



# News briefs

## Hospitals Against Violence Initiative

On June 3rd, the American Hospital Association (AHA) will hold its sixth-annual #HAVhope Friday, a part of its Hospitals Against Violence initiative for mitigating violence in the workplace and community. It is a national day of awareness uniting hospitals, health systems, nurses, doctors, and other professionals on social media to highlight programs and other violence mitigation initiatives.

We have been reminded this week, yet again, of the devastating violence which can change lives and communities in an instant. We are not immune in Wyoming. In March of 2019, a man walked into the Emergency Department at Wyoming Medical Center in Casper and fired multiple shots, apparently targeting medical providers. Fortunately, no one was physically injured or killed in this attack. While the national headlines focus on the most extreme examples, staff in our hospitals frequently face the realities of violence as both caretakers of victims, and as victims themselves. The number and severity of attacks on healthcare workers inside of Wyoming hospitals is on the rise, so it has become urgent for the Wyoming Hospital Association (WHA) to begin action on what we can do to make a difference.

On May 23rd, the WHA, along with four nursing leaders from around the state, provided testimony to the Joint Judiciary Committee detailing their experiences with violence in their facilities. Examples ranged from being punched and kicked, to being choked with a stethoscope and, in another case, a nurse's head was slammed into a door by a patient. Our request of the committee was to draft legislation which would enhance penalties for assaults against healthcare workers from a misdemeanor to a felony. A similar effort was undertaken in 2013 where a bill was passed through the Wyoming Senate, but ultimately failed in the House of Representatives. States including Wisconsin, Nebraska, Utah, and Oklahoma already consider the assault of a healthcare worker a felony. The committee, while not in full support, did at least agree to continue the conversation at their next meeting in September. There will be many hurdles to overcome before the Judiciary Committee could sponsor any legislation, but we will continue working with all our members to move this critical topic forward. Our healthcare heroes are not allowed to pick and choose their patients and have

a responsibility to treat whoever walks in the door. It creates vulnerabilities and justifies enhanced penalties for attacks against them. The law recognizes the same for corrections officers, and we believe healthcare workers deserve similar consideration.

In the meantime, we hope everyone will review the details of AHAs Hospitals Against Violence Initiative and assist in bringing awareness to not just the violence in our hospitals, but in our communities. As always, the WHA is here as a resource and support our members and all their efforts to address the issues and challenges they face.



2022 PAC  
Contributions

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**HAV**

**Hospitals Against Violence**

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**#HAVhope**

Join us on  
**June 3, 2022**  
for a national  
day of awareness  
to end violence



American Hospital  
Association  
Advancing Health in America

# Well Advised

## First-Time Enrollment in Medicare

If you are about to turn 65, or have just turned 65, it's time to think about your Medicare options and enroll. Medicare can be complex and hard to understand until you learn how to navigate the system. It's also easy to make mistakes unless you choose the right health plan. During this online session, Mimi Roberson, chief operations officer of Well Advised, will cover topics like:

- What to know before enrolling in Medicare
- The difference between Medicare and Medicare Advantage
- Changing from employer health insurance to Medicare
- Mistakes to avoid
- The Well Advised Plan Finder

Join Well Advised (a WHA Resources endorsed vendor) on Wednesday, June 1, 2022 at 6 p.m. MT (5 p.m. PT) for "First-Time Enrollment in Medicare."

Click the link below to register for this free event.

[https://well-advised.zoom.us/webinar/register/1316373810426/WN\\_fMDMiY-sR-2haGYN8p3IMw](https://well-advised.zoom.us/webinar/register/1316373810426/WN_fMDMiY-sR-2haGYN8p3IMw)  
#medicare #medicareadvantage #medicareenrollment #healthinsurance



WHA Resources is the for-profit subsidiary of the Wyoming Hospital Association. We help our membership improve patient care, reduce operating costs and strengthen their financial viability through customizable and flexible programs tailored to fit each member's individual need. We are continuously developing both business and healthcare solutions with our endorsed partners to advance the operations of our membership and improve the health status of communities throughout Wyoming. We are here to serve member needs. Please contact us any time. Josh Hannes at 307-632-9344 or [josh@wyohospitals.com](mailto:josh@wyohospitals.com) or [www.wyohospitals.com](http://www.wyohospitals.com)

## The Value of Keeping Humans in the Loop in an Automated Environment

Accounts payable (AP) leaders must cut through a lot of hype around automation.

From self-service supplier onboarding and touch-free invoice processing to digital payments and bots that respond to supplier inquiries, emerging technologies promise to replace workers with machines.

As tempting as it sounds, the key to optimizing AP lies in balancing people and process automation. AP leaders must find automated solutions that redefine the role that humans play, otherwise they risk deploying a fractional solution that takes the organiza-

tion one step forward and two steps back.

That's why more AP leaders are embracing automated systems that combine advanced technology with white-glove service. By putting people at the center of automation, organizations can achieve faster payback, stronger supplier relationships, reduced risk of fraud, and better business continuity.

To read the entire article by WHA endorsed vendor, Paymerang, contact Josh Hannes at 307-632-9344 or [josh@wyohospitals.com](mailto:josh@wyohospitals.com).

