



Weekly Roundup

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

Please disseminate relevant information to the appropriate department.

qAdministration

qNursing

qDietary

qActivities

q Social Services

qRehabilitation

qHousekeeping

q Maintenance

q Laundry

Friday, October 24, 2014

ANHA NEWS

ANHA Office Schedule

The ANHA Office will be closed Monday, October 27 – Thursday, October 30 due to the Owners' Meeting. The office will re-open at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, October 31.

Deadline TODAY for My InnerView Customer/Employee Satisfaction Survey

TODAY is the deadline to sign up for the My InnerView Customer Satisfaction Survey. This is an ANHA member benefit at no cost to your facility. The initiative focuses on family, resident and employee satisfaction levels. This is an excellent opportunity to discover how your most important customers view your facility and what they are sharing with the rest of the community.

To participate in this year's initiative, *complete the attached ANHA 2014 sign-up form*. The deadline to sign-up for this initiative is **Friday, October 24**.

Please see the attached My InnerView Timeline and Sign Up Form for more details.

If you have any questions, contact My InnerView by National Research representatives Allison Thomas, athomas@nationalresearch.com, or Mary Ann Castillo, mcastillo@nationalresearch.com, or call 800-601-3884.

New Partners Join ANHA Facility Locator: Comfort Care, Restore



Comfort Care Hospice and Restore Therapy Services are partnering with ANHA to provide the new, interactive facility locator.

They join current partners Gericare Medical Supply and Senior Care Pharmacy.



You can view the facility locator at <http://www.facilitylocator.anha.org>.

Online Registration Open for “The Nursing Home Survey Process – Update 2014” Seminar

Sponsored by Gericare Medical Supply and Senior Care Pharmacy

Please mark your calendars for November 18, 2014, as ANHA will present a seminar entitled “The Nursing Home Survey Process – Update 2014.” This seminar will be held at the Embassy Suites located in Montgomery, Alabama, and is sponsored by Gericare Medical Supply and Senior Care Pharmacy. The seminar will begin at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 4:30 p.m. This seminar is approved for 6 hours of continuing education for nursing home administrators. It is 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.*

Send Medicaid Cost Reports to ANHA

The Alabama Nursing Home Association is collecting Medicaid cost reports for analysis by our independent reimbursement consultant, Dave Bishop. As in the past, our reimbursement consultant will provide you a detailed analysis of your costs compared to the costs of other facilities of a similar size. ANHA cannot stress enough the importance of sending in your cost report. In order to negotiate with Medicaid on various issues, we need to have accurate information concerning the profession. This information has proved very beneficial in the past. Please send a copy of your 2013 Medicaid Cost Report to kmagdon@anha.org or by mail to:

Alabama Nursing Home Association
4156 Carmichael Road
Montgomery, Alabama, 36106
ATTN: Katrina Magdon

NATIONAL NEWS

New Web Page on Protecting Workers from Exposure to Ebola Virus

With an abundance of caution, we felt you might want to be aware of resource materials even though our care centers are not regarded as “first receivers.” To assist workers and employers, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has launched a new Ebola Web page (<https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/ebola/index.html>) that provides information about the disease and how to protect workers. It includes sections on the disease itself, hazard recognition, medical information, standards for protecting workers, control and prevention, and additional resources. The page provides protection information for health care workers; airline and other travel industry personnel; mortuary and death care workers; laboratory workers; border, customs and quarantine workers; emergency responders; and workers in other critical sectors. It also links to the CDC and NIOSH Web pages on Ebola.

The Web page also includes a new OSHA fact sheet (https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA_FS-3756.pdf) on protecting workers (not in healthcare or laboratories) involved in cleaning and decontamination of surfaces that may be contaminated with Ebola virus.

Other resources you might find helpful include:

- ASPR Ebola Webpage <http://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/responders/ebola/Pages/default.aspx>
- CDC Ebola Webpage <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/>

Please note that the Alabama Department of Public Health is working on an Ebola Tool Kit for nursing homes. More information will be forthcoming regarding this as soon as it is available.

CMS “Reading the Institutional Remittance Advice” Booklet — Released

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) “Reading the Institutional Remittance Advice (RA)” (<http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/Downloads/Institutional-RA-Booklet-ICN908326.pdf>) Booklet (ICN 908326) is now available in downloadable format. This booklet is designed to provide education on the institutional remittance advice (RA). It includes screen shots of an institutional RA with an explanation of what you will find on each screen.

CMS Dual Eligibles Fact Sheet Revised

The CMS “Dual Eligible Beneficiaries Under the Medicare and Medicaid Programs” Fact Sheet (http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/Downloads/Medicare_Beneficiaries_Dual_Eligibles_At_a_Glance.pdf) (previously titled “Medicaid Coverage of Medicare Beneficiaries (Dual Eligibles) At a Glance”) (ICN 006977) was revised in September 2014. This fact sheet is designed to provide education on dual eligible beneficiaries under the Medicare and Medicaid Programs.

It includes the following information:

- the Medicare and Medicaid Programs;
- dual eligible beneficiaries;
- assignment;
- and prohibited billing.

STATE NEWS

Alabama Medicaid Receives “No Wrong Door” Planning Grant

Accessing long term care services often means visiting a myriad of places and people to learn about and obtain services. Officials hope a new grant awarded to the Alabama Medicaid Agency will make it possible for the state to design a new, unified system that will make it easier for people of all ages, disabilities and income levels to learn about and access the services and supports they need.

The Agency was notified on September 26 that its application for a “No Wrong Door” planning grant was approved. The \$217,401 grant will be used to create a three-year strategic plan to transform multiple access points and functions into a single, statewide system. The effort is funded as a joint initiative of the Administration on Community Living (ACL), the Centers for

Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Veterans Health Administration (VHA).

Medicaid and the Alabama Department of Senior Services have already been exploring opportunities to collaboratively enhance the Aging and Disability Resource Center model in Alabama through the Money Follows the Person (MFP) Rebalancing Demonstration. On an even larger stage, the state has recently been examining possibilities for improving efficiencies and effectiveness across its health and human services, through enhanced coordination.

The Agency hopes work now underway on the Alabama CARES project, a coordinated eligibility system to be shared by Medicaid, the Alabama Department of Public Health and the Alabama Department of Human Resources, can be integrated into the updated system.

In addition to Medicaid, other state agencies to be involved in the project include the Alabama Department of Senior Services, the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, and the Alabama Department of Mental Health. Consumers, providers and advocacy organizations will be integrally involved in the planning process as well.

ADPH Publishes Proposed Rule Regarding Alabama Notifiable Diseases/Conditions

The Alabama Department of Public Health has published a proposed rule regarding Alabama Notifiable Diseases and Conditions. Comments are due by November 4, 2014. We will let you know when this proposed rule becomes final. When this rule becomes final, facilities should note that they will have to change their policies.

Listed below is the section that mostly affects facilities:

“(2) Disease categories. The State Committee of Public Health designates that ~~the~~ notifiable diseases shall be divided into three categories: (a) Immediate, extremely urgent - diseases/conditions notifiable within four hours of presumptive diagnosis; (b) Immediate, urgent – diseases/conditions notifiable within 24 hours of presumptive diagnosis; and (c) Standard – diseases/conditions notifiable within ~~seven~~ five days of diagnosis, unless otherwise noted. Said notifiable diseases are enumerated in Appendix I.” *A copy of the entire proposed rule is attached.*

Medicaid Alert: Upcoming General Overview ICD-10 Teleconferences

The HP ICD-10 team will offer “ICD-10 General Overview” teleconference on January 22, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. The teleconference will provide an overview of changes being implemented by Alabama Medicaid for ICD-10. The sessions will include a segment where the HP ICD-10 team will be available to answer questions. Registration for both sessions is now open and available on the Alabama Medicaid website at

http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov/CONTENT/6.0_Providers/6.12_ICD-10/6.12.6_ICD-10_Teleconference_Training.aspx.

If you have any questions or require assistance with ICD-10 testing, contact the HP ICD-10 team via e-mail at alabamaictesting@hp.com

FACILITY NEWS

Facility News is posted on www.anha.org. Recent articles include:

- [Activity, Social Service Leaders Elected for 2015](#)

OTHER NEWS

Nurse Aide Abuse Registry

Please note that the following individuals have been placed on the Alabama Nurse Aide Abuse and/or Sanction Registry. These individuals are prohibited from working in any long-term care facility. To check nurse aides, you can use the nurse aide web site at www.adph.org (Click on Contents A-Z - located in the dark blue at the top of the screen - then Click on Nurse Aide Registry - then Click in the white box and type in the Social Security Number of the person you are trying to find. Be sure and include the dashes in the SSN.)

| <i>Name</i> | <i>Effective Date</i> |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Tracey Nix-Herron | 10/14/14 |
| Brittany Roberts | 10/14/14 |

How to Handle an OSHA Inspection – Free Webinar

Jackson Lewis P.C. is a consultant to the American Health Care Association (AHCA) for OSHA issues and is offering a free webinar regarding handling an OSHA inspection.

Why might OSHA visit your company, and what should you do when a compliance officer arrives at your door? Being prepared to handle an OSHA inspection helps to minimize an employer's exposure to liability and helps to eliminate the anxiety surrounding the process.

Join members of Jackson Lewis' Workplace Safety and Health practice group for a complimentary 60-minute webinar where we will discuss the OSHA inspection process, including:

OSHA's inspection priorities

- What triggers an inspection
- How to prepare to minimize risks and liabilities associated with incident investigations
- When and what you must report to OSHA
- What to expect and how to smoothly handle an OSHA inspection
- Addressing citations and penalties

Date: Thursday, November 20, Time: 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CST

For more information or to register please visit:

<https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/5080268549158653442>

AHCA National Quality Award Application Process is Open

The [Quality Awards “Intent to Apply” process is open!](#) Members can commit their intent to apply for a 2015 Quality Award at any level through this process, and in doing so, are eligible for a \$200 discount on the application fee and will receive exclusive tips and updates about the program from Quality Award staff. The Intent to Apply Deadline (not mandatory) is November 13, 2014, at 8:00 p.m. EST.

In addition, members who complete the Intent to Apply process should promote their commitment through the attached email signature buttons (one for each level). All important resources regarding the Quality Award Program can be found at qa.ahcancal.org, and the Intent to Apply information specifically can be found here:

http://www.ahcancal.org/quality_improvement/quality_award/Pages/Intent-to-Apply.aspx

AHCA’s LTC Trend Tracker – New Platform is More User Friendly

The American Health Care Association (AHCA) is rolling out a new and improved online platform for LTC Trend TrackerSM. An exclusive benefit for our members, LTC Trend Tracker has transformed how skilled nursing providers maximize their quality improvement efforts and their operational performance. This more modern, user-friendly version gives more information up-front, allows the creation of custom reports, and offers additional options in choosing peer comparisons.

Current users of LTC Trend Tracker received new, personalized login credentials for the new platform on October 6 from AHCA. Members not yet signed up for LTC Trend Tracker should utilize this exclusive member benefit and register today!

LTC Trend Tracker offers our members a central place to access all the data CMS collects on skilled nursing centers. Additionally, it includes exclusive, in-house measures to help members gain insight on hospital readmissions and discharges to the community. Members can also upload their RUG data, and use a simulator to help identify how to possibly increase their Five-Star rating.

Visit www.LTCTrendTracker.com for more information.

For any questions, please contact the LTC Trend Tracker team at http://www.ahcancal.org/research_data/trendtracker/Pages/Contact.aspx.

2014-2015 Influenza Resources for Health Care Professionals from MLN Matters

The Medicare Learning Network, MLN Matters, released a special edition article for all health care professionals who order, refer, or provide flu vaccines and vaccine administration to Medicare beneficiaries. Please visit <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE1431.pdf> to view this MLN Matters article and refer to it throughout the 2014 - 2015 flu season.

New eLearning Lesson on Preventing Adverse Drug Events Available

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality would like to make you aware of the following eLearning course offered by the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion: [Preventing Adverse Drug Events: Individualizing Glycemic Targets Using Health Literacy Strategies](#).

Adverse drug events (ADEs) are the largest contributor to hospital-related complications and account for more than 3.5 million physician office visits each year. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently released the National Action Plan for Adverse Drug Event Prevention (ADE Action Plan), which targets diabetes agents as a significant contributor to ADEs and advocates for the use of patient-centered communication strategies to prevent hypoglycemia among patients with diabetes.

The interactive eLearning course, “Preventing Adverse Drug Events: Individualizing Glycemic Targets Using Health Literacy Strategies,” teaches health care providers how to:

- Apply health literacy strategies to provide personalized care for patients with diabetes, and to help them understand and act on information to prevent hypoglycemia
- Apply current, evidence-based guidelines for individualizing glycemic target goals
- Adopt the teach back method and shared decision-making in the health care setting

Continuing education (CME, CNE, CEU, and CPE) is available to participants who complete the course. To launch the course, visit: http://health.gov/hai/training.asp#preventing_ades

Share your Story - Submit a Poster for the 2015 Quality Symposium

The American Health Care Association (AHCA) is accepting Poster Session proposals for the 2015 AHCA Quality Symposium in Austin, Texas, February 23-25, 2015.

AHCA is particularly interested in proposals showing how improvements in the Quality Initiative goals have led to positive business outcomes.

- Safely Reducing Hospital Readmissions
- Safely Reducing Off-Label Antipsychotic Drug Use
- Reducing Staff Turnover
- Improving Customer Satisfaction

To submit an application visit: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DXJQZN3>. The deadline to submit is November 17, 2014. Applicants will be notified on December 15, 2014. For questions contact Urvi Patel at upatel@ahca.org.

Track Hospitalizations with Advancing Excellence Tracking Tools

The Advancing Excellence (AE) hospitalization tracking tools allow you to document your work, monitor outcomes and processes related to those outcomes. Data-driven quality improvement projects require ongoing data collection and analysis. It is important to start collecting data to establish a solid baseline and set a target for improvement. Keep your workbook up-to-date on a daily or weekly basis and look at data often to support a rapid cycle quality improvement project.

This website <https://www.nhqualitycampaign.org/goalDetail.aspx?g=hosp#tab2> allows you to download the data tracking tool.

Contact the AE Helpdesk with any questions at: help@nhqualitycampaign.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Event</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Time</u> |
|------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| October 26-29 | ANHA Owners' Meeting & Board Retreat | Beau Rivage Biloxi, MS | |
| November 18 | Seminar: The Nursing Home Survey Process – 2014 Update | <i>Embassy Suites Montgomery</i> | 8:30 a.m. |

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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>