Update - Thursday, December 19, 2013

Happy Holidays from the Connecticut Hospital Association

CHA Update will return on January 9, 2014.
CHA Recommends Elimination and Modification of Outdated, Unnecessarily Burdensome State Regulations

On December 13, CHA submitted a comment letter to the Governor that identifies state regulations that are outdated, unnecessarily burdensome, insufficient, or otherwise ineffective. The letter was in response to Governor Malloy’s Executive Order 37, which was issued to solicit comments on any regulation that is more than four years old. CHA’s comments focused on regulations promulgated and enforced by the Department of Public Health (DPH).

Following a CHA-staff internal review and in conjunction with the member recommendations received, CHA submitted recommendations to eliminate, modify, and/or update more than 300 DPH regulations. In addition to submitting the comment letter to the Governor, CHA continues to work with DPH and other state agencies to modify and, when appropriate, eliminate unnecessary regulatory burdens that impact the quality of care or place an undue administrative burden on care delivery in the state of Connecticut.

As outlined in Executive Order 37, any regulation more than four years old was eligible to be considered for review and possible elimination or modification. The public and other statewide organizations were invited to make recommendations on or before December 16, 2013. On or before February 3, 2014, each agency is required to provide the
Governor with a report that summarizes the comments received regarding the regulations under its jurisdiction. Each agency is required to set forth its recommendations along with implementation plans to eliminate or modify such regulations.

A complete list of eliminated, updated, or modified regulations impacting hospitals will be provided once finalized in 2014.

Hospitals of the Future are Focus of AHA CEO Rich Umbdenstock Op-Ed

AHA President and CEO Rich Umbdenstock published an advertorial op-ed in the Wall Street Journal this week that focused on what hospitals will look like in the future.

“In the coming years, the image of a hospital will be less about four walls and more about partnerships that advance the health of individuals and communities,” he wrote. “The environment the hospital of the future faces will be extraordinarily challenging,” he added, noting that providers increasingly “will have incentives to work more closely together to coordinate care, improve quality and safety, and keep patients healthier.”

However, “just as a Model T and a brand-new hybrid are both cars, the community hospital of the future will still be your hospital,” he concluded, noting that hospitals will always have “people who work around the clock to provide emergency services, perform
surgery, and care for patients who are ill or injured.”

**Education Updates**

**2014 Joint Commission Standards and National Patient Safety Goals Update**

Tuesday, January 7, 2014
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

National expert Diana Scott, VHA, will join us to present CHA’s annual full-day program outlining the 2014 Joint Commission Standards, specific changes in the standards, and National Patient Safety Goals. She will highlight specific challenges in the goals, and discuss strategies and best practices to address them. CHA is also pleased to have Mark Crafton, Executive Director of State and External Relations at The Joint Commission (TJC), and Ann Scott Blouin, Executive Vice President of Customer Relations at TJC, open the program. Their presentations will include a review of the new developments in patient safety and quality solutions emerging from The Center for Transforming Healthcare, as well as the relationship between quality improvements, risk reduction, and financial health.

Continuing education credits will be awarded.