

## PHARMACY HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY GRANTS AWARDED

The Florida Office of Rural Health has awarded \$148,000 in pharmacy health information technology grants to six critical access hospitals as part of an ongoing effort to assist Florida's small rural hospitals to improve the quality of healthcare they provide. The grants are intended to encourage and assist rural hospitals to implement information technologies identified as having a significant impact on preventing medication errors in hospitals. An estimated 3,500 patients admitted to these hospitals yearly will be impacted by reducing or eliminating errors in the prescribing, dispensing, and administration of medications to hospital patients. Grant funds will assist these hospitals to purchase computerized pharmacy management information systems and equipment, medication scanning and bar code equipment, and remote pharmacy services that provide concurrent review of medication orders. The hospitals receiving the funds are: Calhoun-Liberty Hospital, FL Hospital Wauchula, Hendry Regional Medical Center, Lake Butler Hospital, Northwest Florida Community Hospital and Weems Memorial Hospital. Please contact Robert Pannell at 850-245-4444 x 2705 or Joel Libby at x 2706 if you have any questions.