



**Wyoming
Hospital
Association**

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 48, Number 04

January 27, 2017

WHA Calendar:

Legislative Reception Little America	2/9
WHA CEO/Trustee Spring Meeting Casper, WY	5/19

Other Events:

Legislature Begins	1/10
AHA Annual Meeting Washington DC	5/7-5/10

CMS Issues Extension of Reporting Deadline

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has announced an extension of 2016 reporting deadline and intends to modify 2017 requirements for reporting eCQM data under the Inpatient Quality Reporting and EHR Incentive Programs for Hospitals.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is notifying eligible hospitals and critical access hospitals participating in the Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR) and/or the Medicare Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Programs of a deadline extension.

The extension is for the submission of electronic Clinical Quality Measure (eCQM) data for the 2016 reporting period, pertaining to the fiscal year (FY) 2018 payment determination.

The deadline has been changed from Tuesday, February 28, 2017, to Monday, March 13, 2017, at 11:59 p.m. PT.

This extension is being granted to provide hospitals additional time to submit eCQM data.

CMS also intends to initiate the rulemaking process regarding modifications to the eCQM requirements established in the FY 2017 Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) final rule in response to concerns raised by stakeholders.

In order to help reduce reporting burdens while supporting the long term goals of these programs, CMS intends to include proposals regarding the 2017 eCQM reporting requirements for the Hospital IQR and EHR Incentive Programs for eligible hospitals and critical access hospitals in the FY 2018 IPPS proposed rule that we anticipate to be published in the late spring of 2017.

Specifically, in the FY 2018 IPPS proposed rule, CMS plans to address stakeholder concerns regarding challenges associated with hospitals transitioning to new EHR systems or products, upgrading to EHR technology certified to the 2015 Edition, modifying workflows, and addressing data element mapping, as well as the time allotted for hospitals to incorpo-

rate updates to eCQM specifications in 2017.

CMS is also considering to propose in future rulemaking to modify the number of eCQMs required to be reported for 2017 as well as to shorten the eCQM reporting period.

CMS believes that these efforts reflect the commitment of CMS to create a health information technology infrastructure that elevates patient-centered care, improves health outcomes, and supports the healthcare providers who care for patients.

CMS continuously strives to work in partnership with hospitals and the provider community to improve quality of care and health outcomes of patients, reduce cost, and increase access to care.

For more information about eCQM reporting for the Hospital IQR and EHR Incentive Programs, please visit the QualityNet.org and the CMS.gov websites.





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

Wyoming Hospital Association

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SJH Foundation's Art & Healing Program

St. John's Hospital (SJH) Foundation is pleased to announce new exhibits now on display at St. John's Medical Center as part of its Art & Healing Program.

Bradly J. Boner's acclaimed Yellowstone National Park: Through The Lens of Time will hang in the Radiology Hallway adjacent to the lobby through Summer 2017.

Brad Boner is a local photojournalist and the lead photographer for the Jackson Hole News & Guide. He conceived and executed this project in 2011 and conducted a successful Kickstarter campaign to raise the funds for the project.

The Art & Healing Program at St. John's is based on national best-practices about art in healing spaces and is designed to focus on creating environments that

welcome patients and their families and facilitate wellness and positive clinical outcomes.

The Art & Healing Program includes a permanent collection, curated exhibits, music therapy, and storytelling as a therapeutic modality. Artworks on display in the Medical Center are part of the permanent collection or are on loan from the artist.

Changes for Quality of Care Reviews

On October 21, 2016, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services published the newest version of Chapter 5 of the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) Manual.

In this revised chapter are changes to the Quality of Care review process effective February 1, 2017:

1) Providers will now have 14 calendar days (they're currently allowed 30 days) to send in the

medical record once a medical record request is received. Because of these tightened time frames, KEPRO encourages providers to fax medical records rather than sending them via mail. The Quality of Care department at KEPRO has its own dedicated fax number, which will be listed on the medical record request.

2) After the medical records are received, KEPRO has 30 days to complete the review. Providers that wish to pro-

vide a response when they receive an inquiry from KEPRO will also have a shortened time frame, which will be noted on the inquiry letter. 3) Medicare beneficiaries, or their representatives, will have the opportunity to request a second review if they disagree with the original findings, similar to the current process in place for providers.

For further information, please visit www.keproqio.com.

Employee Security Incident

A Wyoming hospital was the victim of a security incident that may affect some of their employees' personal information.

It appears that an unauthorized individual, impersonating an executive, contacted an employee requesting W-2 information for all of their employees who had taxable earnings in calendar year 2016.

Unfortunately, before it was determined that the request was fraudulent, the employee provided these files. No protected health information for their employees or patients were released in this incident.

The information delivered included social security numbers. The Hospital has contacted local law enforcement and a cyber security response team, both of which are actively working

to identify the fraudulent party, and help the organization take all necessary actions to protect their employees.

If this should happen, please inform your employees of the steps that they can take to guard against fraud or identity theft, such as monitoring their bank account, credit cards, tax returns and other personal or financial information.