



Wyoming Hospital Association

NEWSBRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Save The Date

WHA Annual Meeting & Convention
September 5-6, 2018
Laramie, WY

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WHA Calendar

WHA Trustee Education Session Lander	5/17
HortySpringer Conference West Park Hospital, Cody	5/3-5/4

CMS Updates Website to Compare Hospital Quality

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) updated data on the Hospital Compare website and on data.medicare.gov to provide patients, families and all stakeholders with the information they need to compare the performance of hospitals where they seek medical care.

Along with data on quality measures, CMS will also update the Overall Hospital Star Rating.

“CMS is committed to empowering beneficiaries by providing transparent, comprehensive, and reliable information,” Verma said.

Hospital Compare (<https://www.medicare.gov/hospitalcompare/search.html>) reports information on quality measures for over 4,000 hospitals nationwide, including Veterans Administration (VA) Medical Centers and military hospitals.

The website provides information for patients and caregivers on how well hospitals deliver care and encourages hospitals to improve the quality of care they provide. Users can compare performance across many common conditions.

For this update, CMS will respond to stakeholder concerns by updating several existing measures and the Overall Star Rating. The Overall Star Rating has been revised to use an enhanced methodology to assign ratings to hospitals, based on Technical Expert Panel recommendations and public input.

“We continue to refine the Star Ratings and look forward to an ongoing dialogue with hospitals and patients and their families on how we can provide beneficiaries useful information,” Verma said.

CMS’s Overall Hospital Quality Star Rating on Hospital Compare was first displayed in July 2016, and they intend to update the rating twice per year, in July and December.

CMS is committed to working with stakeholders in a transparent manner to evaluate and update the Overall Star Rating.

As a proven healthcare consumer tool, the Overall Hospital Quality Star Rating summarizes data from existing measures on Hospital Compare for each hospital to allow its users to easily compare hospital facilities.

In addition, with data.medicare.gov, users can explore and download hospital data, as well as data on ambulatory surgical centers, inpatient psychiatric facilities, and some cancer hospitals.

PAC CONTRIBUTORS 2018

Irene Richardson

Annual Goal—
\$8500



WPH Enhances Brand Identification—Cody Regional Health

West Park Hospital (WPH) District is adding to its brand identity to more accurately represent its comprehensive network of healthcare services available to the Big Horn Basin Region.

“West Park Hospital District has served its local community well since it first opened as Cody Hospital in 1940,” said Doug McMillan, CEO of Cody Regional Health. “Over the past 15 years, we’ve expanded, making us

much more than a hospital.

Through this name enhancement, we’re not only embracing our rich history, but also reaffirming our strong commitment to the multiple communities we now serve in the Big Horn Basin Region.

This change better reflects the organization’s full scope of services provided by The Spirit Mountain Hospice House, The Big Horn Basin Regional Cancer Center, The Cathcart Health Center, The Long Term Care Center, The

Cedar Mountain Center, The Cody Medical Arts Complex, The Meeteetse Clinic, and The Northern Wyoming Surgical Center which is a joint venture with Cody Regional Health physicians.

In addition to providing outstanding patient care, Cody Regional Health will continue to support its local communities through its outreach efforts, expanded education opportunities, and enhanced partnerships with local businesses and schools.

HSCMH Joins with Red Rock Family Practice

The Red Rock Family Practice has joined Hot Springs County Memorial Hospital. This is the culmination of several months of discussion and consideration on how best to provide healthcare to Hot Springs County.

In order to strengthen the healthcare foundation and protect the future of healthcare in Hot Springs County, it was important

to partner with primary care physicians. As healthcare regulations increase, independent physicians are being pulled away from the bedside. To mitigate this concern, the trend is for physicians to find partners who will ease their administrative role so they can spend more time providing patient care.

“We are extremely pleased Red Rock Family Practice chose to join our team. They

have been providing care to Thermopolis and the surrounding areas for over twenty years. They have been very active in the community and have developed a reputation here and throughout the state for providing great care and being responsive to changes in healthcare practices.” – Margie Molitor, CEO, Hot Springs County Memorial Hospital.



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

Phyllis Sherard Selected as One of Hospital Leaders to Know

Phyllis Sherard, Ph.D., Cheyenne Regional Medical Center’s chief strategy officer and vice president of population health, was recently selected by Becker’s Hospital Review as one of 130 women hospital and health system leaders to know for 2017. This is the third consecutive year for Sherard to be selected for this distinction.

Sherard joined CRMC in 2007 and has since been responsible for developing a new era of competencies for the changing healthcare landscape and fostering a proactive approach to patient care for vulnerable populations beyond hospital facilities. Before joining CRMC, Sherard spent 20 years at the Wyoming Department of Health, retiring in 2005 as the agen-

cy’s deputy director. In 2012 Sherard was awarded the Innovation Advisor Fellowship by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation.

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