

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

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September 21, 2012

WHA Calendar:

WHA PAC Golf Tournament
Cheyenne **9/25**

Annual Meeting & Convention
Little America
Cheyenne **9/26-9/27**

Hospital Advisory Group Meeting **10/11**

WMS/WHA Patient Safety Conference
Casper **11/2**

Other Events:

RPB Meeting Sun Valley, ID **10/4-10/5**

HFMA Meeting Saratoga **10/17-10/19**

Joint Labor Health and Social Services Committee
Casper **11/12-11/13**

Evanston Regional Named a National Top Performer

Hospitals continue to improve the quality of their care, according to the latest annual report from The Joint Commission, and one Wyoming hospital was recognized in the report as one of the nation's top performers.

The report examines the performance of more than 3,300 accredited hospitals on 45 evidence-based practices for heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia, surgery, children's asthma, inpatient psychiatric services, venous thromboembolism (VTE) and stroke.

Evanston Regional Hospital was recognized as a top performer for its surgery care.

Overall, hospitals performed the 45 practices 96.6% of the time in 2011,

up from 81.8% in 2002, when the report began tracking 15 of the practices.

Composite scores have climbed 23.8 percentage points for pneumonia care and 9.9 percentage points for heart attack care since 2002; 15.5 percentage points for surgical care since 2005; 14.9 percentage points for children's asthma care since 2008; 6.8 percentage points for inpatient psychiatric services since 2009; and 7.2 percentage points for VTE and 2.2 percentage points for stroke care since 2010.

The report also recognizes the 620 hospitals that performed the practices at least 95% of the time in 2011, a 50% increase from 2010.

Those hospitals, designated as Top Performers on Key Quality Measures™, are

leading the way nationally in using evidence-based care processes closely linked to positive patient outcomes.

The hospitals identified as attaining and sustaining excellence in accountability performance in 2011 represent approximately 18 percent of Joint Commission-accredited hospitals reporting core measure performance data.

While the data show impressive gains in hospital quality performance, improvements can still be made. Some hospitals perform better than others in treating particular conditions.

"When we raise the bar and provide the proper guidance and tools, hospitals have answered with excellent results," Joint Commission President Mark Chassin, M.D., states in the report.

CMS Offers Medical Identity Theft Training Course

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has produced a medical identity theft web-based training course that is currently available on the CMS Medicare Learning Network website.

The Safeguarding Your Medical Identity course is designed to educate Medicare providers on how to recognize the risks of medical identity theft and the re-

sources available to protect their medical identity.

It discusses the scope and definition of medical identity theft, common schemes using stolen identities, consequences for victims, mitigation strategies, and appropriate actions for potential victims of medical identity theft.

The training course features Dr. Shantanu Agrawal, Medical Director of the Cen-

ter for Program Integrity.

Health care professionals can earn a total of 1.0 hour of Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit. Registration is required to earn CME credit, and instructions can be found at: <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/Downloads/SafeMed-ID-Products.pdf>.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



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



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CCMH Receives Area Trauma Designation

Campbell County Memorial Hospital (CCMH) has received designation as an Area Trauma Hospital by the Wyoming Trauma Program, Wyoming Department of Health.

The Trauma Site Review was conducted April 20, 2012, and the designation was awarded for a three-year period.

The goal of Wyoming's statewide trauma system is to reduce injury, disability and death for all ages. Trauma is the leading cause of death for those between the

ages 1 and 44. The trauma program is housed in the Department of Health's Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS).

An Area Trauma Hospital is an acute care facility with the commitment, medical staff, personnel and specialty training necessary to provide primary care for the trauma patient.

The Trauma Program has an established Trauma Team to respond to trauma patients and consists of: general and orthopedic surgery, anesthesiology, emergency physi-

cians, registered nurses, laboratory technicians, pre-hospital care providers (EMS), radiology technicians, respiratory therapists and social services/pastoral care.

The Wyoming legislature passed legislation enabling the development of a statewide trauma system in 1993. The Area Trauma Hospital designation demonstrates the organization's commitment to quality patient care for the community and citizens of Wyoming.

2-1-1 Offers Connection to Necessary Resources

The current period of economic and social transformation has touched the lives of virtually all Americans. That change drives the need for new ways to connect people with the resources they need.

Too often, people looking for help in Wyoming do not know where to begin. Locating such basic resources as food, shelter, healthcare, counseling or employment may mean calling dozens of phone numbers, then struggling

through a maze of non-profit organizations and public agencies, each offering a multitude of services, to make the right connections.

These problems are exacerbated by the increase in unemployment, need for additional services, and the rural geography of Wyoming, all of which increase complexity and erode traditional support systems.

2-1-1 provides a tool through which people find the information they need to take care of themselves and

to connect with those agencies that can help them.

By providing callers with vital information costs can be reduced for additional services in the future. Identifying those services throughout the state has been a major effort for 2-1-1 and all providers are encouraged to complete an.

Callers are currently able to reach an Information and Referral Specialist during normal business hours, Monday thru Friday by calling 2-1-1 or 1-888-425-7138.

WWAMI Seeking Clinical Assistant Dean for Wyoming

The WWAMI program is currently advertising for a Clinical Assistant Dean for Wyoming.

The part-time position will be responsible for developing, coordinating, and maintaining clinical medical education activities in Wyoming.

The Clinical Assistant

Dean will also represent and advocate for the University of Washington School of Medicine and WWAMI in a number of venues, and serve as a liaison between Wyoming clinical educators and faculty at the school of medicine.

The physician who fills this role will also represent

the school of medicine in Wyoming by meeting regularly with local hospitals, and medical groups and associations, such as the Wyoming Medical Society.

For more information, visit <http://wyomed.org/sites/default/files/resources>.