

Armitage

From: Armitage [armitage@armitageinonline.com]
Sent: Friday, December 02, 2011 10:52 AM
To:

Subject: You Have Saved \$\$ Millions \$\$

***Your Hospital Rate Increases Have Gone Down!
And with more community awareness and your involvement,
health care costs can be controlled!***

Dear Members of CARE Cooperative,

It seems the existence of your CARE Cooperative has helped save all members and non-members living in God's Country millions in health care costs over the last ten years. (see CARE Reporting and hospital rate increases). The real work was done by our local health providers. We are just more watchful and more persistent than consumers in other areas of Wisconsin.

We do thank our health providers who are increasing quality and driving down costs to serve us all. They are responsive even as the cost of chronic illness continues to consume us.

Your mutual support and determination to make a difference has helped yield more transparency and a favorable cost trend. Thank you.

Cordially,

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"Healthiest County 2015: Making the Healthy Choice Together"

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AVERAGE HOSPITAL RATE INCREASES BY CITIES IN WISCONSIN

November 28, 2011

Years

Hospitals	Cities	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total/Avg
1	Arcadia (Closed 4/1/11)	0.00%	7.25%	0.00%	6.75%	5.40%	0.00%	5.90%	6.50%	4.75%	5.50%	5.00%	0.00%	0.00%	3.62%
1	Black River Falls	11.90%	7.70%	6.30%	15.10%	7.90%	10.90%	6.20%	0.00%	0.00%	6.90%	6.20%	5.30%	0.00%	6.49%
3	Eau Claire	6.30%	12.04%	8.15%	9.15%	7.46%	7.13%	6.58%	6.33%	6.18%	6.13%	5.50%	5.65%	0.00%	6.66%
1	Hillsboro	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	7.00%	7.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4.80%	3.00%	3.95%	4.38%	4.00%	0.00%	2.63%
2	La Crosse (Avg.)	<u>9.20%</u>	<u>12.10%</u>	<u>8.75%</u>	<u>7.25%</u>	<u>5.77%</u>	<u>5.70%</u>	<u>5.47%</u>	<u>5.85%</u>	<u>4.83%</u>	<u>5.00%</u>	<u>4.65%</u>	<u>4.55%</u>	<u>2.05%</u>	<u>6.24%</u>
	Franciscan Healthcare	9.90%	12.20%	6.00%	6.00%	5.75%	5.90%	5.70%	6.50%	4.75%	5.50%	5.00%	4.90%	0.00%	6.01%
	Gundersen Lutheran	8.50%	12.00%	11.50%	8.50%	5.80%	5.50%	5.25%	5.20%	4.90%	4.50%	4.30%	4.20%	4.10%	6.48%
1	Prairie du Chien	10.70%	7.60%	6.00%	3.00%	3.40%	6.00%	5.00%	0.00%	6.00%	5.00%	6.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4.52%
1	Sparta	7.25%	7.25%	6.00%	6.75%	5.40%	5.90%	5.90%	6.50%	4.75%	5.50%	5.00%	4.90%	0.00%	5.47%
1	Tomah	7.00%	0.00%	6.00%	7.50%	5.40%	0.00%	5.00%	0.00%	5.30%	5.20%	0.00%	4.20%	0.00%	3.51%
1	Viroqua	8.00%	15.00%	9.50%	11.25%	8.50%	9.00%	4.00%	7.00%	0.00%	2.25%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	5.73%
1	Whitehall	10.34%	12.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	8.00%	8.00%	5.00%	4.00%	6.13%	4.15%	0.00%	3.82%
4	Madison	7.13%	13.33%	8.22%	7.19%	6.88%	6.35%	6.30%	8.35%	8.35%	6.37%	7.97%	4.98%	0.00%	7.03%
12	Milwaukee	2.09%	9.79%	6.09%	5.75%	5.76%	5.38%	4.49%	3.22%	3.71%	4.79%	3.39%	3.75%	0.00%	4.48%
1	Janesville	3.83%	6.50%	6.85%	5.23%	5.50%	5.50%	5.00%	6.75%	8.00%	5.00%	5.00%	6.00%	0.00%	5.32%
2	Fond du Lac	5.15%	8.50%	4.00%	5.07%	5.71%	7.13%	5.29%	3.59%	4.43%	3.00%	4.90%	4.05%	0.00%	4.68%
7	Green Bay	4.08%	8.66%	7.12%	7.63%	5.80%	5.72%	7.53%	6.18%	4.69%	4.60%	4.48%	5.54%	0.00%	5.54%
	State Average	<u>6.84%</u>	<u>7.11%</u>	<u>7.34%</u>	<u>6.77%</u>	<u>6.47%</u>	<u>5.96%</u>	<u>5.92%</u>	<u>6.24%</u>	<u>6.07%</u>	<u>5.67%</u>	<u>5.27%</u>	<u>5.17%</u>	<u>0.00%</u>	<u>5.76%</u>
	U.S. CPI	2.70%	3.40%	1.60%	2.40%	1.90%	3.30%	3.40%	2.50%	4.10%	0.10%	2.70%	1.50%	0.00%	2.28%

Source: Wisconsin Hospital Association, 2011

www.wiha.org



Companies
 Armitage, Inc.
 Second Opinion Insurance Services, Inc.
 Corporate Compensation Plans of WI, Inc.
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Health Care Cost and Quality Websites



- 1) **Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality** www.wchq.org/reporting
“WCHQ publicly reports and brings meaning to performance measurement information that improves the quality and affordability of healthcare in Wisconsin, in turn improving the health of individuals and communities.”
- 2) **Wisconsin PricePoint** www.wipricepoint.org
“This Web site allows health care consumers to receive basic, facility-specific information about healthcare services and charges.”
- 3) **The Leapfrog Group** www.leapfroggroup.org
“Comparing hospitals’ performance on the national standards of safety, quality, and efficiency that are most relevant to consumers and purchasers of care.”
- 4) **US Department of Health & Human Services**
Hospital Compare www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov
“Patients Rate the Quality of Care During their Stay at Hospitals”

State Snapshots <http://statesnapshots.ahrq.gov>
“The State Snapshots provide State-specific health care quality information, including strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities for improvement.”
- 5) **Wisconsin CheckPoint** www.wicheckpoint.org
“The mission of CheckPoint is to develop consumer-focused initiatives that will provide reliable, valid measures of health care in Wisconsin to aid the selection of quality health care and quality improvement activities within the hospital field.”
- 6) **Health Grades** www.healthgrades.com
“HealthGrades is the leading health care ratings organization, providing ratings and profiles of hospitals, nursing homes and physicians to consumers, corporations, health plans and hospitals.”
- 7) **Health Scorecard** <http://www.communityscorecard.com/>
Here you will find a variety of information on health concerns encompassing the 20 counties of the La Crosse Medical Health Science Consortium.
- 8) **FAIR Health Consumer Cost Lookup** <http://www.fairhealthconsumer.org/>
“FAIR Health is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to help consumers understand the out-of-network reimbursement system and estimate out-of-network medical and dental costs.”
- 9) **Health Care Blue Book** <http://www.healthcarebluebook.com/>
“The Health Care Blue Book is a free consumer guide to help you determine fair prices in your area for healthcare services. The Blue Book will help you find fair prices for surgery, hospital stays, doctor visits, medical tests and much more.”