

Wyoming Telehealth Consortium

April 24, 2018

3:00pm – 4:15pm

Attendees:

- * Dr. James Bush, MD, Medicaid Director, Telehealth Consortium Chair
- * Deb Anderson – Mountain Pacific Quality Health
- * Patricia Bacon, Certification Program Manager, Behavioral Health Division (BHD)
- * Ray Brand
- * Tim Caswell, EHR Program Specialist, Healthcare Financing, WDH
- * Sabrina Foreman
- * Emily Genoff, Business Development Director, Wyoming Behavioral Institute (WBI)
- * Morris McGaugh, Provider Services Director, Optum Health (WYhealth)
- * Melissa Miller – University of Colorado
- * Kevin Smith, Telehealth Coordinator, Cheyenne Regional Medical Center (CRMC)
- * John “Fred” Thomas (University of Colorado Denver)
- * Corey Jenkins, Project Coordinator Senior, Wyoming Institute for Disabilities (WIND)

AGENDA ITEMS

Tele-stroke Programs in Wyoming

- * NRTRC Meeting – Dr. Wheeler is helping to promote telestroke programs around the rest of Wyoming, as well as more direct patient access to early primary care.
- * Wyoming Medicaid does pay for origination sites coming from the patient's home.
- * The University of Colorado is planning to start a telestroke program at Ivinson Memorial Hospital in June 2018.

Upcoming Webinars – Corey Jenkins

- * Wyoming Telehealth Network does Webinars the last Wednesday of every month.
- * Billing and reimbursement Webinar is Wednesday, April 25.
- * On May 30, 2018, Telehealth Champions (Dr. Bartholemew and Dr. Wheeler) are going to share their best practices for telehealth in Wyoming.
- * Reminder – If a provider can make a case to Wyoming Medicaid that a Telehealth code should be opened, Wyoming Medicaid will review the case and try to open that billing code.
- * Wyoming Medicaid pays for the re-programming cochlear implants over telehealth.

Genetics Clinics Update – Corey Jenkins

- * Wyoming Telehealth Network has been working with the Wyoming Department of Health to get Cheyenne and Casper Public Health nursing offices set up to provide telehealth.
- * The public health nursing offices will be working with the University of Utah to provide pediatric genetics counseling via telehealth. They have not yet begun seeing patients, but they will soon.
- * These offices will allow Wyoming to connect more families with genetics counseling much more efficiently and with less expenses.

NRTRC Board

- * Some of the Montana clinics where Dr. Wheeler was providing tele-neurology services were starting to charge Dr. Wheeler for providing that service to their clinic.

Action items:

- * Deb Anderson will contact Dr. Wheeler to get more information about these hospitals and why they are charging.

CRMC - Kevin Smith

- * CRMC is making strides in providing services for families that have previously had to travel to Denver for short visits.
- * The CHIP (Infectious Disease clinic) has also been collaborating with the CRMC so that children do not need to travel to Denver for check-ins several times a year.
- * Proxy credentialing – in order for CRMC to do this, the center has had to amend their bylaws. This can only be done twice a year, and the next opportunity is in May 2018.
- * James Bush and Kevin Smith discussed the possibility of offering telehealth services to women with high risk pregnancies in Wyoming.
 - o Kevin Smith will look into integrating these services for high-risk pregnancies into their activities with the CHIP and public health nursing clinics.
- * CRMC has faced some barriers previously, including the Wind River site having problems connecting to video, and a discrepancy in services needed by the community and resources available at CRMC (including after-hours emergency coverage).
- * Deb Anderson is providing used iPads to the Eastern Shoshone clinics and chronic care managers. These iPads are data-enabled, but Deb is interested in finding funding or grants to help cover data plans or cellular service for the iPads.
 - o Dr. James Bush - If the tribes are able to sign a care management contract with a nearby hospital, then the tribes can refer their cases to the hospitals and their services are able to become 100% federally matched.
 - o The department of agriculture often has funding and grants for projects like this.
 - o Sharla Allen is a good person to ask about this as well.

Telehealth Survey Results – Corey Jenkins

- * This will be discussed in the next meeting. The data is not available yet.
- * For the first quarter of this calendar year, there have been 184 users of telehealth, including 28 new users. The users have aggregated 1,127 meetings or encounters total (including clinical, administrative, and training meetings). There have been 4,972 sites that have been involved in telehealth-related meetings this quarter.
- * Currently, the Wyoming Telehealth Network has issued 237 Zoom licenses

Health Information Exchange – Tim Caswell

- * Medicity has been trying to engage the hospitals, clinics, and providers in the process of signing agreements to share data. Medicity is also in the process of onboarding several Wyoming medical facilities, including Cheyenne Regional Medical Center and Star Valley.
- * The sustainability committee is optimistic that this new HIE will be sustainable.

Emily Genoff– WBI and Telehealth

- * WBI has hired a geriatric psychiatrist who will be in Casper seeing patients at WBI. We plan to extend his services via telehealth.
- * We are meeting with HealthLink to determine if we're going to use them to extend Dr. Elsanadi's geriatric psychiatry services or if we are going to do that ourselves.
- * Gero-psychiatrists are also greatly needed in Wyoming.
- * A new gero-psychiatrist will be administering services via telehealth in Salt Lake and in Wyoming.
- * Courtney Cook in California is the main Health Link contact.

Expanding telehealth in Critical Access Hospitals in Montana and North Dakota - Deb Anderson

- * Patients applying pressure to their doctors to implement telehealth can be the next step towards expanding telehealth.
- * Can clients have a business card or something similar to give to their doctors? This can overcome one barrier if the doctor does not know how to establish direct contact to Telehealth resources.
- * Wyoming Telehealth Network has been working on putting together some radio and podcast spots to broadcast on Wyoming Public Radio.

University of Colorado – Melissa Miller

- * Dawn Maupin is slowly transitioning her work to Melissa, who is new.
- * Wyoming is looking for more consultants and doctors from University of Colorado

WyHealth – Morris McGaugh

- * WYhealth is working with the IHS, Eastern Shoshone Tribal Health, and Northern Arapaho clinics on the use of telehealth.

Sabrina Foreman – CAEDA

- * CAEDA is partnering with Wyoming Cardiopulmonary and Wardell Consulting Group to start a pilot program for cardiopulmonary in their outreach clinics, so they can implement telehealth with their patients.
- * They are trying to address patient concerns that quality services cannot be delivered through telehealth.
- * The first location is planned for Riverton, Wyoming.

Behavioral Health Division – Pat Bacon

- * The BHD in collaboration with UW and Mountain Plains Addiction Technology Transfer Center (MPATTC) has been offering a Behavioral Health ECHO network focusing on the opioid use epidemic. This network is targeted toward the medical community, behavioral health professionals, and law enforcement and is available to all interested persons who wish to attend. The ECHO sessions include expert professional presentations followed by case studies and participant discussion.

Other Discussion

- * Wyoming Telehealth Network recently got the rights to “wyomingtelehealth.org”
- * The incoming president of the Wyoming Medical Society (Lisa Finklestein) wants to make her 1 year tenure's primary focus to increase telehealth in the state of Wyoming.
- * Medicaid is going to endorse a letter of support for Hannah Herold's chronic disease peer case self-management program. Those billing codes will be opening soon.