

# Wyoming Hospital Association

# NEWSBRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

**Save The Date**

**WHA Annual Meeting & Convention  
September 5-6, 2018  
Laramie, WY**

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WHA Calendar	
WHA Trustee Education Session	5/17
HortySpringer Conference West Park Hospital, Cody	5/3-5/4

## Data Show Smoking-Related Health Impacts Continue

While recently available data gathered by the Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) show Wyoming's smoking rates have declined, related harmful health consequences continue to be a concern with new differences showing between men and women.

"Smoking's harmful link to health conditions such as cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), heart disease and dental issues is well established," Joe Grandpre, Chronic Disease/Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Unit manager with WDH.

Grandpre said Wyoming's smoking rate has gone down. The 2016 Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) results show Wyoming's current smoking rate among adults is 18.9 percent; the same rate was 24.6 percent in 2003. "Interestingly, this is the first year our results have shown more women smokers (19.1 percent) than men (18.8 percent)," he said.

Grandpre said Wyoming men tend to use other tobacco products such as smokeless tobacco at higher rates than women. The state's total smokeless tobacco usage rate is 9.8 percent; it is 17 percent for men and 2.3 percent for women.

E-cigarette usage was also measured. Among adults ac-

ording to 2016 BRFSS results, 24.3 percent had ever tried e-cigarettes while 5.5 percent use them currently. Men report using e-cigarettes at a higher rate (6.1 percent) than women (5 percent).

Lung cancer was the third most diagnosed cancer in both 2014 and 2015 behind breast cancer and prostate cancer. "However, we know that lung cancer continues to be the number one cause of cancer death in Wyoming," Grandpre said.

Like lung cancer, the "The effects of smoking on dental health are perhaps overlooked but important," Grandpre said. According to 2016 BRFSS data, 24.7 percent of adults over age 45 have had six or more teeth lost or removed due to gum disease or tooth decay. Of these, 44 percent were smokers and 21 percent were not. Nearly 18 percent of adults over age 65 have lost all their teeth. Of these, 39.4 percent were smokers and 15.1 percent were not.

The Wyoming Quit Tobacco Program (WQTP), which is offered by WDH, can help people who want to quit tobacco use. Interested residents may call 1-800-QUIT NOW or visit [www.quitwyo.org](http://www.quitwyo.org) online. In addition to free nicotine replacement .

The Wyoming Hospital Association is a proud member of a coalition of public health organizations working to increase tobacco taxes in the 2018 Legislative Session.

Based on the coalitions recommendations the Joint Revenue Committee voted to sponsor a bill to increase taxes on tobacco products by \$1.00.

Increasing the price of tobacco products is one of the best ways to motivate adults and kids to quit smoking.

Projections show that a \$1.00 tax increase would motivate 2,800 adults to quit, keep 2,400 kids from smoking and would save 1,400 lives.

We need your help making this issue a priority for your legislators. The coalition is gathering grassroots support at [www.passthebuckwyo.com](http://www.passthebuckwyo.com), please click on the link and fill out the pledge.

We will be taking the info collected and putting it on postcards to hand out to legislators during the legislative session. Thanks!

**PAC CONTRIBUTORS 2018**

**Irene Richardson**

**Annual Goal—\$8500**

**Wyoming's \$1 cigarette tax increase will...**

- Prevent 2,400 kids from smoking
- Save \$107.24 million in health care costs
- Save 1,400 lives



## New Retail Pharmacy Opens at St. John's Medical Center

The new retail pharmacy located in the Professional Office Building at St. John's Medical Center is now open to the public.

"Offering an on-site pharmacy saves our patients the time and inconvenience of making an additional stop on the drive home from the hospital or their physician's office.

This is a huge benefit because patients are often

still feeling ill after their visit to the hospital, the emergency department, or doctor's office. They typically want to get back home as quickly as possible," said communications officer Karen Connelly.

In addition to filling prescriptions, the new pharmacy offers a selection of common over-the-counter pharmacy items.

The pharmacy accepts most prescription insurance plans and assists with syn-

chronization of refill timing.

In January, the pharmacy will launch its "meds to beds" program, a complimentary service to patients being discharged from St. John's Medical Center. The pharmacy will deliver medications that have been prescribed by the doctor directly to the patient's room.

Counseling on medications will also be provided.

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

## Credentialing for Excellence

Cody Regional Health will be sponsoring the program "Credentialing for Excellence: Enhancing & Optimizing Credentialing Processes for Today & Tomorrow."

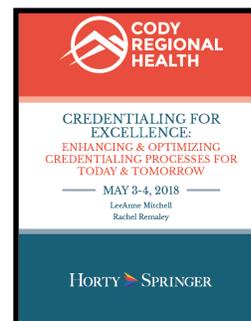
The program will be May 3-4, 2018 at West Park Hospital in Cody.

Presenters are Leanne Mitchell-O'Brien and Rachel Remaley. Both are partners with law firm of Horty, Springer & Mat-

tern, PC in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Both have experience in medical staff bylaws, credentialing and peer review matters and other medical staff policies and procedures.

Registration deadline is April 11, 2018.

For more information call 1-307-578-2488 or e-mail [kjacob@wphcody.org](mailto:kjacobs@wphcody.org)



## Drug Disposal Bags Available

Substance Abuse Prevention Program has Deterra Bags to be distributed throughout Wyoming.

Deterra Bags are an environmentally friendly method of disposing drugs in pill, liquid and patch forms in the home, clinical and other settings. They have a simple threestep process and come in small (15 pills, 2 patches, or 2 oz liquid),

medium (45 pills, 6 patches, 6 oz. of liquid), large (90 pills, 12 patches, 12 oz. of liquid), and XL (450 pills, 60 patches, 60 oz of liquid). Placing drugs in these bags deactivates the drug and renders them ineffective for misuse. For more information, please go to <http://deterrasystem.com/>.

Through a federal grant, the Substance Abuse Prevention

Program has been able to purchase a large quantity of bags. They are popular at health fairs, pharmacies, assisted care, medical facilities and so on. Please contact Missie Payne at [melissa.payne1@wyo.gov](mailto:melissa.payne1@wyo.gov) or 777-5017 if interested in receiving bags to distribute through your program and/or vendors.

