

# NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 46, Number 7

February 20, 2015

## WHA Calendar:

2015 General Session of the Wyoming Legislature Cheyenne	1/13-3/6
WHA Trustee Education Riverton	5/21

## Other Events:

HFMA Conference Casper	3/18-3/20
AHA Annual Meeting Washington, DC	5/3-5/6
National Nurses Week	5/6-5/12

## ICD-9/ICD-10 Dual Coding Project

ICD-10 implementation is set to begin Oct. 1, 2015.

In the past, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has imposed payment cuts, in the form of a documentation and coding offset, when coding systems change.

For example, it is estimated that the cuts related to the move to MS-DRGs beginning in 2007 will cost the hospital field more than \$35 billion through 2017.

To try and prevent a similar coding cut and help inform the hospital field's comments on CMS's hospital inpatient prospective payment system (PPS) proposed rule for fiscal year 2016, the American Hospital Association (AHA) and the Federation of American Hospitals (FAH) have contracted with HealthCurve Analytics™ LLC, a jointly owned company of the Missouri and Illinois Hospital Associations.

HealthCurve Analytics will collect claims that have been coded in both ICD-9 and ICD-10, and analyze the extent of changes in MS-DRG assignment and case mix index.

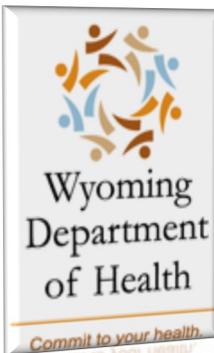
Each hospital that participates in this project will receive a report that documents the potential impact on its own facility.

- Hospitals will submit dually-coded ICD-9 and ICD-10 claims for Medicare fee-for-service (FFS) patients to HealthCurve Analytics over the course of a one month data submission period. (Business associate agreements will be executed between your hospital and HealthCurve Analytics to allow for data submission). Please note that if it is not practical for your hospital to submit dually-coded records for all Medicare FFS claims during the one month study period, they will work with you to calculate a randomized sample size based on your total volume and standardized parameters to ensure uniform statistical significance and margin of error at all participating facilities.
- While claims dually-coded during the one month study period are preferred, they also will accept Medicare FFS claims that were previously dually-coded at your facility to maximize sample size and reduce the burden of your participation.
- Claims should be Medicare FFS discharges that qualify for inpatient PPS payments. Please do not include any claims that are not paid under the inpatient PPS.
- Claims should be "natively coded" and the same coder should preferably code a given claim in both ICD-9 and ICD-10 formats. This means that dual coding should not be done with a pure mapping tool or conversion software. Use of "encoder" software that prompts the coder for specific points from the documentation in order to get the ICD-10 code, rather than strictly taking the ICD-9 code and converting it to an ICD-10 code, is permitted.
- Claims should be representative of the DRGs that you typically serve i.e., hospitals should preferably not choose to dually code claims falling in only certain specialties/service lines. By submitting claims over the one month time period, claims will hopefully be representative of the DRGs that you typically serve.

Please visit <https://www.healthcurveanalytics.com/ICD10.aspx> to register for the project.



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



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## Online Health Library Available on CRMC's Website

Need a fast fact about a health topic or more information about the latest breaking health stories? You can now access this and other health-related information through a new online health library located on Cheyenne Regional Medical Center's website.

"The library is meant to help community members

find out more about their health and how our health system can help them get well and stay well," said Phyllis Sherard, Cheyenne Regional's chief strategy officer and vice president of population health.

Included is an evidence-based, dynamic library of online health content covering a wide variety of topics

in addition to online health assessments focusing on heart health risks, stroke, diabetes, sleep disorders, colorectal cancer, lung cancer, prostate cancer and breast cancer.

A section called "Today's Health News" also offers the latest news and research in healthcare, including breaking health sto-

## Fraser Receives Excellence in Governance Award

Melissa Fraser, board chair of West Park Hospital in Cody, is this year's recipient of the Excellence in Governance Award for small provider organizations—hospitals with 100 or fewer beds.

The first project she championed at 25-bed West Park was higher salaries for nurses and lab workers. "To retain good personnel, you have to pay them what they are worth," Fraser said. An internal review revealed excess spending on traveling nurses but comparatively low salaries for staff. She

pushed for a pay bump, which she said not only helped reduce turnover, but also boosted employee satisfaction and improved quality and safety through the ability to provide consistent care.

She brings a diverse background to her hospital leadership role. An intensive-care nurse by trade, she has experience as a head of a cardiac catheterization lab, a medical practice business manager and neurosurgery product saleswoman. She also was a nurse-EMT for riders at horse shows.

Two questions have become essential during all board meetings, she said: "What else can we do, and how can we make it happen?"

While discussions about healthcare all too often focus on costs, Fraser "is more about the people," said Graham Jackson, director of patient experience who also heads the hospital's foundation. She nominated Fraser for the award. "She gets out there and works together with everyone to make this a great place to live."

## Wyo First to Train DFS Staff in Suicide Prevention Training

Wyoming's Department of Family Services (DFS) has become the first state agency to have every employee trained in suicide prevention.

"This training is another important step to address this serious public health problem. I applaud DFS for training more than 700 employees in suicide prevention. The conversation about suicide raises aware-

ness. Awareness is important to prevention. We cannot remain silent when lives are at stake," Governor Mead said.

DFS staff completed Jason Foundation suicide prevention training.

The Jason Foundation is an educational organization dedicated to the prevention of youth suicide. The curriculum includes identifying risk factors and how to ap-

proach those who may be struggling with suicidal thoughts.

The training is now part of the DFS new employee orientation.

"The suicide statistics in Wyoming are alarming and we want to help reverse those numbers. We made it part of our mission to ensure that each employee is trained to recognize the warning signs of suicide.