

Tobacco Free Hospital Campus Forum
March 28, 2007 - Meeting Minutes
Porter Adventist Hospital, Denver, CO, 12:30 – 1:30pm

Attendance list: *National Jewish Medical and Research Center* - Fred Wamboldt, Susan Roll; *Denver Health Medical Center* - Lynn Ercolani, Chris Urbina, *Exempla Good Samaritan Medical Center (Lafayette)* - Mary Jackson; *St. Anthony Medical Center, Summit County* – Don Parsons, M.D., *Porter Adventist Hospital* – Kelli Dahl, Mary Bearman, *St. Anthony Hospital* – Scott Reistad, *Memorial Health System* - Carlene Crall, *Rose Medical Center* – Roger Rewerts, *University of Colorado Hospital*- Mark Merritt, *Penrose St. Francis* - Elizabeth Meyer; *Longmont United Hospital* - Laura Wesenberg; *St. Joseph's Hospital* – Barb Hester.

Other guests: *Colorado Clinical Guidelines Collaborative (CCGC)* - Emily Gingerich, *Colorado Tobacco Education and Prevention Alliance (CTEPA)* - Kim Hills

Conference call: *St. Anthony Medical Center, Summit County* – Jerry Williams, *Heart of the Rockies Regional Medical Center* – Joan Michaud; *Weld County Health Department* - Joe Fleming; *Delta County* – Kathy; Leslie; *Rocky Mountain Cancer Centers* - Karen Mader.

Health Departments/Visiting Nurse Associations: *Boulder County Health Dept.*- Nick Robles and Molly Hanson; *Tri-County Health Dept.* – Connie Mahaffey; *El Paso County Health Dept.* - Lynette Reagan; *Jefferson County Health Department*– Erin Carroll; *Denver Public Health* - Tracey Richers Maruyama, Johnn Young, Beverly Tafoya-Dominguez. Minutes taken by: Beverly Tafoya-Dominguez.

Agenda Item	Discussion	Follow-up
Introductions	All attendees gave their name and position, health agency or institution.	
Hospital policy announcements/updates	<p>Nationwide hospitals in West Virginia, and the entire campus of the University of Iowa including all medical facilities are or will soon go tobacco free. In Colorado, North Colorado Medical Center, The Children’s Hospital, Platte Valley Medical Center (Brighton), Memorial Health System (CO Springs), Memorial Hospital (Montrose), and St. Joseph’s Hospital are in the process of implementing a 100% tobacco free campus policy within the next 9 months.</p> <p>Quitline materials were also available for Forum participants.</p>	
Presentation- Kelli Dahl (Director of Safety)	Porter Adventist went tobacco-free on March 1 st . Kelli Dahl discussed the steps taken, the positive aspects and barriers encountered. They used the opening of their newest building as the impetus to become tobacco free throughout the whole system and linked the effort to the hospital’s mission of extending the healing ministry of Christ. The safety committee took the lead and worked for two years on this effort. Focus groups with employees who are smokers and non-smokers were held separately, and most employees agreed that using tobacco was not a good example for patients. The focus of the focus groups was on helping to address challenges of the new policy, because the policy was going to be implemented and enforced. The process has generally been smooth.	Contact Kelli Dahl for her PowerPoint presentation. 303-765-6147 Kellidahl@centura.org

Some of the challenges included determining who enforces the policy and the staff were told that enforcement is everyone's responsibility. The leadership asked that supervisors address complaints about employees through the disciplinary process, because staff cannot smoke while on the clock and smoking during break is a matter for disciplinary action. During lunch, they can smoke as long as it's not on the campus. This is a good selling point to hospital administrators as it leads to increases in employee productivity.

The mental health staff and patients posed a particular challenge, but some staff members suggested it would be best to enforce the policy in the Psych area as well, because "we don't let them bring in or use alcohol or other drugs when they are in treatment." After the initial resistance there has not been too much of a problem.

One challenge is employees and patients crossing the street to smoke. Emails have been sent out requesting that employees do not smoke in areas near the hospital and it has been suggested that extinguishing devices be placed in the local park and other strategic areas to contain cigarette butts, as "butt" contamination is a problem.

Leadership has been very supportive, even to the point of implementing policy just before the annual satisfaction survey required by the Joint Commission. The only challenge in terms of working with the leadership is they are not willing to place large signs proclaiming that the hospital campus is tobacco free.

Next steps: celebrate accomplishment publicly; send out monthly updates and comments about policy to all staff; begin paying for employee cessation classes and NRT; beginning to sell NRT products in the gift shop.

Mary Bearman who runs the tobacco cessation program reports that "a lot" of the smoking employees are angry, but some are grateful that they are being motivated to quit and are planning to attend the free sessions. The tobacco cessation program consists of three parts: 1) Three Getting Ready To Quit classes-free 2) Stop Smoking Clinic--\$150 and 3) One year of monthly follow-up by phone.—free. It is available for hospital staff and patients and marketed to the business community as well.

<p>Presentation Carlene Crall, Director of Human Resources at Memorial Health System in Colorado Springs, will present on their plan of implementing a tobacco free campus later this year.</p>	<p>Carlene Crall, Director of Human Resources at Memorial Health System in Colorado Springs, presented on the history of the tobacco-free efforts in her facility and the renewed commitment to the effort that coincided with her being employed at the facility. Since she had experience in launching and implementing a tobacco free campus in her previous employment, her experience has proved valuable in implementing the tobacco free policy at Memorial Health System. She was charged with instituting the policy at the new Northside facility and then expanding it. Leadership felt that with all the money spent on the new facility it would be a shame to allow tobacco use. All staff have been advised of the change in policy. They are planning to have signs up soon and will have ashtrays for people to extinguish cigarettes as they approach the entrance. The disciplinary action includes a written warning, then a suspension followed by expulsion. Only a few employees were let go at her previous place of employment and she expects the same result at Memorial. The hospital plans to offer discounts on cessation programs and NRT for employees and will publicize Quitline/QuitNet .</p> <p>Smoking will not be allowed on campus or during work time, so employees can smoke only on their lunch hour. If staff choose to smoke off the clock, they will be asked to remove nametags (and scrubs?). So far only non-exempt staff have broken policy and been disciplined. They are preparing staff for closing the “butt hut” which is in the parking structure and previously had not been considered part of the campus.</p> <p>Challenges: Clients and staff smoking in the park near hospital; some doctors allowing patients to go AMA to smoke.</p>	
<p>Questions, Discussion, Wrap-up</p>	<p>Regarding the two presentations: copies of the policies will be available through the website and via email.</p> <p>About enforcement: It is everyone’s job. All staff have a script to use to ask people to not use tobacco. Security will escort patients/visitors off campus if they become argumentative. So far feedback from staff has been overwhelmingly positive.</p> <p>Patients using NRT upon discharge are referred to local pharmacy/stores to purchase NRT.</p>	
<p>April Forum –</p>	<p>Wednesday, April 25, 2007 12:30 – 1:30 Saint Joseph's Hospital, Denver Lunch will be provided</p>	<p>Contact Barb Hester at 303-837-6806 Hesterb@exempla.org.</p>
<p>May Forum –</p>	<p>Wednesday, May 23, 2007 12:30 – 1:30 Denver Health Medical Center, Denver Lunch will be provided</p>	<p>Contact Lynn Ercolini at 303-436-6151 lynn.ercolani@dhha.org</p>