



NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 43, Number 25

June 21, 2013

WHA Calendar:

Healthcare Leadership Training **6/28**

Paying for Healthcare: Finding the Right Incentives Casper **7/18**

Other Events:

Wyoming Safety and Workforce Summit Rock Springs **6/25-6/26**

Hospital Advisory Group Cheyenne **7/9**

Introducing MyWY Health – A New Name for Wyoming Health Information Exchange

Wyoming e-Health Partnership (Partnership) is pleased to announce the launch of MyWY Health, the new name for Wyoming's Health Information Exchange (HIE).

Wyoming Medical Center and South Big Horn Hospital District recently signed participation agreements to join the query based MyWY Health. Both hospitals are building interfaces to the HIE with an expected "go-live" this summer.

What does "go-live" mean?

The hospitals will send MyWY Health admission, discharge, transfer records, lab results, radiology and transcription reports. They will also send patient demographics, allergies, problem lists, and medication lists. With membership in MyWY Health, health care professionals around the state will be able to look up their patients to see what treatment occurred while at these and other member facilities to better coordinate patient care when their patients return home. Alternatively, member facilities will see health information leading up to the visit from patient home towns.

The ability to look up patients adds to the existing capability to send secure e-mail messages via Direct to

health care professionals in Wyoming. Member hospitals in Wyoming already can securely send specific patient information to providers or to Blue Cross Blue Shield for continuing acute care situations, reducing the need for extensive faxing.

As hospital and healthcare professional membership grows, greater patient information will be seen in MyWY Health providing needed information to connect treatment between primary care doctors, specialists, hospitals, labs, nursing homes, home health providers and other HIPAA covered entities within communities and across the state.

In an era of changing payment structures and reimbursement rates, MyWY Health supports the ability to coordinate patient care across the health care spectrum.

Hospitals in other states have used their HIEs to see emergency room visits from other facilities to detect patterns of emergency room use among patients. Hospital discharge planning departments have used the HIE to ensure transitions are made smoothly for discharged patients to decrease readmission rates. Treating providers also receive alerts of hospital admissions and emer-

gency room visits to provide better follow up for patients.

Will MyWY Health connect to neighboring states?

Plans are underway to connect to neighboring state HIEs to send and receive patient care summaries across state borders. Hospitals across the state have indicated this is important for patient care as many patients cross into other states to receive treatment.

How is patient consent managed?

MyWY Health is an "Opt-out" HIE. "Opting-out" means that a patient's health information will not be available in MyWY Health except in emergency situations.

Patients who do not wish to include their health information may contact the Partnership by phone or through the website to register their preference.

Where can I find more information?

Patient brochures are being distributed across the state and radio ads will air asking patients to inquire if their health care professional is a member of MyWY Health. A new website will be available at

www.mywyhealth.com and questions can be directed to Heather Roe Day, CEO at hroeday@ehealthwyo.org.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



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



Wyoming Hospital Association

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Cheyenne VA Named Historic Site

The Cheyenne Veteran Affairs Medical Center has undergone many transformations since it first opened in 1934.

The original seven-building complex had a maximum capacity of 133 beds, and its services were limited to general medicine and surgeries.

The campus now features more than two times the number of buildings that are full of state-of-the-art equipment designed to treat a

wide variety of health conditions.

But with each addition and renovation, the exterior's architectural character has remained nearly the same, right down to its Spanish colonial revival style.

"We have a lot of contemporary assets and practices that you'll see here," said Cheyenne VA spokesman Andrew Ruben. "But we have a lot of historical things that don't change."

The National Park Ser-

vice marked the historical significance of the nearly 80-year-old medical center this week by announcing it has been added to its National Register of Historic Places.

Brian Beadles, a historian and coordinator of the National Register Program for the State Historic Preservation Office, said the designation was awarded as part of a move to recognize Veterans Affairs sites that served veterans following World War I and World War II.

WIPAG – Advancements in Infection Prevention Statewide

In continuation of its focus on providing clinical data and education for healthcare providers statewide, the Wyoming Infection Prevention Advisory Group (WIPAG) recently held a 2-day strategic development meeting in Cheyenne.

WIPAG was established in 2011 as a multidisciplinary advisory council, with numerous stakeholders including the Wyoming Department of Health, Mountain-Pacific Quality Health, and the Wyoming

Hospital Association. Individual hospitals, long-term care providers and additional healthcare quality organizations are also formally represented within the WIPAG council membership.

Since its inception, WIPAG has played a leading role in hosting three annual infection prevention conferences and the establishment of an extensive resource database that is a hosted link on the WHA website. WIPAG has also been instrumental in work-

ing alongside MPQH in gaining 100% participation from all Wyoming hospitals in infection prevention protocols and data reporting.

Through these meetings, it was determined to establish committee assignments based upon the specific areas of interest of the partners involved – in education, data collection & analysis, and clinical resources.

WIPAG has also determined to produce a comprehensive Infection Prevention Manual to support nursing and medical staff.

Dr. Mark Dowell to present on Antibiotic Stewardship

Mountain-Pacific Quality Health and Wyoming Medical Center are pleased to host an upcoming WebEx presentation on the topic of Antibiotic Stewardship.

Mark Dowell, MD of Rocky Mountain Infectious Disease in Casper will present at noon on June 27 – the program to be accredited for 1-hour of CME credit for

physicians.

The objectives will be to explore the basic issues surrounding antibiotic use and misuse, in addition to describing the various elements of an effective antibiotic stewardship program.

Dr. Dowell will also examine the results of WMC's approach to this issue and look at stewardship options

for Wyoming hospitals statewide.

WHA encourages all hospitals and their medical staff members to take note of this timely presentation.

Please contact Ellen Williams for further information at Ewilliams2@wyqio.sdps.org or call 307.262.2210