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EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

- November 30
Preparing for the Chargemaster for 2019
Wisconsin Dells, WI
- December 11
Telemedicine Legal Issues in Wisconsin and Beyond
Free Member Webinar
- Starting January 2019
Health Care Workforce Resilience
Free Member Webinar Series
- March 15, 2019
WHA Physician Leadership Development Conference
Kohler, WI



FREE WEBINARS FOR WHA MEMBERS: BUILDING PROVIDER RESILIENCE

Throughout 2019, WHA will offer monthly, bite-sized doses of education focused on building resilience for busy and stressed health care providers. The series was developed and will be presented by renowned health care workforce resilience expert J. Bryan Sexton, PhD, Director of the Duke Patient Safety Center at Duke University Health System. [View the full list of series topics and dates.](#)

Each monthly topic will be engaging, evidence-based, and immediately applicable for all members of the health care team, regardless of role. Care providers, including physicians, advanced practice clinicians and nurses, as well as other health care professionals from clinics, hospital and health systems throughout Wisconsin will particularly benefit from participating. Each webinar is scalable by design for an audience of any size, and will be recorded for participants to access at a later date.

TIP: Gather your staff for the live session or use the recorded session as part of a regularly scheduled staff meeting.

This complimentary series is jointly sponsored by WHA and the Wisconsin Medical Society and is offered to members of either organization. Each registrant will be provided access to the recorded sessions, which can be viewed up to one year following the live event. Please contact [Jennifer Frank](#) if you have questions about any of WHA’s complimentary webinars.

REGISTRATION: [Pre-registration is required](#), and online registration is now open.

NEW FOR PHYSICIAN LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE: SENIOR PHYSICIAN LEADERS EDUCATION TRACK



The annual WHA Physician Leadership Development Conference includes a new twist in 2019. While the Saturday morning portion of the conference will still include the traditional education track intended for physician leaders seeking to develop or enhance their administrative and leadership skills, there will also be a new education track specifically for senior physician leaders.

This new offering allows senior physician leaders to attend the Friday session with their team, and then attend a Saturday morning education track designed specifically for chief medical officers, vice president of medical affairs or medical director positions, as well as anyone holding similar responsibilities in a Wisconsin hospital or health system.

This senior physician leader education track will include a presentation by UW Health CEO Dr. Alan Kaplan focused on how the senior physician leader’s role will evolve and

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what leadership capabilities will become more important in the future. Also, attendees will participate in a facilitated roundtable discussion focused on sharing experiences, challenges and opportunities faced by senior physician leaders throughout Wisconsin.

The 2019 WHA Physician Leadership Development Conference is scheduled for March 15-16, 2019, at The American Club in Kohler. **An early bird discount is available until January 15, and the special room rate at The American Club is only available until the room block fills, which it does quickly each year**, so register and make your hotel reservations today.

You can view the full 2019 conference agenda and register online [here](#).



FREE MEMBER WEBINAR: TELEMEDICINE LEGAL ISSUES IN WISCONSIN AND BEYOND

On December 11, WHA is offering a complimentary webinar focused on the laws and rules hospitals and health care systems need to know to develop and implement telehealth programs. This WHA Member Forum is scheduled for December 11 from 10:00-11:15 AM and [registration is now available](#).

During the webinar, Emily Wein, a shareholder with the law firm of Baker Donelson, will discuss state and federal laws and policies that providers should consider in building virtual care arrangements including key topics such as reimbursement and billing, licensure and exceptions for peer-to-peer consults, credentialing by proxy, and direct-to-consumer services.

This webinar is designed for telemedicine program managers, chief operating officers, chief nursing officers, chief medical officers, chief information officers, and compliance officers.

This complimentary WHA Member Forum is open only to WHA hospital and corporate members. Pass along the webinar information and registration link to anyone in your organization who may be interested in attending. Please contact [Jennifer Frank](#) if you have questions about any of WHA's complimentary webinars.

REGISTRATION: <http://www.whareg4.org/Telemed1211/>



WHA COMMENTS ON PROPOSED CMS RULES AIMED AT REGULATORY BURDEN WHA Recommends Addressing Physician Co-Signature Burdens

WHA expressed support for removing regulatory burden and providing additional compliance flexibility in a comment letter submitted by WHA to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS). The letter addresses:

- Impacts of regulatory burden on cost and access;
- WHA recommendations to address burdensome physician co-signatures of advanced practice clinician care;
- Support for several CMS proposed changes to address regulatory burden; and
- Retaining existing ASC transfer arrangement requirements

Impacts of Regulatory Burden on Cost and Access. WHA commented on several CMS proposed changes to CMS Conditions of Participation for hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, rural health clinics and other care settings. In the proposed rulemaking, CMS describes the changes as “(1) Proposals that simplify and streamline processes, (2) proposals that reduce the frequency of activities and revise timelines, and (3) proposals that are obsolete, duplicative, or that contain unnecessary requirements.”

“Regulatory burden creates additional cost on the health care system and limits the productivity of health care providers,” stated WHA’s letter to CMS Administrator Seema Verma. “Wisconsin, like other states, has challenges with having enough physicians to meet the demands for care of our citizens, and regulatory burden directly impacts the amount of clinical care that each physician can provide in one day.”

“We appreciate the steps that CMS has proposed to take in this proposed rule to reduce regulatory burden, but we also encourage CMS to continue to seek input from the field to identify additional regulatory reforms to reduce regulatory burden on organizations, administrators, physicians, and other clinicians when such reforms do not meaningfully impact health care quality and safety,” wrote WHA.

Address Burdensome Physician Co-signatures of Advanced Practice Clinician Care. To address regulatory burden on physicians, advanced practice clinicians and team-based care delivery, WHA’s comment letter recommended several clarifications to CMS Hospital and Critical Access Hospital Conditions of Participation that would make more clear that physicians are not required to co-sign certain actions performed by advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants when such actions are within their scope of practice.

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WHA's recommendations to CMS regarding clarifying physician co-signature requirements were drawn from presentations at WHA's Advanced Practice Clinician Conference held in September that highlighted problematic federal regulations that have limited the ability of advanced practice clinicians from practicing to their full scope of practice in hospital settings.

Support for Several CMS Proposed Changes to Address Regulatory Burden. WHA expressed support for several CMS proposed rule changes that could impact WHA members, including:

- Permitting multi-hospital systems to maintain a single, integrated Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement (QAPI) program for all of its members, rather than separate programs for each hospital.
- Permitting multi-hospital systems to maintain a single, integrated infection control program for all of its members, rather than separate programs for each hospital.
- Providing hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers with additional flexibility in creating policies for utilizing simplified pre-surgery assessments instead of comprehensive medical history and physician examination (H&P).
- Removing from swing bed requirements, various long-term care facility requirements that are generally unnecessary for patients receiving care in a swing bed setting.
- Reducing the frequency of critical access hospital, rural health clinic and federally qualified health centers' required self-review of their policies and procedures.
- Clarifying the Authority of Non-Physician Practitioners to Record Progress Notes in Psychiatric Hospitals
- Reducing various documentation requirements related to hospital emergency preparedness

Retain Existing ASC Transfer Arrangement Requirements. CMS also proposed removing the current requirement that ambulatory surgery centers (ASC) maintain a transfer agreement or shared medical staff with a hospital to address situations when a patient in an ASC needs services beyond the capabilities of the ASC. WHA expressed opposition to this change. WHA said that having such a relationship between an ASC and a hospital is foundational to well-managed, coordinated care for individuals needing emergency resources beyond the capabilities of an ASC.

WHA's comment letter is [posted on our website](#), and CMS's proposed rule can be found [here](#). The proposed rule and any changes to it will not go into effect until CMS promulgates a final rule, which WHA expects could occur in the next 6 to 18 months.

If you have any questions about the proposed rule contact [Matthew Stanford](#), WHA General Counsel.



TALENT DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE CONNECTS MEMBERS WITH THEIR FUTURE WORKFORCE

[Inspire Wisconsin](#) is a talent-development initiative that leverages powerful online tools to enable employers to connect with and develop their future workforce in grades 6-12 throughout public schools in Wisconsin. What's more, **Inspire** provides opportunities to take those connections out of the classroom and into meaningful experiences that expose young people to the world of health care.

Partners in economic development, workforce development, and education manage eight regional **Inspire** deployments – each with its own unique characteristics. Funded primarily by the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation and local sponsorships, **Inspire** is also supported by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction because it ties in with the Academic and Career Planning (ACP) process followed by public middle and high schools. By joining the deployment near you, students in your region and across the state can access information about your company.

Inspire needs stronger representation from the health care industry. Many Wisconsin students are interested in health care right now, but there are not enough employers and career coaches in the **Inspire** system to address those interests. Any employer can join, but especially those who are committed to developing future talent.

There are several ways you can participate:

- Create a company profile
- Provide career coaches to answer occupational and company-related questions from students
- Send targeted messages to students interested in your industry
- Offer work-based learning activities such as guest speakers, job shadowing and more.

Learn more about your [region's Inspire deployment and get registered today](#).

CONGRATULATIONS TO GUNDERSEN HEALTH SYSTEM Receives Global Vision Award from WHA Foundation

WHA President & CEO Eric Borgerding presented the WHA Foundation [2018 Global Vision Community Partnership Award](#) to Gundersen Health System in La Crosse.

L to R: Dr. Marilu Bintz, Vice-President Population Health, Gundersen Health System; WHA President/CEO Eric Borgerding; Dr. Scott Rathgaber, CEO, Gundersen Health System; and Julie McDermid, Collaborative to End Homelessness.



REMEMBER THE WHA FOUNDATION DURING SEASON OF GIVING

For the past 50 years, the WHA Foundation has supported a variety of initiatives that have statewide impact on health care quality improvement, workforce development and community collaboration. This includes educational scholarships to those finishing their health care-related degree programs; access to simulation training so hospital teams can improve their practice in a safe and controlled environment; and support to hospital/community collaborations that address documented health needs in their communities.

In 2018, nearly 60 Wisconsin hospitals benefitted from support of the WHA Foundation. Was your hospital one of them? In order to continue supporting these types of initiatives in 2019, the WHA Foundation is asking for your support through its annual giving campaign. Contributions from WHA hospital and corporate members will be used to continue some of its most successful initiatives and give the Foundation the opportunity to consider new initiatives for funding in 2019.

Additional information on making a contribution can be found [online](#). For more information on the WHA Foundation's 2018 giving campaign, contact [Jennifer Frank](#).