



NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

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WHA Calendar:

WHA Board of Directors Meeting
Lander 5/17

Wyoming Critical Access Hospital Network Membership Meeting
Lander 5/17

WHA Trustee Educational Program
Lander 5/18

Other Events:

American Hospital Association Annual Meeting
Washington, DC 5/6-5/9

Joint Labor, Health, Social Services Committee
Casper 5/31-6/1

HIE Begins To Demonstrate Its Value

In our continuing HIE series, we discuss how health information exchange (HIE) makes a difference.

The Partnership traveled over 5,000 miles in the first quarter of 2012 and visited 21 hospitals to learn about individual operations and needs for health information exchange. Examples of findings include:

- Hospital EMR implementations range from no EMR installation to complete installations with achievement of stage 1 Meaningful Use

- Some hospitals have secure messaging systems to link them to providers while others do not.

- There is excitement about Direct secure email messaging for the following situations:

- ~Emergency Departments (ED) can use Direct to send/receive information ahead of transfers

- ~Medical records could use Direct to send information as requested by authorized outside entities

- ~Organizations can use Direct for business-related email functions where secure messaging does not exist

- ~Providers and hospitals can use Direct to satisfy the Meaningful Use requirement of sending data outside an organization

The Partnership received a positive reception regarding plans to implement robust “lookup” health information exchange as soon as ONC requirements for Phase I are fulfilled.

Wyoming communities are fortunate to have hospital leadership which understands the value of exchanging health information to improve the coordination of care given to patients.

The use cases above start the flow of information where Wyoming has not been able to move information in the past. How would the patient’s outcome improve if an emergency department had the emailed clinical information an hour before the transfer arrived? How efficiently could medical records teams operate if requested information could be emailed instead of faxed? Would the transmission be more readable than a fax?

Ultimately, it’s about the patient.

Regarding robust exchange, experience from an existing HIE shows how emergency departments are using the HIE. One example showed a patient with over 30 visits to area emergency departments in 17 days.

Another case had a patient present in one emergency department who had visited

another emergency department five minutes earlier. The comment from the ED provider was, “I use the HIE every day and couldn’t do my job without it. It has taken such a burden off my shoulders because I have the data I need at my finger tips.”

It’s also about the hospitals and the providers.

Hospitals and providers can streamline work flows using Direct secure messaging and the upcoming robust “lookup” exchange. The challenge is to determine how patients, providers and staff will be better served through new work flow development and additional information.

The Partnership has its first user signed up for Direct, and efforts are underway to connect that physician to referring entities. In Wyoming, the first steps toward connecting health-care communities have begun, one provider and hospital at a time.

As soon as communication takes place to coordinate care between two providers, the health information exchange will prove its value.

Health information exchange is here and ready for business. How can HIE help you?

For more information, contact CEO Heather Roe Day at hroeday@ehealthwyo.org.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

SVMC Surprises Physicians on National Doctor's Day

Star Valley Medical Center (SVMC) appreciates its physicians, and the hospital decided to do something special to show it.

In celebration of National Doctor's Day, hospital directors and administrators washed and vacuumed their vehicles.

The surprise required some planning, since it had to occur on a day when all physicians were at SVMC.

Having identified that day, the hospital's leadership worked together to

clean and shine every physician's car, truck, and even bicycle.

And lucky for them, the weather cooperated, making the work easier and the results more lasting.

SVMC physicians appreciated the hospital's effort, thanking those who had worked on their vehicles.

The special day is held every year on March 30 as an opportunity to celebrate the contributions of physicians who have dedicated their professional lives to

caring for our country's patients.

The first such day was held in 1933. In 1958, the U.S. House of Representatives adopted a resolution commemorating National Doctor's Day.

President George H.W. Bush signed a resolution in 1990 designating March 30 as National Doctor's Day.

March 30 marks the day that a Georgia doctor administered the first anesthetic for surgery in 1842.

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

NCSBN Seeking Nurses for Standard Setting Panel

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) needs help to recruit registered nurses (RNs) for the 2012 RN Standard Setting Panel of Judges.

The meeting is set for Sept. 17-19 in Chicago. The NCLEX-RN test plan is evaluated on a three-year schedule involving an extensive job analysis survey of newly licensed nurses and input from various nursing experts. The latest RN test plan will become effective April 1, 2013.

The passing standard is re-evaluated to ensure that the appropriate standard is in place for the corresponding examination.

NCSBN's Board of Directors is responsible for setting the standard, but the work of the Panel of Judges meeting will assist the Board of Directors in deciding on the standard.

The Standard Setting Panel of Judges will be composed of nine members, representing all geographic regions and clinical practice areas. Members of the panel

must meet the following criteria:

- Registered Nurse – active nursing license in good standing
- Employed as a RN for at least 2 years
- Current clinical practice
- Works with and/or supervises newly licensed RNs within their first 12 months of practice

Please send the names and contact information, including email addresses, of qualified nurses from your area to NCLEXContent@ncsbn.org by Friday May 11, 2012.

QIO Announces New Care Transitions Project Manager

Mountain-Pacific Quality Health—Wyoming has announced the addition of Kevin Franke as its Care Transitions Project Manager.

Following his initial nursing training at Casper College, Mr. Franke received a Bachelor of Science

in Nursing from the University of New Mexico.

He has worked in quality assurance, infection control, and patient safety, and has managed clinic operations.

Most recently, he was self-employed as an independent insurance agent. In his position with Mountain-Pacific, Mr. Franke will

work with medical professionals at all levels of care, beneficiaries and interested citizens in building community coalitions to improve care for patients as they transition from one point of care to another with the ultimate goal being preventing avoidable hospital readmissions.

Wyoming Hospital Association

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