



**Wyoming
Hospital
Association**

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 46, Number 18

May 8, 2015

WHA Calendar:

WHA Board Meeting Riverton	5/20
WHA Trustee Education Riverton	5/21
WHA/Leading Age Annual Meeting & Convention Casper	9/2-9/3

Other Events:

National Hospital Week Where Miracles Happen Every Day	5/10-5/16
Joint Labor Health and Social Services Committee Casper	6/8-6/9



President's Message

I want to make you all aware of another issue we are all facing. At the recent Medical Advisory Group meeting with the state Medicaid department, I was made aware that by July 1, all claims to Medicaid must be electronic or payment will be denied.

I thought we had all switched over to electronic claims submission years ago, so I requested a report from the state and over 20 of our hospitals and many of our attached nursing homes still submit paper claims.

I have been informed that these paper claims may be for resubmissions or from our clearing houses and clinics but we will be held accountable for them.

The folks at state Medicaid have been trying to address this situation for a couple of years and we are not complying. I will have information attached to the WHA website so that you can look at the notice that was sent to each facility on April 2. I encourage you to take a look at our website and to make the changes necessary to protect your cash flow and to avoid delays in payment.

This past week I also met with the Wyoming Healthcare Volunteer Organization, a group of our dedicated volunteers from around the state for their Spring meeting. They are such an incredible group of people. I know as a former hospital CEO how much good our volunteers did in enriching the lives of our patients and residents, and how much help they were with different projects and fundraisers.

The WHVO needs our help as leaders in our hospitals. Their membership numbers are dwindling and participation is getting lower and lower. Dues to belong to the organization are small and I would hope that we as leaders in our hospitals would help cover those costs and also help our volunteer leaders be able to afford and attend their two meetings a year.

You will soon be receiving the application for the Outstanding Auxiliary of the Year award, to be given at the WHA annual convention in Casper in September. I would encourage you to nominate your auxiliary for this prestigious honor and tell their story of the great service they provide within each of your facilities. Each year, hospital volunteers across the state donate thousands of

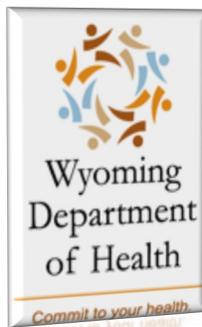
hours in service. It's the least we can do to let them attend a couple of meetings a year and to support them in their efforts.

I just returned from the AHA Annual Convention in Washington DC. Our state was well represented with 7 of our facilities sending leadership. In addition to meeting with leaders of the AHA, we were also able to visit with our legislators and their staff on the Hill. Of particular interest was the King vs. Burwell case that is before the Supreme Court. The main concern of course is what happens to the exchanges if King wins and the federal subsidies go away for the insured using the federal exchange. The Senate is working on a plan that would protect the insured and give the states a period of time to come up with a solution before the subsidies are no longer available. While this is better than immediately cutting those people off, we still need our state to have a plan in place to address the changes in the law. We will be working with the Governor's office and with the Joint Labor, Health and Social Services Committee to come up with a plan.

See everyone in Riverton for our Trustee Education.



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



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Hospital, Chamber Partner on "Goshen on the Go!"

Goshen County Chamber of Commerce, Community Hospital and Banner Medical Group want Goshen county residents to get up and go in a collaborative wellness endeavor, "Goshen on the Go!"

When a person signs up at the Goshen County Chamber of Commerce, they will receive a packet and a chart to track their progress.

Residents are encouraged to take advantage of the community recreational trails fro the walking challenge.

At the end of six weeks, participants will submit their forms, and the top participants will be eligible to win prizes.

"The Goshen County Chamber of is very pleased to partner with Banner Health for the "Goshen on

the Go' fitness promotion, said Marsha Middleswarth, chamber executive director.

"Many of the communities within our county provide excellent designated areas for people to get out and get healthy. We are excited to have the opportunity to showcase these areas and encourage everyone to participate."

Medical Coding Change Could Affect Medicaid Payments

With millions of dollars at stake, the Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) is leading an effort to ensure Wyoming's healthcare providers are ready for big changes coming this fall in how medical claims are paid.

The federal government is requiring a nationwide switch from the current ICD-9 version to ICD-10 coding by October 1.

"This is a major, complex change and we are working to ensure our pro-

viders have access to the training and resources they need," said Lindsey Schilling, provider operations administrator with WDH and Wyoming Medicaid.

"We began reaching out to our enrolled providers throughout Wyoming last fall to promote testing of the new system changes and only 12 providers registered their interest. Only one of these providers has attempted testing and, unfortunately, that test did not go well."

Wyoming Medicaid reimburses thousands of medical professionals across the state for the care they provide for clients. "Since last July 1 through the end of March we have paid out more than \$120 million to hospitals and physicians alone," Schilling said.

Detailed information and resources about ICD-10 transition and testing with Wyoming Medicaid, including training videos, can be found online at www.wyomingicd10.com.

Grants Management Training in Casper, WY

Wyoming Department of Health, Office of Rural Health and Grant Writing USA will present a two-day grants management workshop in Casper, June 25-26, 2015.

In this class you'll learn how to administer government grants and stay in compliance with applicable rules and regulations. The program has been revamped for 2015 to include complete coverage of the

new OMB Super Circular. This training is recommended for grant recipient organizations across all disciplines.

Tuition is \$595 and includes Grant Writing USA's 500-page grant management workbook and reference guide. Seating is limited, online reservations are necessary.

The Office of Rural Health can reimburse attendees from WDH and

community based health and human services organizations.

There is limited funding based on first come, first served.

Please contact Sharla Allen sharla.allen@wyo.gov or 307-777-7293 for a registration code that will 1) reduce the registration fee by \$50; and 2) register you for reimbursement after successful completion of the course.