






December 2025

*As we approach the end of another year, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to all our members for your continued support and engagement throughout 2025. Your participation and dedication have made our Association stronger, and we're truly grateful to have you as part of our community. As we celebrate this Christmas season, we wish you and your loved ones peace, joy, and wonderful memories together. We're excited about what the new year will bring and look forward to continuing our work together in 2026.
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*

Wound Care Certification Solutions

You're invited to join us for an upcoming informational demonstration highlighting Relias' Wound Care Education Institute (WCEI) and its nationally recognized wound care certification solutions for hospitals and long-term care organizations.

This session is designed for nursing leaders, educators, and clinical decision-makers who are exploring ways to strengthen wound care competency, improve clinical outcomes, and support staff development through flexible, evidence-based education.

 Date: January 29
 Time: 12:00 PM MST
 Format: Virtual demonstration

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Meeting ID: 294 334 518 816 87

Passcode: bB6gL6ze

Dial in by phone

+1 910-710-5320,,759154550# United States, Fayetteville

Phone conference ID: 759 154 550#

During this session, we will cover:

- Overview of WCEI wound care certification pathways
- Options for individual learners and group education
- Support for hospitals and nursing homes managing wound complexity and staffing challenges
- How certification can align with quality initiatives and regulatory expectations

This is an educational overview intended to provide clarity around available solutions and answer questions — there is no obligation to move forward.



Getting Chemotherapy While in a Nursing Home

Nursing homes may deny admission to a Medicare beneficiary who needs expensive drugs, often as a result of financial concerns. Because of “consolidated billing,” nursing homes must pay for whatever medications, therapies, and services a resident in a Medicare Part A stay needs and receives. However, nursing homes may not know that there are exclusions from consolidated billing for five specified categories that are extremely expensive but not frequently needed by residents (“high-cost, low-probability”) – including certain chemotherapy items and chemotherapy administration services. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services tightly regulates the exclusions lists, although it asks the public each year if additional drugs (HCPCS codes) within the five categories should be excluded.

Recently, the Center worked with a local ombudsman whose client was admitted to a nursing home on the condition that she forego chemotherapy. Successful advocacy focused on identifying the resident’s chemotherapy drugs and determining that they are expressly excluded from consolidated billing (and have been excluded since 2008). After a temporary hospitalization, the resident is now back in the nursing home under Medicare Part A and she is getting the chemotherapy she needs. If someone is being denied admission to a nursing home chemotherapy, check the list of exclusions.

[Visit Here for More Resources](#)



Life Care Center of Cheyenne Recognized as One of Nation's Best Nursing Homes

Life Care Center of Cheyenne has earned a spot on the prestigious 2026 U.S. News and World Report Best Nursing Homes list, placing it among the top senior care facilities in the country. The recognition highlights the center's exceptional patient outcomes, outstanding staffing levels, and unwavering commitment to quality care.

U.S. News and World Report annually evaluates nearly 15,000 nursing homes nationwide, selecting only the top 19% based on their performance in short-term rehabilitation and long-term care. This year, just 59 facilities across the nation achieved this distinction.

The rankings draw from patient and staff surveys as well as data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Life Care Center of Cheyenne earned a perfect 5/5 overall rating, with above-average marks in staffing and high performance ratings in both health outcomes and medical processes.

Located at 1330 Prairie Avenue, the 160-bed facility operates under Life Care Centers of America and offers comprehensive services including individualized treatment plans, medication management, and social services. The center's performance metrics are particularly impressive. Nearly 60% of short-term residents successfully returned home after discharge, while only 6.2% required emergency room visits during their stay—well below the national average of 11.8%. The facility recorded just one hospitalization and zero emergency room visits per 1,000 patient days.

"Our staff works incredibly hard, and we're proud to see that dedication recognized," said Caroline Veit, the center's community relations director. She noted this isn't the first time the facility has received this honor, adding that maintaining high standards remains a priority. Veit explained that the center strives to be the premier provider of both long- and short-term care in the area. "We empower our associates to provide the very best care possible," she said. "Whether someone is calling Life Care home for the rest of their life or here for a short rehabilitation stay, our entire clinical and therapy team works to help them thrive."

With a staff of over 200 professionals providing specialized clinical care, nursing, physical therapy, dietary services, and environmental support, the center typically serves about 80 long-term care residents and 50 short-term rehabilitation patients at any given time. Veit emphasized that quality senior care is increasingly critical given rising healthcare and insurance costs, along with growing demand for senior rehabilitation services. Meeting these challenges requires strong community partnerships.

"The biggest thing is working together with the community to provide the best care across the continuum," Veit said. "That means being a good community partner with all the other healthcare providers in Cheyenne."



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