intensive 3.25 continuing education credit session, in four communities as follows:

- July 31 – Kemmerer
- August 1 – Wheatland
- August 2 – Gillette
- August 3 – Lovell

Details and registration for any of these program events can be directed to Pat Fritz at <pfritz@wyqio.sdsp.org> or call her at 307 568-2797.

WHA greatly appreciates the efforts of Mountain Pacific QIO in supporting Wyoming hospitals with this excellent level of ongoing education and training.

CMS Posts Online Medicare/Medicaid Fraud Tools

CMS recently posted two sets of online tools that outline its strategies for identifying and dealing with Medicaid and Medicare fraud and abuse.

The tools are located on the Medscape web site, at www.medscape.com.

The first module, “Reducing Medicare and Medicaid Fraud and Abuse:

Protecting Practices and Patients,” relates to CMS’ provider-focused materials in the Fraud Awareness & Prevention Month Toolkit.

It is posted online at www.medscape.org/viewarticle/764496.

The second module, “How CMS is Fighting Fraud: Major Program Integrity Initiatives,” describes strategies that CMS has un-

dertaken to detect and prevent fraud and abuse in the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

This module is posted online at www.medscape.org/viewarticle/764791.

CMEs are available for physicians and other healthcare professionals. Medscape accounts are free.