

Wyoming Hospital Association

Newsbriefs



WHA Testifies at Revenue Committee

In their first interim committee meeting of the year, the Joint Revenue Committee took up the issue of Medicaid Expansion. The Committee heard a full day of testimony, beginning with a presentation by the Wyoming Department of Health and ending with testimony by opponents and proponents for expanding Medicaid coverage.

Eric Boley, WHA President and Josh Hannes, WHA Vice President both testified on May 11th before the Joint Revenue Committee regarding Medicaid Expansion. John Ferrelli, CEO of SageWest Health Care also testified in support of Expansion.

Boley explained that with Medicaid Expansion patients would seek help for preventative care rather than using the emergency rooms as their primary care. Wyoming is leading the nation

in older care, and Medicaid will be needed to help keep citizens healthy and living at home longer.

Access to care has been a major obstacle in Wyoming. Healthcare professionals are leaving the state to work in Expansion states.

Boley also provided information and documents from Montana and Utah talking about their Medicaid Expansion experience and the positive impact it's had in those states.

Ultimately, with a vote of 9-5, the Committee passed a vote to reintroduce HB162 from the recently completed 2021 regular legislative session. The bill will be heard in July if a Special Session is called and if not, it will be a committee bill during the budget session in 2022.



National Hospital Week May 9-15

Hospitals Must Submit (MOA) to Livanta

Medicare claim reviews have been on hold since 2019 but will soon be resuming. As a Medicare Beneficiary and Family Centered Care - Quality Improvement Organization (BFCC-QIO), Livanta is authorized to begin conducting this work for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). These audits by Livanta will include Short Stay Reviews, Higher Weighted Diagnosis Related

Group Reviews (HWDRGs), and other reviews as directed by CMS.

Please note that claim review by the BFCC-QIO is different from BFCC-QIO case review. Kepro will continue providing BFCC-QIO case review services for beneficiary appeals and quality of care complaints in our state, while Livanta will conduct claim review services.

At this time, hospitals in our state must submit a memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to Livanta. MOAs facilitate communication with the appropriate parties for the exchange of medical records and review findings.

To complete your MOA, please visit the Livanta Claim Review website at: <https://livantaqio.com/en/ClaimReview/MOA/moa.html>



2021
Contributions

Barry Burkart
Tim Thornell
Robin Roling
Carol Solie
Irene Richardson
Doug Faus
Eric Boley

Does your organization demonstrate a passion for community health and an exceptional commitment to developing innovative partnerships and collaboratives that improve the health and well-being of your community? Foster G. McGaw Prize winners demonstrate that health delivery organizations working with community partners can be the cornerstone of a healthier America.

The Foster G. McGaw Prize is sponsored by the Baxter International Foundation and administered by the American Hospital Association and the Health Research & Educational Trust.

The Foster G. McGaw Prize will give top honors in 2022 to up to four programs or organizations. The application for the 2022 Foster G. McGaw Prize is now available. Applications must be received by midnight Central Time on July 31, 2021.

For any questions, please email fostermcgaw@aha.org.

https://my.reviewr.com/s1/site/aha_award_application/fostermcgaw

We're on the web
wyohospitals.com



WMC Earns Top Marks from Safety Group

Wyoming Medical Center has earned its third consecutive top safety grade from a national nonprofit that publishes seasonal hospital safety rankings. The scores are given by the Leapfrog Group, which works to improve national hospital safety. The rankings are published twice a year.

The state's largest hospital has turned around those scores after earning two C's in 2018 and two B's in 2019.

"Patient safety is a core value for every-

one at Banner Wyoming Medical Center," hospital CEO Lance Porter said in a statement. "We are extremely proud to have been awarded our third-straight 'A' from the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade. It is a testament to the skill, hard work and commitment to safety employees demonstrate at all levels of our organization. I want to thank all of our team members for their dedication to patient safety. It is evident in the work they do every day that they are making WMC among the safest hospitals in Wyoming."

While the hospital has earned top marks each of the last three seasons, it does continue to fall short in a handful of areas.

The hospital got perfect scores for having enough qualified nurses and specially trained ICU doctors. It also scored as well as the best-scoring hospitals nationwide for infection prevention in several categories and in how medications are ordered and administered.

