



Wyoming Hospitals Price Transparency Web Site

Wyoming's 26 acute care hospitals participate in a web based site that enables consumers to look up and compare hospital charges for any hospital in the state.

Sponsored by the Wyoming Hospital Association, Wyoming PricePoint represents a significant price transparency effort that will provide the people of Wyoming with the information they need to make good decisions about their healthcare.

"Wyoming's hospitals are committed to transparency, and our new PricePoint web site is a reflection of that commitment," said Eric Boley, president of the Wyoming Hospital Association. "Many states require their hospitals to report charge information, but with PricePoint, our hospitals are voluntarily and proactively providing that information to the people of Wyoming."

Using Wyoming PricePoint, consumers will be able to select hospitals and health conditions, and then receive an online report of the number of discharges, the length of stay, average charge, average charge per day, and the median charge for the selected hospital and for hospitals with similar patient volumes.

In addition to charge information, Wyoming PricePoint also provides context to help consumers understand why charges for the same condition may vary between hospitals.

"There are a number of factors that contribute to the complexity of hospital charges," Boley said. "So it's critical to make sure that consumers not only have dollar figures, but that they also have clear explanations about those figures. Wyoming PricePoint provides both."

The first phase of the Wyoming PricePoint initiative provides web-based access to inpatient charge data for every hospital in Wyoming.

For each selected hospital and selected condition, consumers will be able to compare:

- Discharges
- Length of stay
- Average charge
- Average charge per day

- Median charge for the selected hospital and for hospitals with similar patient volumes

Subsequent phases of the project will include outpatient charge data, and later, detailed cost estimates that include insurance and physician data. Ultimately, the WHA envisions a web-based price calculator that will enable consumers to calculate their specific costs, based on their medical conditions, insurance plans and physicians.

"Although Wyoming PricePoint can't answer all questions about hospital services and charges, it will help start the transparency conversation, which patients, providers, employers, and insurers must all participate in," Boley said. "This is an important first step."

Consumers can visit Wyoming PricePoint online at the WHA website at www.wyohospitals.com

SAVE THE DATE

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

PAC CONTRIBUTORS

Shelby Nelson
Eric Boley
Doug McMillan
William Stangl
Charlie Button
Neil Hilton
Andy Fitzgerald
Barry Burkart
Maureen Cadwell
Vickie Diamond
Yvonne Wigington
David Gardner
Carol Solie
Ryan Smith
Doug Faus
Jeremy Davis
Michele Chulick
Mike McCafferty
Ron Purcell
Margie Molitor
SageWest Health Care
Eileen Dinneen
Dana Barnett

Annual Goal—\$8400
Achieved - \$7300



WHA Calendar	
WHA Trustee Education Session Lander	5/17

SVMC Opens Star Valley's First Urgent Care Clinic

After years of community requests, Star Valley Medical Center has opened an Urgent Care Clinic in Afton.

This clinic, the first of its kind in Star Valley, will see patients on a walk in basis and will provide a much needed option for urgent needs that do not need emergency level care.

It will also help open the hospital's physicians schedules so they are more available to see their patients with chronic and ongoing needs.

The Urgent Care Clinic will be open to the community Monday through Saturday

from 7 am to 7 pm.

The hours of operation were chosen with school children in mind, however,

SVMC will carefully consider how best to serve the community as they go forward.



MHSC Senior Leader to Serve on AHA Committee

A senior leader at Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County has been appointed as a member of the American Hospital Association Committee on Clinical Leadership.

MHSC Chief Clinical Officer Kari Quickenden will serve a three-year term – Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2020.

The Committee on Clinical Leadership has been charged with providing clinical input to the AHA advocacy and public

policy process, serving as a clinical resource on policy issues, as well as guiding the ongoing work of the AHA's physician activities. The committee also is concerned with issues relating to standards and requirements for clinical education programs and activities. It includes representatives from medicine, nursing and pharmacy.

"I am honored to have been appointed to the AHA's Committee on Clinical Leadership," Quickenden said. "It will be a great opportunity to

bring a community hospital perspective to the AHA and the committee."

Hospital CEO Irene Richardson said Quickenden is an integral part of MHSC's leadership team.

"Kari's experience, commitment and passion for health care is second to none," Richardson said. "We are fortunate to have her on our team. She will represent us well on the AHA committee. We are proud of her."



AHA Guide for Vulnerable Frontier Communities

The American Hospital Association has released a guide to help hospital and health system board members and leaders implement a strategy to address the unique health care access and delivery challenges faced by geographically isolated, low-population communities.

The emerging strategy

is one of nine identified by an AHA task force last year to help ensure access to care in vulnerable communities based on their unique needs, support structures and preferences.

The guide is the fifth in a series that will address each of the nine strategies. For more on the task force and strategies and to access the

guides, visit www.aha.org/EnsuringAccess.



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