



Wyoming Hospital Association

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NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming

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Telligen Selected as HQIC

The Wyoming Hospital Association has partnered with Telligen to provide technical assistance around quality improvement. This will be an extension of what WHA did with the HIIN project, but in this case all of the technical assistance will be carried out by Telligen, at **no cost** to your hospital

CMS has selected Telligen as a Hospital Quality Improvement Contractor (HQIC) – previously known as HIIN (Hospital Innovation Improvement Network). We invite you to select Telligen as your hospital HQIC and work with us to address the most challenging healthcare issues facing hospitals and communities including:

- Responding to COVID-19 Public Health Emergency
- Improve Behavioral Health Outcomes, with a focus on decreased opioid misuse;
- Increasing Patient Safety with a focus on reduction of harm as well as readmissions; and
- Increasing the Quality of Care Transitions to achieve high quality outcomes in the acute care setting and across the care continuum.

CMS created an eligible hospital list for HQIC and only eligible hospitals can join. Your hospital is an eligible hospital so

you will likely be contacted by other HQIC organizations. Per CMS guidelines, hospitals can only partner with one HQIC and we hope you will select Telligen. If you'd like to jump on a call to further explore this opportunity, WHA would be delighted to facilitate one for you. Again, this is a long-term commitment, in which Telligen gets to work with you on the Quality Improvement program for your organization over the next four years!

Please know all the HQIC services WHA provides are at no cost; we are funded by CMS. By choosing Telligen as your hospital HQIC, the benefits to you and your hospital are many, including:

- Partnering with an organization with recent HIIN experience as a subcontractor, combined with decades of experience providing customized technical assistance, actionable data to include national benchmarking, analytics support, and a deep understanding of rural communities and vulnerable populations
- The opportunity to join learning collaboratives using the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's (IHI) Breakthrough Series Model and hear about best practices from nationally recognized subject matter experts sharing evidence-based resources

- The ability to collaborate with stakeholders committed to QI, including other hospitals, state hospital associations, trade associations, Flex Program awardees, nursing homes, behavioral health providers, local departments of health, and community-based organizations
- For Critical Access Hospitals -- Participation in HQIC data collection and process improvement activities will assist your hospital in satisfying the revised QAPI requirements set to become effective in March 2021
- Teaming with an organization with experience serving providers during the COVID-19 pandemic - See our upcoming events at <https://www.telligenqinqio.com/>
- Joining a HQIC committed to reducing hospital data collection burden

Click on this link for a quick online version of the commitment form.

<https://www.telligenqinqio.com/hospital-quality-improvement-commitment-form/>

Contact Josh Hannes at WHA for information at 307-632-9344 or josh@wyohospitals.com



Eric Boley
 Barry Burkart
 Carol Solie
 Doug Faus
 Heidi Baskfield
 Doug McMillan
 Tim Thornell
 Maureen Cadwell
 Margie Molitor
 Bren Lowe
 Irene Richardson



Telligen QI Connect™

Partnering to improve health outcomes through relationships and data

Read News Briefs online at www.wyohospitals.com

Schroeder Retiring From Lovell Hospital

Member Spotlight

In late 2008, Rick Schroeder heard about an open CEO position in Lovell, Wyoming at the North Big Horn Hospital. He applied for the position and in April of 2009 was offered the job. He reported in early June and has been there ever since.

While in Wyoming, Rick served on the Wyoming Hospital Association Board, Leading Age Wyoming Board, eventually becoming chairman of both. He also served on the Wyoming Board of Nursing Home Administrators. Rick was instrumental in bringing LeadingAge Wyoming under the management of the Wyoming Hospital Association and by combining the two

associations has helped those organizations become one of the strongest voices for healthcare in the state of Wyoming.

In true Rick Schroeder fashion, he says, "any success that I may have enjoyed comes as a result of surrounding myself with good people who believe in the cause and commit to be a part of something incredible."

"I am grateful to have worked with Rick over the years and I am grateful for the example he set for all of us in his compassionate and thoughtful approach he took to caring for the folks he and his staff served. Rick is an incredible and selfless leader," said Eric Boley, President of the Wyoming Hospital Association.

Rick is ending his incredible career in healthcare on December 24th, Christmas Eve, as he retires. He is excited to spend more quality time with his beloved wife Ronda as they begin a new chapter in their life together.



COVID Free Testing



Wyoming Department of Health

Wyoming is offering free at-home COVID-19 testing through a company called Vault Health. These tests are available to Wyoming residents at no cost; insurance is not necessary.

This saliva-based test does not require a nasal swab. The test uses high-quality laboratory technology for a high level of effec-

Wyoming Offering Free COVID Home Testing

tiveness. The sample collection process is performed under the supervision of a Vault healthcare provider through an online, video-based telehealth visit.

Follow the instructions on the Vault Health site to order. You may see cost information displayed, but once you enter your address and reach the payment page the cost is waived for Wyoming residents.

The kit will be shipped directly to your residence, where you can collect a sample during your telehealth visit.

You must have an Internet connection to complete this part of the process. During your telehealth visit, you will be asked to show a photo ID so the test supervisor can confirm the patient they are observing is the same person who ordered the test.

You will then send your sample to the Vault laboratory for testing. Results are expected from the laboratory within 48 hours from when samples are received

Support for Vaccine

In an open letter to the American public, the AHA, along with the American Medical Association and American Nurses Association, today affirmed their support for vaccines as a critical means for protecting individuals, communities and loved ones from COVID-19, the worst global health crisis in generations.

The organizations reaffirmed their long-standing commitment to the following guiding princi-

ples related to potential COVID-19 vaccines:

Following the science through support of the rigorous scientific and regulatory process by which COVID-19 vaccines are evaluated and may ultimately be authorized and recommended for use in the population;

Protecting the public's health and safety by establishing safe and effective processes for administering vaccines to all who

are eligible and choose to get vaccinated; and

Creating transparency by making available critical information about vaccines as it is released, including benefits and risks, while also working to share plans for vaccinating communities nationwide.

AHA and Others Support COVID-19 Vaccine