

Physician Leadership

A Close Up of Agencies

Fostering Physician Leadership in Wyoming

BY KANDICE HANSEN Wyoming Medical Society

pportunities for physician leadership in Wyoming are widespread. Some of these opportunities are highlighted below. Getting involved in one area of physician leadership often launches physicians and physician assistants into other areas of leadership and opens doors to new relationships, cultivates new connections and facilitates a high rate of professional growth.

County Societies

Wyoming also has county/area societies that function on a local level. These societies exist to connect local physicians and physician assistants, provide education, and to establish connection between the community and the physicians/physician assistants. The Trustees of these societies (elected by the county medical society) represent the county society interests at the state level by serving on the WMS Board of Trustees. The Wyoming county/area societies include: Albany, Campbell, Carbon, Converse, Fremont, Goshen, Johnson, Laramie, Natrona, Northeastern Counties, Northwestern Counties, Platte, Sheridan, Sweetwater, Teton Mtn., and Uinta.

To find out more about the county-level societies, please visit the WMS website or contact WMS by emailing info@ wyomed.org

Specialty Societies

Numerous specialties have established their own state-level society or chapter derived from the national-level specialty society. Although it certainly is not an exhaustive list of these societies, WMS oversees the following specialty societes: Wyoming Academy of Family Physicians (WAFP), Wyoming Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (WY-AAP), Wyoming Association of Physician Assistants (WAPA), Wyoming Association of Psychiatric Physicians (WAPP), and the Wyoming Chapter of the American College of Physicians (WYACP). To find out more or connect with any of these societies, please contact WMS by emailing info@wyomed.org

Don't see your speciality listed? WMS recommends reaching out to the national-level organization to find out if Wyoming has an operational chapter set up.

What leaders are saying

"I have enjoyed serving on the WMS board for multiple reasons. First, I am one of those of the opinion that if you want to see change then you need to be an agent of change and not one of those who stays on the sidelines and complains. Frankly, I was shocked once I learned the significance of the issues that the WMS addresses. From major legislative issues that literally affect how a physician practices day to day over to providing a unified voice in push back to insurance changes over to patient safety issues...the WMS touches them all.

Second, the involvement allows for me to escape the fishbowl of medicine in which I live. I have the chance to think about healthcare issues that not only affect my practice but affect healthcare across our state and across our specialties. I think that this helps to keep my focus broad instead of pinpoint on my EMR inbox day in and day out.

Lastly, serving on the board allows for me to meet and interact with physicians from all around the state that I would otherwise not have met. I like to think of our board meetings as a statewide physicians lounge where we all get together to tackle the issues of our day.

I feel honored for the chance to serve our profession and state."

DEAN BARTHOLOMEW, MD, FAAFP

"I was fortuitous for me to have been on the Wyoming Board of Pharmacy during difficult discussions about immunizations and allergy extracts, subjects near and dear to me professionally, and I interacted with and was fortunate to befriend so many people."

SIGSBEE DUCK, RPH, MD

ADVISORY GROUP



Name of Organization Opportunities The Governor appoints one physician to the board of pharmacy for a WYOMING BOARD OF six year term. **PHARMACY** Physicians can apply to be a member of the Admissions Committee. This **WWAMI** committee has four member slots, and each member serves a six-year term. Physicians also have the opportunity to engage in teaching WWAMI students from all five participating states during their clinical phase. Preceptors around Wyoming take students for six-week clerkships in surgery, OBGYN, psychiatry, internal medicine, family medicine, and pediatrics. Other required clerkships include emergency medicine, neurology, and advanced outpatient care. Finally, physicians in Laramie and Cheyenne can also serve as preceptors for the students (once a week) during their foundations phase. The WMS Board of Trustees is composed of executive officers and up to WYOMING MEDICAL SOCIETY 16 county component society seats, who provide statewide representation. **BOARD OF TRUSTEES** Retired physicians, physician assistants, residents, and students are also represented on the WMS Board. These individuals participate in determining policy, responding to developing situations, and receiving and acting upon reports from committees and task forces. The Board, as a body, has full authority to act and speak for the WMS membership. The contributing membership of this advisory group is composed of clinicians WYOMING MEDICAID P&T/DUR from various medical and behavioral health fields as well as **PROGRAM** Wyoming licensed pharmacists. The contributing membership of this advisory group is composed of represen-WYOMING MEDICALD MEDICAL

tatives from various medical and behavioral health fields as well as Wyoming

Hospital CEOs/CFOs and the applicable healthcare associations.

Mission	Contact
The Board of Pharmacy is that State agency charged with the responsibility of protecting the health and welfare of the residents of Wyoming regarding pharmaceutical services.	Mary K. Walker Executive Director (307) 634-9636 Email: bop@wyo.gov Website: http://pharmacyboard.state.wy.us/
WWAMI is Wyoming's Medical School! The University of Wyoming participates in the WWAMI Medical Education Program, which is affiliated with the University of Washington School of Medicine (UWSOM) in Seattle, Washington. WWAMI is an acronym for the five states that participate in this program: Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho. The UWSOM curriculum, content and testing is the same at all WWAMI sites. Students that complete this four-year medical education program receive their doctor of medicine degree (M.D.) from the UWSOM. The WWAMI program reserves twenty seats each year for qualified Wyoming residents.	Deb Dolph Administrator/Program Operations (307) 432-9264 Email: debdolph@wyomed.org Website: http://uwmedicine.washington.edu
"Advocating for Wyoming doctors and their patients." The Wyoming Medical Society was founded in 1903 to provide representation, advocacy and service to Wyoming physicians. They strive to be an efficient, member-driven, responsive organization, capable of anticipating and responding swiftly to the changing health care environment. WMS serves their membership, and their patients, and works to improve the health of Wyoming's citizens.	Sheila Bush Executive Director (307) 635-2424 Email: info@wyomed.org Website: https://www.wyomed.org
The mission is to enhance quality of patient care by assuring appropriate drug therapy, optimal patient outcomes, and education for health care providers.	Aimee Lewis, DUR Manager (307) 766-6750 Email: alewis13@uwyo.edu
The committee advises the Wyoming Department of Health on issues regarding all aspects of the Medicaid Program.	Dr. James Bush, Medicaid Medical Director (307) 777-7245 Email: James.Bush@wyo.gov Website: https://health.wyo.gov /healthcarefin/medicaid/