



# NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

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### WHA Calendar:

<b>WHA PAC Golf Tournament</b>	9/1
<b>WHA/Leading Age Annual Meeting &amp; Convention Casper</b>	9/2-9/3

### Other Events:

<b>Appropriations Committee Cheyenne</b>	6/23-6/24

## Wyoming Hospitals Participate in AHRQ TeamSteps Conference

Representatives from an excellent roster of Wyoming hospitals took full opportunity to participate in the TeamSteps National Conference, held in Denver this past week.

As a key initiative of the Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality (AHRQ) – the TeamSteps program is a systematic approach to teamwork designed specifically for healthcare professionals.

Since the advent of the program 10-years ago, the program has proven to be a powerful solution to improving patient safety and quality outcomes within hospitals and healthcare organizations.

TeamSteps provides an evidence-based approach to internal communications – producing highly effective medical teams that optimize the use of information, staff, and resources to achieve enhanced and consistent clinical outcomes for patients.

Multiple Wyoming hospitals have implemented the TeamSteps program, in full commitment to be at their best on an ongoing basis – while providing a work environment that has grown satisfaction for hospital employees and medical staff members.

The TeamSteps National Conference serves as an annual forum for healthcare professionals to share their unique experiences and perspectives within a collection of over 500

participants from across the country, represented from a wide range of hospital settings.



The attendees benefited from an excellent roster of nationally renowned presenters over the 3-day conference, in addition to very engaging peer-to-peer learning sessions.

The Wyoming Hospital Association is very pleased to have had the opportunity to host and support the excellent level of Wyoming hospital participation – in providing early information, prompting registration and financial support in covering travel reimbursement.

In total, 21 nursing and quality leadership staff members from eight hospitals took part in the conference:

West Park Hospital – Cody

Memorial Hospital of Converse County – Douglas

Campbell County Health – Gillette

St. John’s Medical Center – Jackson

North Big Horn Hospital – Lovell

Powell Valley Healthcare – Powell

Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County – Rock Springs

Sheridan Memorial Hospital – Sheridan

Recognizing that change is constant in the hospital environment and the challenge to provide consistently top level quality and value to all patients has never been greater, WHA greatly appreciates the commitment of these hospitals and all hospitals statewide in being at their very best, each and every day.

To the extent that the support via the TeamSteps program serves to benefit these ongoing endeavors, these hospitals are to be commended for their timely participation.





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

**Wyoming Hospital Association**

**2005 Warren Ave.  
Cheyenne, WY  
82001**

**[www.wyohospitals.com](http://www.wyohospitals.com)**

**307.632.9344**

## Washakie Medical Center Groundbreaking Ceremony

Washakie Medical Center leaders have broken ground on the hospital's \$23.4 million construction project.

The construction includes:

- A new patient wing with 12 patient rooms and 16 beds, plus two labor and delivery rooms dedicated to obstetrics
- A new surgical suite with two large, state-of-the-art operating rooms and one endoscopy suite
- Renovations to accommodate a new Emergency department

- New respiratory therapy, chemotherapy and endoscopy areas
- Renovated front entry with impacts to the admitting, business office, waiting room and gift shop.

The construction project begins after extensive, successful negotiations with Washakie County officials that concluded with a 15-year lease of the hospital to Banner Health. Lease payments from Banner Health to Washakie County will go

toward paying for the \$23.4 million bond the county issued to finance construction through ANB Bank in Worland.

Jay Stallings, chief executive officer at Washakie Medical Center, said there are many people to thank who worked diligently to see the project through to this point. "This is a true collaboration. Banner Health is pleased to be working with the citizens in the Big Horn Basin to continue to provide excellent patient care close to home," Stallings said.

## HRSA Issues Proposed Rule on 340B Drug Ceiling Prices

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has released a proposed rule on drug ceiling prices and civil monetary penalties for manufacturers in the 340B Drug Pricing Program.

Required by the Affordable Care Act, the rule would amend Section 340B of the Public Health Service Act to impose monetary sanctions (not to exceed \$5,000 per instance) on drug manufacturers who intentionally

charge a 340B hospital or covered entity more than the ceiling price established under the procedures of the 340B program.

The proposed rule also would require greater transparency in calculating the 340B ceiling drug prices to ensure that drug manufacturers are not overcharging 340B covered entities.

Section 340B of the Public Health Service Act requires pharmaceutical manufacturers participating in

Medicaid to sell outpatient drugs at discounted prices to health care organizations that care for many uninsured and low-income patients.



## Nursing and Volunteer Nominations Due July 1

Nominations are due by July 1 for the Norman S. Holt Award for Nursing Excellence.

Each Wyoming hospital may submit one candidate per year with the individual institution determining its own method of nominating and selecting their candidate.

Nominations are also due by July 1 for the Auxiliary of the Year Award.

The award recognizes the outstanding volunteer service of an auxiliary to enhance the hospital's services.

To be eligible, the auxiliary must be a member of the Wyoming Healthcare

Volunteer Organization.

All application forms may be sent to the Wyoming Hospital Association at 2005 Warren Avenue, Cheyenne, WY 82001, fax 307-632-9347 or e-mail [rose@wyohospitals.com](mailto:rose@wyohospitals.com).