



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, November 9, 2012

ANHA NEWS

ANHA Office Schedule

The ANHA Office will close at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 14, due to the ANHA Executive Board Retreat which includes association staff. The office will re-open at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, November 19, 2012. Also, the *Weekly Roundup* will not be published next week.

OBRA Office to Launch New Level I Screening Form in December 2012 – Webinar Planned for November 14

Editor's note: The following article was provided by Angela Howard from the OBRA Screening Office at the Alabama Dept. of Mental Health.

On December 1, 2012, the OBRA PASRR Office is slated to launch a new LTC-14 Form, more commonly known as the Level I Screening Form. Prior to the launch, in association with the Alabama Nursing Home Association, **the OBRA Office will offer a webinar on Wednesday, November 14, 2012, to introduce the new form.** The webinar is scheduled from 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. It will highlight changes, provide guidance on user navigation and offer an opportunity to ask questions. Registration is limited to 100 lines. Please note that this webinar will be recorded and available through ANHA's website as well as the OBRA website. Registration is free, and no CEUs will be provided.

The following link is for the registration page:

<https://www.yourcall.com/events/RTRBRTM4RDQ5RTRCOEZEMg==>

The new Level I Form has been specially designed to facilitate the admission and continued residence of persons in Medicaid certified facilities. Before we created a final product, we solicited the support of the nursing home and hospital community. From this assembly, we selected a PASRR Focus Group to review the proposed form and provide feedback. The invaluable feedback allowed us to modify the form in a manner that benefits PASRR stakeholders and develop a document that is both comprehensive and user friendly.

The new Level I Form showcases valuable technical prompts that assist the user in completing the form, which minimizes the need for substantial technical assistance. Some of the prompts we provide relate to PRN medications, situational diagnoses, dementia and seizure disorder. Also, the form includes the following diagnoses: obsessive compulsive disorder, post traumatic stress disorder, panic disorder, schizoaffective disorder and somatoform disorder. Additionally, the language on the form supports Rosa's Law and intellectual disability advocates by removing the

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term “mental retardation” and any associated acronyms and replacing it with “intellectual disability.”

From a computer technology standpoint, the form is easier to navigate. OBRA PASRR’s data management team will begin implementing the new system on Friday, November 30, 2012, at 4:00 p.m. Therefore, if you need a Level I determination prior to 5:00 p.m. on this date, ensure that the OBRA Office receives your Level I by 3:00 p.m. The new Level I computer-based system will be fully operational on Saturday, December 1, 2012. It will allow you to utilize your same user ID and password.

“The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act: Financial and Legal Implications for Nursing Homes” Educational Seminar: November 28

Please mark your calendars for November 28, 2012, as ANHA will present a seminar entitled “The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act: Financial and Legal Implications for Nursing Homes.” This seminar will be held at The 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.*

My InnerView Survey: Next Steps

Here are the next steps My InnerView Satisfaction Survey.

TODAY, Friday, November 9, the facility should:

- Mail notification letters to family members or others knowledgeable of the resident:
 - Go to www.myinnerview.com. Enter your user name/password. On the Home page click on ‘eLearning site’ link. Click on Satisfaction Survey Resources. Scroll down to Notifying Survey Recipient-Customer.
- Distribute notification letters to employees and residents:
 - Go to www.myinnerview.com. Enter your user name/password. On the Home page click on ‘eLearning site’ link. Click on Satisfaction Survey Resources. Scroll down to Notifying Survey Recipient-Customer/Employee.

Wednesday, November 14, My InnerView will:

- My InnerView mails family surveys
 - A survey packet will be mailed to each family, resident or responsible party listed on the mailing list provided to My InnerView. The envelope contains the appropriate cover letter, survey, comment form and self-addressed (to My InnerView), postage-paid return envelope.
- My InnerView ships employee and resident surveys to facility
 - Your facility will be shipped a survey packet for each employee. The packet contains a cover letter, survey, comment form and self-addressed (to My InnerView), postage-paid return envelope.

If you have questions or need assistance, My InnerView can be reached at 800-601-3884 or surveys@myinnerview.com. Tell the operator that you are a member of ANHA. You may also contact John Matson at the Association Office at (334) 271-6214 or jmatson@anha.org.

NATIONAL NEWS

CMS Issues S&C Letter on Medication Errors and Pharmacy Services

CMS has issued Survey & Certification Letter 13-02 providing clarification of guidance related to medication errors and pharmacy services. The memo is dated November 2, 2012 and is effective immediately.

The memo specifically addresses:

1. Medication errors
 - a. Administration of medications via a feeding tube
 - b. Metered dose inhalers
 - c. Proton pump inhibitors
2. Concerns regarding medication administration practices
 - a. “Borrowing medications”
 - b. Fentanyl patches
3. Medication regimen reviews for stays under 30 days and changes in condition

Each item includes a section titled “Survey implications” and directs surveyors to review nursing center practices at various F-tags. *Please see the attached S&C Letter for more details.*

REMINDER: Survey Process Changes in Effect December 1!

As previously mentioned in the *Weekly Roundup*, the Centers for Medicare& Medicaid Services (CMS) has issued a series of survey and certification memorandums that will become effective December 1, 2012. All facilities are encouraged to download and review these new changes. ANHA has prepared a brief summary of the Survey Process changes to Appendix P. *Attached is a summary as well as a copy of the new CMS-802 and CMS-672 that will be used beginning December 1.* A link to obtain a copy of the CMS memorandums regarding the F tag changes as well as the survey changes are listed below. The links include not only the changes, but surveyor training tools as well.

CMS Issues Survey and Certification Memorandum on F tag 309 – Quality of Care (Advanced Copy) - The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services made changes to surveyor guidance for End of Life in Appendix PP of the SOM to provide clarification to nursing home surveyors when determining compliance with the regulatory requirements for End of Life. The regulatory language remains unchanged. The revisions should be implemented no later than November 30, 2012. Please visit the following website for an advance copy of the revised guidance with all the new language presented in red and italics. At the end of the guidance is a copy of the surveyor training materials. <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/Downloads/Survey-and-Cert-Letter-12-48.pdf>

CMS Issues Survey & Certification Memorandum on F tag 155 – Advance Directives (Advanced Copy) - The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services made changes to surveyor guidance for Advance Directives in Appendix PP of the SOM to provide clarification to nursing home surveyors when determining compliance with the regulatory requirements for Advance Directives. The regulatory language remains unchanged. The revisions to the Surveyor Guidance at F tag 155 in Appendix PP of the SOM include resident’s rights to: Establish Advance

Directives; and Accept or decline treatments. . The revisions should be implemented no later than November 30, 2012. Please visit the following website for an advance copy of the revised guidance with all the new language presented in red and italics. At the end of the guidance is a copy of the surveyor training materials. <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/Downloads/Survey-and-Cert-Letter-12-47.pdf>

CMS Issues Survey & Certification Memorandum on F tag 322 – Feeding Tubes (Advance Copy) - The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services made revisions to interpretive guidelines for Feeding Tubes in Appendix PP of the SOM to provide clarification to nursing home surveyors when determining compliance with the regulatory requirements for feeding tubes. The regulatory language will remain unchanged. CMS deleted F tag 321 which contained language about not using feeding tubes unless unavoidable, and incorporated the guidance into F tag 322. . The revisions should be implemented no later than November 30, 2012. Please visit the following website for an advance copy of the revised guidance with all the new language presented in red and italics. At the end of the guidance is a copy of the surveyor training materials. <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/Downloads/Survey-and-Cert-Letter-12-46.pdf>

CMS Issues Survey & Certification Memorandum on Advanced Copy – Revisions to State Operations Manual (SOM), Appendix P – Traditional Survey Protocol for Long Term Care (LTC) Facilities and Chapter 9/Exhibits including Survey Forms 672, 802, 802S and 802P - The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services has updated Appendix P of the State Operations Manual as well as Exhibits as part of Chapter 9. Survey Protocols for LTC Facilities have been revised for the Traditional Survey process Tasks 1-5C to reflect changes for the Minimum Data Set (MDS) 3.0; New Quality Measures (QM) Reports; Revised CMS forms 672 and 802, 802S and 802P; and Sampling and reviewing residents receiving psychopharmacological medications, specifically antipsychotic medications. Revisions to Chapter 9 of the SOM include various Exhibits including survey forms that have been revised to accommodate changes for MDS 3.0 and the new QM Reports; and New QM Reports available for use in the Traditional Survey Process. . The revisions should be implemented December 1, 2012. Please visit the following website for an advance copy of the revised guidance with all the new language presented in red and italics. At the end of the guidance is a copy of the surveyor training materials. <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/Downloads/Survey-and-Cert-Letter-12-45.pdf>

Infection Control Update

The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have each released new tools and information to help track deadly healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) in nursing homes and other long term care settings. Published online recently in Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology, the journal of SHEA, an expert panel published updated infection definitions and guidance that provides uniform criteria for nursing homes and other long term care facilities to track and monitor HAIs. The updated surveillance definitions, coordinated by SHEA's Long Term Care Special Interest Group, incorporate evidence published over the past two decades, with definitions for norovirus gastroenteritis and Clostridium difficile infections added and more specific definitions for urinary tract infections included.

In parallel, CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) released a new tracking component, allowing nursing homes and other long term care facilities to monitor HAIs. The newly published guidance serves as the foundation of the new NHSN component. When facilities track infections, they can identify problems, implement prevention measures, and monitor progress toward stopping infections. State and local health officials can also use the system to monitor the impact of regional prevention efforts. On the national level, data entered into NHSN will gauge progress toward national infection prevention goals.

The new NHSN component allows nursing homes and other long term care facilities to track *Clostridium difficile* (a deadly diarrheal infection), drug-resistant infections such as methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), urinary tract infections, and healthcare worker adherence to basic infection control procedures including hand hygiene and glove use.

CDC is one of multiple federal agencies vigorously working to protect patients. The Department of Health and Human Services has released a National Action Plan to Prevent Healthcare-Associated Infections with several goals to address infections among nursing home residents including reducing catheter-associated urinary tract infections and infections from *Clostridium difficile*.

The new surveillance guidance has been endorsed by the American Medical Directors Association, the Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease-Canada, the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, the Community and Hospital Infection Control Association-Canada, and the National Association of Directors of Nursing Administration in Long Term Care.

To access or enroll your facility in NHSN's long term care component, see CDC's website: <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/LTC/index.html>. To review the new surveillance guidance, visit: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.1086/667743>.

Hand Hygiene Key to Reducing MRSA

According to an article appearing in the FierceHealthcare.com e-newsletter, using proper hand hygiene, alone, can reduce *methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) infections more effectively than isolating patients. Currently, hand-hygiene compliance amongst healthcare workers remains poor, with compliance levels reported at 25-40%. However, a nine-year study, conducted by researchers from University College London and called the Feedback Intervention Trial (FIT), that involved giving healthcare professionals one-on-one feedback on hand hygiene, found that the feedback approach made the healthcare workers twice as likely to wash their hands. The project, involved 16 hospitals and 44 Acute Care of the Elderly (ACE) wards. The FIT approach using both feedback and personalized action planning improved hand-hygiene compliance by up to 18 percent in intensive therapy units and 13 percent in elderly acute care wards. Soap use also increased by 30 percent. The project comprised of bedside placement of alcohol hand-rub, posters, patient empowerment materials encouraging healthcare workers to clean their hands, plus audit and feedback of hand-hygiene compliance at least once every 6 months. Researchers found that hand washing not only prevented MRSA, but other infections that are transmitted via contact.

To read more about the study, go to: [Individual hand-hygiene feedback doubles compliance - FierceHealthcare](http://www.fiercehealthcare.com/story/individual-hand-hygiene-feedback-) <http://www.fiercehealthcare.com/story/individual-hand-hygiene-feedback->

[doubles-compliance/2012-10-24#ixzz2APJ9c6mG](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0041617) or to read the entire study, go to: <http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0041617>.

OIG Releases 2013 Work Plan

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of Inspector General (OIG), has released its annual Work Plan for 2013. The Work Plan focuses on seven different areas including: Medicare Part A and Part B; Medicare Part C and Part D; Medicaid Reviews; Legal and Investigative Activities Related to Medicare and Medicaid; Public Health Review; Human Services Reviews; and Other HHS-Related Reviews. In each area, the Work Plan identifies compliance risk areas that subject Medicare and Medicaid providers to audit and enforcement initiatives. Under Medicare Part A and Part B, SNFs are specifically targeted and OIG plans follow-up reports in the following areas: Adverse Events in Post-Acute Care; Quality of Care Requirements; State Agency Verification of Corrections; Oversight of Poorly Performing Facilities; Use of Antipsychotic Drugs; Questionable Billing Patterns for Part B Services; and Oversight of the Minimum Data Set. Overall, OIG will continue its focus on reviewing potential areas to discover fraud, quality issues and costs. To obtain a copy of the complete OIG Work Plan for 2013 go to <https://oig.hhs.gov/reports-and-publications/archives/workplan/2013/Work-Plan-2013.pdf>. OIG also has just released a video on its Work Plan for 2013 at <https://oig.hhs.gov/newsroom/outlook/index.asp>.

STATE NEWS

FDA MedWatch - Ameridose, LLC: Recall of Unexpired Products in Circulation

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration announced today that Ameridose, LLC, based in Westborough, Mass., is voluntarily recalling all of its unexpired products in circulation. The FDA is currently conducting an inspection of Ameridose's facility. Although this inspection is ongoing, the FDA's preliminary findings have raised concerns about a lack of sterility assurance for products produced at and distributed by this facility. Use of non-sterile injectable products can represent a serious hazard to health that could lead to life-threatening injuries. Products from Ameridose can be identified by markings that indicate Ameridose by name or by its company logo. A complete list of all products subject to this recall can be accessed at www.ameridose.com.

This recall is not based on reports of patients with infections associated with any of Ameridose's products, and the agency recommended this recall out of an abundance of caution. As new information becomes available, the FDA will issue additional public communications.

At this time, the FDA is recommending that health care professionals do not need to follow up with patients who received Ameridose products. Health care professionals should stop using Ameridose products at this time, and return them to the firm.

Hospitals, clinics, health care professionals, and other customers with Ameridose products on hand should contact Ameridose at 888-820-0622 to obtain instructions on how to return products to Ameridose.

Read the MedWatch safety alert, including a link to the FDA News Release, at:
<http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm326370.htm>

FACILITY NEWS

Birmingham Nursing & Rehab Earns Deficiency Free Survey!

Birmingham Nursing & Rehab recently earned a deficiency free health survey! Mattie Banks is the Administrator and Marie Tucker is the Director of Nursing. The facility is located in Birmingham and is owned by Tara Cares. Congratulations to the staff of Birmingham Nursing & Rehab on this outstanding accomplishment!

Highlands Health & Rehab Resident Celebrates 105th Birthday!



Highlands Health & Rehab resident Martha Justice recently celebrated her 105th birthday! To mark the occasion, she took her first trip in a convertible car. Pictured with Ms. Justice is Highlands Activity Director Mary Anne Parsons. The photo is courtesy of *The Daily Sentinel* of Scottsboro.

PUBLIC RELATIONS NEWS

Public Relations Opportunities for the End of 2013

The end of the year brings many celebrations for nursing home residents and staff. These events are also great opportunities to reach out to your local media. Planning ahead for media coverage gives you a greater chance of success. Just like you, reporters want to spend more time with their families during the holidays. Giving them good ideas early lets them complete the story now and use it later which helps move your event to top of their list.

There are many ways your nursing home can tell its story during the Veterans Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. For Veterans Day, call your local paper early next week and tell them about a unique veteran living at your facility. The veteran can be part of a story explaining the sacrifices made by members of our armed forces. Now is also the time to invite the newspaper or television station to Thanksgiving events. Community or facility-wide Thanksgiving dinners are the best ones to invite media to because it involves more people and is seen as more important. Next, begin inviting reporters to Christmas events the week after Thanksgiving or the first week in December.

One final note; don't try to give a reporter something when he or she covers your story. Most are not allowed to accept gifts. However, invite the reporter to taste some of the delicious food you are serving or a sample some holiday treats made by the residents. That will literally leave a "good taste in their mouth" about the high quality of care provided at your facility.

Team Care: Theme for 2013 National Nursing Home Week

The American Health Care Association has announced that Team Care is the theme for the 2013 National Nursing Home Week (NNHW). NNHW will be observed in throughout America, beginning Mother's Day, May 12 and continuing through May 18, 2013.

NNHW's theme recognizes residents and patients in long term and post-acute care settings, the dedicated staff who care for them, and the value of care planning where everyone "pitches in" for optimal outcomes. The observance is an opportunity to involve families, community members, youth, and others in a community-wide show of support and respect for these individuals and the staff who provide care or support services. Activities are designed to foster intergenerational contact, strengthen family relationships and to encourage volunteerism by individuals and local organizations. The NNHW planning guide and Team Care themed products will be available soon.

OTHER NEWS

Registration Now Open for 2013 AHCA Quality Symposium

Registration is now open for the AHCA Quality Symposium. Celebrating its 5th year, the symposium will take place February 11-13, in San Antonio, Texas.

The Quality Symposium will provide attendees with practical, real-world ideas and solutions to take back to their work environments. Administrators, corporate staff, directors of nursing, quality managers, and anyone with an interest in examining and improving their processes to achieve excellence across the operational and care spectrums will find value in this unique educational and networking event.

Don't miss this three-day event and the potential to earn 14.25 CEUs! For more information please visit <http://www.ahcancal.org/events/qualitysymposium/Pages/default.aspx>.

Nurse Imposter

ANHA has been notified that Susan Elaine Boyce, age 58, was indicted in a neighboring state on several federal charges and is currently at large. Ms. Boyce also goes by the names of Suzanne Pitts and Suzanne Johnson. She is alleging that she is a licensed nurse. She is not a licensed nurse. If she should happen to apply for a nurse position at your facility, please call the Office of Inspector General for the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services at 888-476-4453.

Disaster Preparedness

The National Center for Disaster Medical Response, University of South Alabama Center for Strategic Health Innovation (NCDMR/CSHI) would like to invite you to participate in a two day Emergency Preparedness Workshop. This program is a result of a cooperative effort between NCDMR/CSHI, the Alabama Department of Public Health Center for Emergency Preparedness,

the Alabama Nursing Home Association, Alabama Hospital Association and the Alabama Primary Health Care Association.

The focus of ARRTC Administrative will target issues and concerns specifically important to Chief and Administrative personnel of health care facilities in Alabama responsible for leadership and guidance during emergencies and disasters. The goal is to provide an environment for knowledge exchange, a forum for discussion of lessons learned, and an opportunity for participants to have an interactive conversation about specific emergency management issues identified from recent disaster responses.

NCDMR/CSHI will host two sessions:

November 13-14, 2012

April 16-17, 2013

The agenda will be the same for both sessions so do not limit participation to one person; however, registration will be limited to 75 per session.

The *attached brochure* includes the details about topics, speakers and logistics of travel and accommodations. Please complete the registration form and fax or mail it to CSHI. Feel free to call David Wallace at (251) 461-1805 or (251) 461-1392 if you have any questions.

SAVE THE DATE: EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

“Legal Compliance in Nursing Homes” Educational Seminar: January 9

Please mark your calendars for January 9, 2013, as ANHA will present a seminar entitled “Legal Compliance in Nursing Homes.” This seminar will be held at The Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham. *More information regarding this seminar will be forthcoming.*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<u><i>Date</i></u>	<u><i>Event</i></u>	<u><i>Location</i></u>	<u><i>Time</i></u>
November 9	ANHA Region VII Meeting RSVP: Gail McInnish (251) 937-3501, gail.mcinnish@infirmarhealth.org Speaker Topic: “Making Risk Management Work in Nursing Homes Today”	Felix’s Fish Camp Mobile	12:00 p.m.
November 9	ANHA Region I Act/SS Meeting RSVP: Wendell Greenleaf (256) 383-4541, ext. 216 Speaker Topic: Enhanced Services Offered at End of Life	Ryan’s Steakhouse Decatur	12:00 p.m.
November 14	ANHA Region II Act/SS Meeting RSVP: Mary Anne Parsons (256) 599-4895 Speaker Topic: Reducing Inappropriate Use of Antipsychotics	Catfish Cabin Albertville	11:00 a.m.

November 28	Seminar: Affordable Care Act	The Wnyfrey Hotel Birmingham	8:30 a.m.
November 28	ANHA Region VIII Act/SS Auxiliary Meeting RSVP: Shelia Dunn (334) 347-9541 Speaker Topic: New Regulations on AntiPsychotics	Enterprise Health & Rehab Enterprise	2:00 p.m.
December 5	ANHA Region VI Act/SS Auxiliary Meeting RSVP: Megan Butz (334) 749-1471 Speaker Topic: Caregiver Stress Lunch will be provided	Oak Park Auburn	11:00 a.m.

Alabama Nursing Home Association

4156 Carmichael Road ♦ Montgomery, AL 36106 ♦ PH: (334) 271-6214 ♦ FAX: (334) 244-6509

WEB SITES:

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>