

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 48, Number 20

June 2, 2017

WHA Calendar:

**WHA Annual Meeting
Sheridan** 9/20-9/21

**WHA Golf Tournament
Buffalo, WY** 9/19

Other Events:

**Annual Wyoming Quality Conference
Casper** 8/9-8/10

**LeadingAge Wyoming Annual Meeting
Sheridan** 9/20-9/21

VA Choice Program

The Wyoming Hospital Association is hosting a webinar with the VA and Health Net to discuss VA Community Care and the Veterans Choice Program.

The Veterans Access, Choice, Accountability Act (VACAA) of 2014 is a law that expands the number of options Veterans have for receiving care to ensure Veterans have timely access to high-quality care.

Veterans Choice Program (VCP) provides primary care, inpatient and outpatient specialty care, and mental health care for eligible Veterans when the local U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care facility cannot provide the services due to:

- lack of available specialists.
- long wait times.
- extraordinary distance from the Veteran's home.

While millions of Veterans will receive a Choice Card, only a subset of those who hold the card will be eligible to use it at any given time. Verification of eligibility in the form of an authorization from Health Net Federal Services, LLC (HNFS) is required for reimbursement of costs associated with care provided to a Veteran.

Eligible Veterans must contact HNFS to obtain authorization for all care under VCP. Veterans are encouraged to access health care through the HNFS comprehensive network of community-based, non-VA medical professionals who meet VA quality standards.

These highly qualified providers are contracted as part of Health Net's URAC accredited Patient-Centered Community Care (PCCC) network and proudly serve our Veterans today in PCCC and VCP.

However, VCP allows a Veteran to choose a provider outside of the PCCC preferred network when a PCCC provider is not available or the Veteran has a preference for another community provider. Health Net Federal Services must verify the provider outside of the PCCC preferred network meets the certification and license requirements of VCP and the provider must agree with program requirements prior to scheduling an appointment.

The webinar will be held Wednesday, June 7, 2017 from 10:00AM – 11:00AM MST.

VA and HNFS Federal Services, LLC staff will answer all your questions including:

- What is the Veterans Choice Program?
- Who is eligible to be enrolled?
- How can I become a community care provider?
- How do I submit a claim?
- How does VA authorize community care?
- How is the Veterans Choice Program improving?

For log-in information, please contact WHA at 307-632-9344.



VA COMMUNITY CARE

Interested in partnering with VA to provide high quality health care to Veterans?

The Wyoming Hospital Association (WHA) is hosting a webinar with VA and Health Net to discuss VA Community Care and the Veterans Choice Program.

Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Time: 10:00AM – 11:00AM MST

Join Us: Online and via Phone: 1-800-767-1750 x 77062

VA and HNFS Federal Services, LLC staff will answer all your questions, including:

- What is the Veterans Choice Program?
- Who is eligible to be enrolled?
- How can I become a community care provider?
- How do I submit a claim?
- How does VA authorize community care?
- How is the Veterans Choice Program improving?



PVHC Acquires State of the Art Disinfection System

There is new technology that is setting the standard of care for high-level disinfection for ultrasound probe equipment and Powell Valley Healthcare has acquired the latest technology in order to ensure the highest standard of patient care and safety.



The Trophon EPR system, developed by Nanosonics, uses a specialized disinfection system con-

taining a high concentration of hydrogen peroxide.

“We are very thankful for the Powell Medical Foundation and PVHC employees for funding this new equipment and for Michelle Hoyt, with infection prevention, for researching the equipment and advocating for it,” said Dianna Gorsuch, director of imaging.

Powell Valley Healthcare is now using two of the Trophon EPR systems – one in the imaging department and one in the women’s health and obstetrics clinic. The initial cost for both systems was \$17,400 and

the Powell Medical Foundation and PVHC Employees provided funding for the two systems.

Powell Valley Healthcare provides a number of different ultrasound procedures including obstetrical, cardiac, abdominal, breast, vascular, renal, and pelvic, as well as others depending on the need for diagnostic examination OB/GYN.

If you have questions about ultrasound or the Trophon EPR high-level disinfection system, please call PVHC Imaging at 754-1220.

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

New Medicare Cards Offer Greater Protection

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is readying a fraud prevention initiative that removes Social Security numbers from Medicare cards to help combat identity theft, and safeguard taxpayer dollars.

The new cards will use a unique, randomly-assigned number called a Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI), to re-

place the Social Security-based Health Insurance Claim Number (HICN) currently used on the Medicare card. CMS will begin mailing new cards in April 2018 and will meet the congressional deadline for replacing all Medicare cards by April 2019.

CMS has kicked-off a multi-faceted outreach campaign to help providers get

ready for the new MBI.

Providers and beneficiaries will both be able to use secure look up tools that will support quick access to MBIs when they need them. There will also be a 21-month transition period where providers will be able to use either the MBI or the HICN further easing the transition.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/ssnri/index.html>

Wyoming Hospital Association

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Hospitals Against Violence (#HAVhope)

On June 9, Hospitals Against Violence Hope (#HAVhope) Friday, join hospitals and health systems across the nation in standing together against violence.

Encourage your fellow employees, patients and community to #HAVhope and address violence in

whatever form it may take.

Share a photo on June 9 of yourself holding hands with others in your community or workplace committed to combating violence, and use #HAVhope on social media to highlight your

work or commitment to combat violence in your community or workplace.

Visit www.aha.org/HAVhope for resources from the American Hospital Association and to become an organizational supporter.

**HAVHOPE. A NATIONAL DAY OF AWARENESS
JUNE 9, 2017**