



Weekly Roundup

...Reporting the state and national long term care news

Please disseminate relevant information to the appropriate department.

- Administration Nursing Dietary Activities Social Services
 Rehabilitation Housekeeping Maintenance Laundry

Friday, January 31, 2014

ANHA NEWS

Online Registration Open for “The Perfect Storm: A Convergence of Quality, Compliance, and Risk Management” Seminar

Please mark your calendars for February 3, 2014, as ANHA will present a seminar entitled “The Perfect Storm: A Convergence of Quality, Compliance, and Risk Management”. This seminar will be held at The Hyatt Regency - Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham. The seminar will begin at 8:30 am and conclude at 4:00 pm. This seminar has been approved for 6 hours of continuing education for nursing home administrators. It has also been approved for 7.2 contact hours for nurses. *Please see the attached flyer for more information. Attendees should check www.anha.org approximately one week prior to the seminar to download the handouts.*

Call for Nominations: Alabama’s Best Practices

Will you share your Best Practice? You are invited to share your knowledge, positive ideas, creativity and communicate with other professionals as we continue to strive to meet the needs of our long-term care residents. *Attached is the 2014 Alabama’s Best Practices “Call for Nominations.”* We encourage each of you to look over the nomination form and submit your Best Practice. This year’s Best Practices Program is scheduled for Thursday, August 28, 2014. Nominations are due by April 18, 2014.

STATE NEWS

RAC Audit Update and Results

The Alabama Medicaid Agency has provided information to ANHA regarding common errors found by HMS, the Medicaid RAC audit contractor, for both the financial and clinical audits conducted thus far. Those facilities chosen for the first two rounds of financial audits should have received their results. *The results of the facilities chosen for the first round of clinical audits will receive their results shortly. It is ANHA’s understanding that facilities receiving the results of their clinical audits will have 30 days to provide the necessary documentation prior to recoupments, and they will also have an appeals process. If you are a facility that received a clinical RAC audit please review the letter carefully and respond accordingly!*

Clinical Audits: The RAC Clinical audit goal was to review supporting documentation for necessity of admission and continued stay in long term care for Medicaid residents. There was

over \$2.6M identified in potential PASRR errors in the 32 of 35 facilities that were chose thus far for the clinical audit.

Common Errors Identified Include:

Form 161

- Form missing
- Lack of Medicaid admit date
- Facility name missing
- Lack of SSN or Medicaid ID

PASRR/OBRA

- Lack of completion prior to admission date
- Not signing as review after admission
- Form missing

Physician Visit

- Form missing
- Visits outside of required time frames

Financial Audits: The Financial audit goal was to identify improperly billed and paid claims to ensure the Alabama Medicaid Agency is the payer of last resort as required by CFR Chapter 42.

Common Errors Identified Include:

- Dates of Service paid after death or discharge
- Disallowed hospital bed hold days
- Home leave days payable by Medicaid exceeded
- Medicare or MCO covered period
- Hospice covered period
- Other insurance covered period
- Duplicate Medicaid payment
- Remaining patient funds on facility records for a deceased recipient

As a reminder, according to federal regulation the RAC entity must not review claims that are older than 3 years from the date of the claim, unless it receives approval from the State.

Providers are reminded that the Alabama Administrative Code and their Provider Agreements require compliance with requests for medical records for Medicaid program audits.

Please note that ALL facilities will receive a RAC clinical and financial audit at some point. We encourage you to please conduct chart audits to ensure that all necessary documentation is contained in the medical record to meet the guidelines set forth in federal and state regulations. Take this opportunity to review the common errors noted so that they can be avoided in the future.

ANHA plans to work with Medicaid to provide training on these areas identified as errors and issues.

Handling Funds Following the Death of a Medicaid-Eligible Resident

The Alabama Medicaid Agency sent an Alert to all nursing home providers on November 21, 2013 regarding the handling of funds following the death of a Medicaid-eligible resident. This issue has arisen during the financial RAC audits currently being conducted by Medicaid contractors. ANHA reposted the Alert in several newsletters beginning on November 27, 2013. In early December ANHA wrote a letter to Medicaid asking for a meeting to discuss this issue. A meeting was held this week regarding this issue, and as a result, we have confirmed with Medicaid that at this time facilities should continue to handle those funds as they have in the past. There will not be any efforts to recoup money from facilities based on the way facilities refund resident funds at death. Medicaid plans to issue a new Alert once we have had a chance to fully discuss this issue and clarify the procedures for handling these funds.

New Rules Proposed to Support Move to RCOs, Comply with State Law

Five new rules to regulate the operation of Regional Care Organizations were filed December 17 by the Alabama Medicaid Agency, outlining proposed state requirements that will be used to support the Agency's move to Regional Care Organizations and to comply with state law. The proposed rules include requirements for RCO Governing Boards; for RCO Citizens' Advisory Committees; for receiving probationary certification as a RCO; for contracting for specific case management services with probationary RCOs, and for active supervision of probationarily certified RCOs. Written or oral comments on any of the five rules may be submitted no later than February 4, 2014, to: Agency Administrative Secretary, 501 Dexter Ave., P.O. Box 5624, Montgomery, AL 36103-5624. To read the full text of the proposed rules please click on the following link:

http://medicaid.alabama.gov/CONTENT/2.0_newsroom/2.7.3_Regional_Care_Organizations.aspx

Annual Report of Employing Agencies

It is that time of year again when the Annual Report of Employing Agencies is due to the Alabama Board of Nursing (ABN). January 31, 2014, is the deadline. Here is the link to the information you need to know about how to report: <http://abn.alabama.gov/Content.aspx?id=178>.

If you are a subscriber to the online verification subscription service, you do not have to submit the report because your report is the subscription. This is a good time to check your subscription and delete nurses who no longer work for you and add those that you plan to monitor.

ABN checks each name and license number against its database to be sure that the individuals you list are appropriately licensed. The law requires that each nurse be properly licensed in order to practice nursing. If you have questions about the report, do not hesitate to contact ABN's Call Center at 1-800-656-5318.

NATIONAL NEWS

Reminder: Post OSHA Illness & Injury Forms On Feb. 1 until April 30, 2014

February 1 is the deadline for employers to post the Summary of Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) Occupational Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses Summary Form

300A, which must remain posted until April 30, 2014. The injuries and illnesses being reported are for calendar year 2013.

Work-related injuries and illnesses that must be reported are those that occur in a work environment and results in one of the following conditions: a loss of consciousness, sick days, medical treatment beyond first aid, restricted work activities, a job transfer, and death. Other conditions that must be recorded are needle stick injuries or cuts from sharp objects as well as sprain and strain injuries to muscles joints and connective tissue according to the OSHA Form 300. For a complete list of injuries and illness that need to be recorded, go to <https://www.osha.gov/recordkeeping/RKforms.html>. There are forms that can be completed by printing a blank form or forms can be filled out online.

An employer must keep the OSHA's log and summary for five years after the reported year. For example, 2012 must be retained through 2017.

FACILITY NEWS

Facility News is now posted on ANHA's news website: news.anha.org.

Here are some of the articles posted this week:

- Shelby County Nursing Home Receives Deficiency Free Survey

To submit stories from your facility, contact John Matson at the Association Office at (334) 271-6214 or jmatson@anha.org. Please see the attached memo on ANHA's news website for tips of submitting your articles.

OTHER NEWS

“Manual Updates to Clarify Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF), Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF), Home Health (HH), and Outpatient (OPT) Coverage Pursuant to *Jimmo vs. Sebelius*” MLN Matters® Article — Released MLN Matters® Article #MM8458 (<http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/Downloads/MM8458.pdf>) , “Manual Updates to Clarify Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF), Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF), Home Health (HH), and Outpatient (OPT) Coverage Pursuant to *Jimmo vs. Sebelius*” has been released by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and is now available in downloadable format. The article was prepared and is being distributed as a result of the settlement agreement in the case of *Jimmo v. Sebelius*. This article is designed to provide education on the updated portions of the “Medicare Benefit Policy Manual” (MBPM). It includes clarification on the coverage requirements of skilled nursing and skilled therapy services to Medicare beneficiaries.

Quality Improvement Videos

We are excited to share with you two short videos developed by CMS' Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) Program that highlights important quality improvement principals, the PDSA (Plan, Do, Study, Act) Cycle and Recognizing and Eliminating the 7 Wastes (Waiting, Page 4 of 6

Overproduction, Rework, Motion, Processing, Inventory, and Transportation). Each video is 6-7 minutes in length and are available to you as teaching tools and offer a wonderful opportunity to spark or re-ignite your quality improvement efforts in 2014. We request that you view the videos and then share it with 3 of your colleagues. The QIO would like to know how you have used the videos and/or the quality improvement principals to help re-ignite quality improvement efforts in your facility.

The Domestic Lean Goddess – Getting the Kids to School on Time – PDSA:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jsp-19o_5vU

The Domestic Lean Goddess – Clothing Processing Center – Eliminating the 7 Wastes (Muda):

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JkXUqxO0FEA>

What’s New at the 2014 AHCA Quality Symposium

It’s one of the busiest times of the year, so don’t delay. Before the holiday rush kicks in, register for the Quality Symposium, and cross one thing off your end-of-the-year list of things to do. The registration deadline is January 10, 2014.

NEW Education Sessions Added

A terrific line-up of educational and networking opportunities makes this one of the best long term care events of the year. Three clinically-focused sessions designed specifically for nursing attendees have been added. These sessions will discuss the care practices and services that are targeted areas for quality improvement. In addition, new sessions have also been added for assisted living providers. And, on Tuesday, February 11, a celebration luncheon will be held recognizing those centers around the country that have accomplished multiple Quality Initiative goals.

The symposium will kick off with five, four-hour intensives (included with registration) that offer attendees the opportunity to dive into critical issues facing long term and post-acute care providers. With more than 20 education sessions available, two general sessions, a poster gallery, and lots of opportunities for professional networking, you won’t want to miss this event!

Join the American Health Care Association for the 6th annual Quality Symposium: Quality Is Our Business Solution on February 10-12, 2014, at the New Orleans Marriott in New Orleans, LA. Registration is available online at:

<http://www.ahcancal.org/events/qualitysymposium/Pages/Registration.aspx>.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<u><i>Date</i></u>	<u><i>Event</i></u>	<u><i>Location</i></u>	<u><i>Time</i></u>
January 31	ANHA Region VII Act/SS CANCELLED Auxiliary Meeting RSVP: Jo Ann Smyly (334) 637-3239	Felix’s Fish Camp Mobile	11:30 a.m.
February 3	ANHA Seminar: The Perfect Storm: A Convergence of Quality, Compliance, and Risk Management	Hyatt Wynfrey Birmingham	8:30 a.m.

February 5	ANHA Payment for Services Committee Meeting	ANHA Office Montgomery	10:30 a.m.
February 6	ANHA Membership/Ethics Committee Meeting	ANHA Office Montgomery	10:00 a.m.
February 6-7	Act/SS Board of Directors Board Meeting & Retreat	ANHA Office Montgomery	2:00 p.m.
February 11	ANHA Associate Member Committee Meeting	ANHA Office Montgomery	10:00 a.m.
February 14	ANHA Region VII Meeting RSVP: Gail McInnish (251) 937-3501, gail.mcinnish@infirmarhealth.org Guest Speaker: ANHA's John Matson Topic: How to Share Good News about Nursing Homes	Felix's Fish Camp Mobile	12:00 p.m.
February 18	ANHA Facility Standards/QA Committee Meeting	ANHA Office Montgomery	10:00 a.m.
February 19	ANHA Convention/Education Committees Meeting	ANHA Office Montgomery	10:00 a.m.

Alabama Nursing Home Association

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Links:

Alabama Nursing Home Association <http://www.anha.org>

AL Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators <http://www.alboenha.state.al.us>

AL Dept. of Public Health <http://www.adph.org>

CMS <http://cms.gov>