



NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 42, Number 14

April 6, 2012

WHA Calendar:

WHA Board of Directors Meeting
Lander 5/17

WHA Trustee Educational Program
Lander 5/18

Other Events:

Hospital Advisory Group Meeting
4/12

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

WHA To Provide ICD-10 Training Program

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced in February that it will postpone the date by which certain healthcare entities have to comply with ICD-10 diagnosis and procedure codes.

The final rule adopting ICD-10 as a standard was published in January 2009, and it set a compliance date of October 1, 2013. HHS will announce a new compliance date.

Everyone covered under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996 will ultimately be required to use the ICD-10 codes. And the changes are likely to be dramatic.

For example, coders will move from about 17,000 codes to about 140,000 codes. More detailed knowledge of anatomy and medical terminology will be required.

And that doesn't account for the business process changes, policy and procedural changes, or changes to budgets and vendor contracts that will be necessary to accommodate the transition.

CMS recommends that in preparation for the transition to ICD-10, providers should talk with their billing services, clearinghouses, or

practice management software vendors; identify ICD-9 touch points in their systems and business processes; and identify needs and resources, such as training.

To assist with this final element of preparation, the Wyoming Hospital Association has partnered with Laramie County Community College's Workforce and Community Development department to create an ICD-10 training program for healthcare facilities.

The program is funded by a grant from the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services.

Slated to launch in May, the program will offer training on a wide spectrum of areas, ranging from a discussion of issues arising from the conversion, to terminology reviews, to conventions, practical applications, and documentation improvements.

Organizers expect to offer some of the courses multiple times, and to use a variety of media – including video conferencing and online – to deliver the courses.

According to CMS, training should take place in late 2012 or

early 2013 for most staff. And those training needs are likely to vary for different organizations.

The WHA program is scheduled to conclude in September.

For more information about the WHA's ICD-10 training program, call (307) 632-9344.

WHA ICD-10 Training Courses

5010 – What's Happening Now

A collaborative discussion of the issues providers are facing with the 5010 conversion.

Anatomy and Terminology Review

Review terminology by body system, while discussing anatomy and disease processes. This course is a review for those who need to brush up on their anatomy for coding.

ICD-10 Conventions

Compare the ICD-9 codes with ICD-10, evaluate crosswalks and familiarize yourself with the conventions of the new coding system.

ICD-10 Practical Application

In this course, you will work in-depth with practical exercises, selecting codes and evaluating documentation.

Documentation Improvement

Documentation is the foundation of every health record and affects all aspects of compliance. Learn what the documentation should look like, and learn the strategies to get the information you need.



Students Participate in REACH Program in Lander

Thirty-three middle school students from Lander, Wind River and Dubois recently spent most of the day at Lander Regional Hospital in an innovative new program in Wyoming to give students an opportunity to explore and experience various healthcare career options.

The goal of the Research and Explore Awesome Careers in Healthcare (REACH) Program is to increase awareness, interest and understanding of health careers available in rural

Wyoming.

The 33 students were divided into four groups and toured the hospital, receiving hands-on experiences from hospital staff members in a dozen different activities.

For one Lander Middle School student who said he wants to enter the medical profession, the event was time well spent.

“I want to be able to help people,” said Garrett Coffman, whose mother is a dental assistant and whose father is a paramedic. “I

learned a lot about different areas today. I was thinking of maybe dentistry or anesthesiology before today, but now I think I could also take an interest in radiology. It was very interesting to me overall,” Coffman said.

The next REACH Program will be held on April 13 at Riverton Memorial Hospital.

The event was held in partnership with the Fremont County BOCES and Lander Regional Hospital, and was sponsored by the Office of Rural Health.

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



Wyoming Group to Launch AMSS Chapter

In less than a month, Wyoming will no longer be one of only a handful of states without a chapter of the Association of Medical Staff Services.

A group of Medical Staff Services Coordinators from around Wyoming will officially launch Wyoming's chapter during a kick-off meeting on May 4 at Sheridan Memorial Hospital.

The day-long event will

begin with an overview of the Wyoming association's visions and goals, and will continue with guest speakers discussing issues regarding licensing, credentialing, reporting, quality, and balanced living.

The session will wrap up with a business meeting discussion of fundamental issues that will lay the foundation for the association going forward.

There is no deadline to

RSVP for the meeting, but organizers ask attendees to confirm their plans to attend as soon as possible. The event is offered free of charge, and attendees will be responsible for their travel expenses.

To confirm attendance for you or your staff, contact Amy Ligocki, Sheridan Memorial Hospital, amyligocki@sheridanhospital.org or call 672-1079.

Wyoming Hospital Association

2005 Warren Ave.
Cheyenne, WY
82001

www.wyohospitals.com

307.632.9344

QHCF Conference to Focus on the Future of Long-Term Care

With all the changes long-term care facilities are likely to face in Wyoming, the Quality Health Care Foundation of Wyoming Spring Conference will focus on the future: the future of Wyoming Medicaid, and the future of long-term care models, both nationally and locally.

The QHCF annual spring conference is set for May 9 – 11 at the Best Western-

Ramkota Hotel in Casper.

The event will feature a discussion with Department of Health Director Tom Forslund about the Department's approach to looming budget reductions, as well as presentations about models long-term care providers in other states are using as Medicaid resources decline.

Speakers will also discuss ways to maximize revenues in these challenging

times, and they will discuss best practices in quality assurance as well.

Hotel accommodations can be made at the Best Western Ramkota at (307) 266-6000, and a group rate is available for this conference.

For more information, call (307) 287-4594, or email Steve Bahmer at steve@qhcf.org.