



NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 46, Number 29

July 31, 2015

WHA Calendar:

WHA PAC Golf Tournament	9/1
WHA/Leading Age Annual Meeting & Convention Casper	9/2-9/3

Other Events:

Wyoming Quality Conference Casper	8/19-8/20
Labor Health & Social Services Lovell	8/24-8/25

Partners on Federal Grant to Strengthen Geriatric Care in Wyoming

A \$2.5 million grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration to the University of Wyoming will strengthen geriatric care and training throughout Wyoming.

The Wyoming Geriatric Education Center (WyGEC) at UW has received a three-year Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP) award announced during the recent White House Conference on Aging.

Wyoming GWEP will introduce many new programs and training opportunities, such as chronic disease self-management programs for older adults throughout the state, and will create an online Technology and Aging Certificate -- the first of its kind in the nation.

The Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program aims to improve the quality of healthcare for older Americans by:

- Changing clinical training environments into integrated geriatrics and primary care delivery systems.
- Training providers who can assess and address the needs of older adults and their families or caregivers at the individual, community, and population levels.
- Delivering community-based programs that will provide patients, families,

and caregivers with the knowledge and skills to improve health outcomes and the quality of care for older adults.

The program offers the opportunity to realign the clinical training experience to be consistent with transformative healthcare systems while improving collaboration within the healthcare team/

The funding also will create a Geriatric Medicine fellowship at the UW Family Medicine Residency Program in Casper -- the first of its kind in Wyoming.

Additionally, many established WyGEC programs, such as the Geriatric Assessment Team at the UW Family Medicine Residency Program in Casper, will be expanded, and a geriatric teleECHO clinic (allowing for distance education and service) will be expanded.

Aging and technology are a primary focus of the GWEP. WyGEC will work with First Layer Health of Minnesota to implement an innovative remote care management support program to optimize services to older adults.

The online Technology and Aging Certificate will be a collaboration with the Wyoming Institute for Disabilities at UW to educate health care professionals about use of

home monitoring and assistive technology for older adults.

Competition for the GWEP was steep, with applications from a variety of health care institutions, universities and community-based service organizations.

The Wyoming GWEP, one of 44 awards across 29 states, is a partnership with Cheyenne Regional Medical Center, the Wyoming Department of Health Aging Division and the Cheyenne VA Medical Center, with additional collaborations with the UW Family Medicine Residency Program in Casper, Wyoming Dementia Care, Mountain-Pacific Quality Health Foundation and the CNA training program at Fremont County BOCES, and other collaborations.

For more information, visit www.uwyo.edu/geriatrics.

Aging.gov is a new resource site launched in conjunction with the White House Conference on Aging.

For more information on resources and topics to help older adults live independent and fulfilling lives such as healthy aging, elder justice, long-term care, and vital programs like Social Security and Medicare visit <http://www.aging.gov>



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



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CCH Granted Area Trauma Hospital Designation

Campbell County Health, (CCH) has received designation as an Area Trauma Hospital by the Wyoming Trauma Program, Wyoming Department of Health.

The Trauma Site Review was conducted April 17, 2015, and the designation was awarded for a three year period.

The goal of Wyoming's statewide trauma system is to reduce injury, disability and death for all ages. Trauma is the leading cause of

death for those between the ages 1-44. The trauma program is housed in the Department of Health's Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS).

An Area Trauma Hospital is an acute care facility with the commitment, medical staff, personnel and specialty training necessary to provide primary care for the trauma patient.

The Trauma Program has an established Trauma Team to respond to trauma patients

and consists of: general and orthopedic surgery, anesthesiology, emergency physicians, registered nurses, laboratory technicians, pre-hospital care providers (EMS), radiology technicians, respiratory therapists and social services/pastoral care.

The Area Trauma Hospital designation demonstrates the organization's commitment to quality patient care for the community and citizens of Wyoming.

UW Online Nursing Program Ranked Among Nation's Best

The University of Wyoming's Fay W. Whitney School of Nursing program was rated 23rd among the top 50 affordable online Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree programs nationwide, according to Value Colleges rankings.

The survey said the convenience of the program, along with affordability of in-state and out-of-state tuition fees, "make an online BSN from the University of Wyoming a solid value."

UW offers an online RN/

BSN completion program available to any RN.

Value Colleges considered only accredited nursing schools, and UW's program is accredited by the Collegiate Nursing Association and approved by the Wyoming State Board of Nursing. "This choice ensures that all our entries display a common level of quality, integrity, rigor and value that translates into a marketable degree," according to Value Colleges.

Rankings were deter-

mined using three metrics: Payscale's 2015 College ROI Report by Healthcare Career criteria; U.S. News & World Report's national rankings; and credit per hour tuition rate (for the actual online BSN program) as reported by each individual college.

For registration requirements and other details about the UW online BSN program, visit www.uwyo.edu/nursing and click "RN/BSN Completion."

Bill Requires Notification to Pts of Observation Status

The U.S. Senate has passed by unanimous consent legislation that would require hospitals to provide Medicare beneficiaries with written notification and a related oral explanation at discharge or within 36 hours, whichever is sooner, if they receive more than 24 hours of out-patient observation ser-

vices. The Notice of Observation Treatment and Implication for Care Eligibility Act (H.R. 876) was unanimously approved by the House in March. The legislation now goes to the president for his signature and would take effect one year after enactment.

The written notification must explain in plain lan-

guage the Medicare patient's status as an outpatient under observation, the reasons for that status and the implications for cost sharing and Medicare skilled nursing facility coverage. The notice must be available in appropriate languages and signed by the patient or their representative, or by hospital staff if the former refuse to sign it.