



CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITAL RECOGNITION: FY2018 INNOVATIVE TELEHEALTH INITIATIVES IMPACTING POPULATION HEALTH

Boulder City Hospital

Boulder City, Nevada

[Boulder City Hospital](#) (BCH) is recognized for its use of Project ECHO in advancing the quality of their antibiotic stewardship program (ASP). The ASP program, established in 2013, became stronger when they began participating in Project ECHO to gain education through didactic presentations. Project ECHO participation also allows them to present cases and receive feedback from infectious disease specialists, a provider type that is not typically available in rural hospitals.



Pictured left to right: Peggy Caspar, BCH Board President; Laima Etchegoyhen, Flex Program Coordinator, University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine; Arleen Sheeler, Risk Manager, BCH; Jessica Murray, Quality Management and Infection Control, BCH; Stephanie West, Pharmacy Manager, BCH; and Thomas Maher, CEO, BCH.

Positive Outcomes

- BCH's infection control and risk management staff regularly attend Project ECHO clinics and regularly monitor relevant quality indicators.
- Based on recommendations from specialists, BCH's ASP team created a standard operating procedure form which includes a list of criteria regarding symptoms before calling a physician for orders.
- Patients are now treated based on culture results and severity of symptoms, leading to the appropriate treatment of the patient and improved antibiotic stewardship.

Top Accomplishment

- Inappropriate use of antibiotics dropped 30 percent in a nine-month period.

"Boulder City Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Program is a perfect example of organizations working together to make positive health care changes in a small local community. With the guidance from the Project ECHO Nevada and the extra work and dedication of Boulder City Hospital Infection Control and Risk Management team Stephanie West, Jessica Murray, and Arleen Sheeler, this collaboration became an ongoing successful program."

- *Laima Etchegoyhen, MPH, Nevada Flex Program Coordinator at the Office of Statewide Initiatives, University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine*