



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

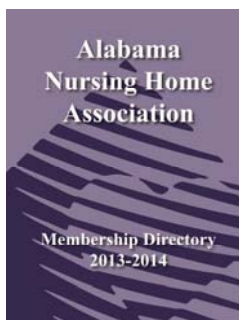
Friday, May 10, 2013

ANHA NEWS

Ms. Alabama Nursing Home Pageant Entry Deadline is May 31

The deadline to submit entries for the 2013 Ms. Alabama Nursing Home Pageant is May 31. If you have questions or need an official entry form, please contact John Matson at (334) 271-6214 or jmatson@anha.org.

2013-2014 ANHA Membership Directory Available



The 2013-2014 ANHA Membership Directory is available for purchase. This is Alabama's most comprehensive listing of nursing homes.

Please see the attached order form if you would like to purchase copies.

“Fall Prevention, Using Root Cause Analysis to Eliminate Alarms and Restraints” Educational Seminar June 25 – Sponsored by Robinson-Adams Insurance/Alliance for Long Term Care Quality Improvement

Join ANHA as we present a full-day seminar for long-term care providers on fall prevention, using a root cause analysis approach. Participants will be introduced to The Empira Fall Prevention Program which is a combination of nationally- recognized evidence-based, fall prevention practices and practical applications from the most recent research findings. Empira's program advocates for a restraint-free, alarm-free, correct bed heights and no-floor mats environment, indicating many common past best practices are no longer considered a best practice. This in-depth seminar will cover the implementation of a comprehensive fall prevention and reduction program. The seminar will be held on June 25 at the Wynfrey Hotel located in Birmingham, Alabama from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. This program has been approved for 6 hours of continuing education credits by the Alabama Board of Examiners for Nursing Home and the Alabama Board of Social Work Examiners. It has also been approved for 7.2 contact hours of continuing education for nurses. The Alabama Nursing Home Association is an approved provider by the Alabama Board of Nursing (ABNP0151- expires 3/12/2017). *Please see the attached flyer for more details.*

“Stop Workplace Drama” Educational Seminar June 26 – Sponsored by Healthcare Services Group

Whether it’s the backstabbing, power struggles, dealing with the queen bee, or the “untouchable” employee, or even just navigating through change, drama manifests itself in many ways especially in high emotional environments such as healthcare facilities, long term care operations and nursing homes. You KNOW it goes on in your practice – gossip, poor coordination of the team, disruptive or disruptive employee behavior – and you KNOW it is a huge distraction away from good patient care, efficiencies and business objectives. In this highly participative program, attendees have opportunities to ask questions, share wisdom and get the tools needed to identify and workplace drama.

Our speaker has provided the following videos lessons from her You Tube Channel. This series is called “Stepping into a New Truth.”

- Lesson 1: <http://youtu.be/kvNLra-936k>
- Lesson 2: <http://youtu.be/7swPOgmAClg>
- Lesson 3: <http://youtu.be/R4SFiqGv2ns>

The seminar will be held on June 26 at the Wynfrey Hotel located in Birmingham, Alabama from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. This program has been approved for 4.5 hours of continuing education credits by the Alabama Board of Examiners for Nursing Home and the Alabama Board of Social Work Examiners. It has also been approved for 5.4 contact hours of continuing education for nurses. The Alabama Nursing Home Association is an approved provider by the Alabama Board of Nursing (ABNP0151- expires 3/12/2017). *Please see the attached flyer for more details.*

NATIONAL NEWS

Proposed Fiscal Year 2014 Payment and Policy Changes for Medicare Skilled Nursing Facilities

On May 1, 2013, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a proposed rule [CMS-1446-P] outlining proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 Medicare payment rates for skilled nursing facilities (SNFs). Below is a short summary of the key provisions in the SNF PPS proposed rule that could have a direct impact on the long term and post-acute care profession.

Market Basket Update

- The proposed rule provides for a market basket increase for SNFs of 1.4% beginning October 1, 2013. The 1.4% market basket update reflects a full market basket increase of 2.3%, less a 0.4% multifactor productivity adjustment required by Section 3401(b) of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), and a 0.5% adjustment to correct for an error in forecasting the market basket in FY 2012.
- CMS estimates that the net market basket update would increase SNF payments by approximately \$500 million in FY 2014.

Other Key Provisions

- CMS proposes to rebase and revise the market basket update methodology to use more current Medicare cost reports information. The rebasing will update the market basket cost

weights to reflect 2010 relative costs rather than the current 2004-based market basket cost weights, and revise some of the price proxies.

- CMS is proposing to add an item to the MDS to record the number of distinct calendar days of therapy provided by all rehabilitation disciplines to a beneficiary over the seven day look-back period. Furthermore, CMS is clarifying that the qualifying condition for the Rehab Medium RUG categories require 5 distinct calendar days of therapy and that the Rehab Low RUG categories require 3 distinct calendar days of therapy.
- CMS contracted with Acumen, LLC and the Brookings Institution to identify potential alternatives to the existing methodology used to pay for therapy services received under the SNF PPS. CMS is requesting comments on options for improving or replacing the therapy component of the SNF PPS.

The proposed rule went on display at the *Federal Register's* Public Inspection Desk and will be available under "Special Filings," at <http://www.federalregister.gov/inspection.aspx>. Public comments on the proposals will be accepted until July 1.

For further information about the SNF PPS, please visit

<http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/SNFPSP/index.html>.

Medicare to Terminate Common Working File to Access Eligibility Info

Earlier this year, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that the Common Working File (CWF), which is used by providers to access beneficiaries' Medicare eligibility information, will be terminated as it falls out of compliance with new Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act (HIPAA) regulations. CMS has advised providers that use the CWF to transition to their alternative tool, the HIPAA Eligibility Transaction System as soon as possible to avoid any disruptions in their daily operations. *Providers will not be able to access the CWF for eligibility information starting in April of 2014.*

The American Health Care Association has enlisted financial consulting firm BKD, to provide guidance on the steps to take to prepare for this transition. *That guidance is attached.*

AHCA offer Medical Manual Review Clearinghouse

The American Health Care Association (AHCA) has opened a Medical Manual Review Clearinghouse website. You can visit the site at http://www.ahcancal.org/facility_operations/medicare/Pages/MMR.aspx. AHCA encourages facility and corporate staff to send therapy questions related to claims processing to the ManualReview@AHCA.org.

FDA Recall - Sodium Chloride Injection 0.9 percent USP, 100 mL Flexible Containers by Hospira: Recall - Particulate Matter

Hospira notified the public that last August it initiated a voluntary nationwide user-level recall of one lot of 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP, 100 mL, Flexible Container, NDC 0409-7984-23. This action was due to one confirmed customer report where four separate particulate issues were identified in four individual flexible containers. The four single particles were identified as follows: polyester fiber, nylon fiber, cotton fiber and nitrocellulose fiber, respectively. Hospira is investigating to determine the root cause.

Affected lot number is 05-201-JT (the lot number may be followed by a -01). The affected product has an expiration date of May 1, 2013, and was distributed within the United States between May 2011 and August 2011 to wholesalers/distributors, hospitals and pharmacies. If solution containing particulate matter is used on a patient, this may result acutely in local inflammation, phlebitis, and/or generalized low-level allergic response to the particulate and/or embolize to other organs in the body. Chronically, following sequestration, granulomatous formation in the lungs is possible.

Background: This product is used as a source of water and electrolytes. Product was distributed within the following U.S. states: Alaska, *Alabama*, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Iowa, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Mississippi, North Carolina, North Dakota, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, West Virginia and Wyoming.

Recommendation: Anyone with an existing inventory should stop use and distribution, quarantine the product immediately, and call Stericycle at 1-888-597-9582 between the hours of 8am to 5pm ET, Monday through Friday, to arrange for the return of the product. Replacement product from other lots is available.

Healthcare professionals and patients are encouraged to report adverse events or side effects related to the use of these products to the FDA's MedWatch Safety Information and Adverse Event Reporting Program:

- Complete and submit the report Online: www.fda.gov/MedWatch/report.htm
- [Download form](#) or call 1-800-332-1088 to request a reporting form, then complete and return to the address on the pre-addressed form, or submit by fax to 1-800-FDA-0178

Read the MedWatch safety alert, including a link to the Press Release, at: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm349622.htm>

FDA Recall- Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection, USP 40.5 grams: Recall - Precipitation or Crystallization in IV Bag or IV Line upon Reconstitution

Apotex Corp. notified healthcare professionals it is conducting, on behalf of the manufacturer Hospira, Inc., a voluntary nationwide recall of 15 lots of Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection, USP 40.5 grams, to the hospital/healthcare provider/user level. The impacted lots may show precipitation/ crystallization in IV bag or IV line after reconstitution. The product can also be identified by NDC number 60505-0773-00 and UPC 360505077304. The product was distributed nationwide in the United States to wholesalers, distributors, HMOs, home infusion and long term care service providers. See Press Release for a list of affected lot numbers. Hospira stated that administration of precipitated Piperacillin/Tazobactam in an IV bag or IV line may result in local reactions such as phlebitis, renal impairment, end-organ embolism and ischemia, and/or vasculitis (because the precipitate was visible, its particles may be large enough to cause these adverse events). In addition, the precipitation of the drug may not allow delivering a needed therapeutic dose of piperacillin and tazobactam, thus resulting in inadequate treatment of the targeted infection. This could result in adverse health consequences that could range from

transient and minor impairment or complaints to permanent impairment of a body function or permanent damage to a body structure.

Background: Piperacillin and Tazobactam for Injection is indicated for the treatment of patients with moderate to severe infections caused by piperacillin-resistant, piperacillin/tazobactam-susceptible, β -lactamase producing strains of the designated microorganisms in the specified conditions such as, Appendicitis, Uncomplicated and Complicated skin and skin structures infections, Postpartum Endometritis or Pelvic Inflammatory disease, Community Acquired Pneumonia and Nosocomial Pneumonia. The product is packaged in 300 mL glass vials for reconstitution.

Recommendation: Anyone with an existing inventory of the product should stop use and distribution, quarantine the recalled lots immediately and call GENCO at 1-877-674-2078 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CST, Monday through Friday, to arrange for their return.

Healthcare professionals and patients are encouraged to report adverse events or side effects related to the use of these products to the FDA's MedWatch Safety Information and Adverse Event Reporting Program:

- Complete and submit the report Online: www.fda.gov/MedWatch/report.htm
- [Download form](#) or call 1-800-332-1088 to request a reporting form, then complete and return to the address on the pre-addressed form, or submit by fax to 1-800-FDA-0178

Read the MedWatch safety alert, including a link to the Press Release, at:

<http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm350085.htm>

Manufacturer Announces Potential Pull-Station Defects

Honeywell recently announced a potential defect with their BG-10 series pull stations. These pull stations were manufactured from 1992 through 2010 under multiple brands including ADT, Fire-Lite Alarms, Johnson Control Inc. and Notifier. Over time, deterioration inside the devices can occur, preventing the pull stations from transmitting an alarm signal when activated. Examples of the BG-10 pull stations are provided below. All BG-10 series pull stations will look similar to those shown.



Several options are available if you determine that you have one of these devices.

1. **Replace the pull station with the newer model BG-12 pull station (recommended by Honeywell).** The recommended substitution based on your exact model along with pictures and datasheets can be found at the following link: <http://www.pullstationsafety.com/en->

[US/Pages/instructions.aspx](#). New, addressable indoor pull stations will likely cost around \$100 per device to replace, not including the labor to install it.

2. **Replace the alarm switch seal (provided free of charge) during the next scheduled testing and inspection session.** The testing and inspection of pull stations is required on an annual basis and is most likely provided by a fire alarm contractor during the annual inspection and testing of the fire alarm system. Information on this process can be found at the following link: <http://www.pullstationsafety.com/en-US/Documents/HFS%20BG-10%20Pull%20Station%20Inspection%20Procedure%20April%202013.pdf>. Honeywell recommends that this process only be performed by a qualified fire alarm service provider as opening the pull station without taking adequate precautions will set off the fire alarm system.

Additional information can be found at <http://www.pullstationsafety.com>.

FACILITY NEWS

Fish-o-Rama Fun for Hanceville Nursing & Rehab



Hanceville Nursing & Rehab residents recently enjoyed a picnic and fishing trip at Veteran's Park in Hanceville. Resident Samuel Lucas, age 91, won the award for the oldest person fishing that day. Pictured from left to right are Rep. Randall Shedd (R-Cullman), Lucas and Hanceville Mayor Kenneth Nail.

OTHER NEWS

Alabama's Best Practices Program

A total of **20** best practices have been submitted from facilities across the state. Those selected to present at Alabama's Best Practices will be announced in the coming weeks. Mark your calendars for August 29, 2013, for the Alabama's Best Practices Program at the Cahaba Grand Conference Center in Birmingham. Thank you for your interest in and support of the program!

Congratulations to the following facilities for their nominations for the 2013 Program:

Cullman Long Term Care & Rehab
Hanceville Nursing and Rehab Center
Coosa Valley Nursing Home
Wiregrass Rehab Center & Nursing Home
Bill Nichols State Veterans Home
Prattville Health & Rehab

Crowne Health Care of Montgomery
Golden Living – Trussville
Oak Park Nursing Home
Arbor Springs Health & Rehab Center
Oak Trace Care & Rehabilitation Center
Cullman Health Care & Rehab Center

Athens Rehabilitation Center & Senior Care
River City Care and Rehabilitation Center (2)
South Haven Health & Rehab – Birmingham
Andalusia Manor

Dadeville Health Care Center
Haleyville Health and Rehab
Cherry Hill Rehabilitation & Health Care

ARRTC Disaster Training Specifically for Nursing Homes

The National Center for Disaster Medical Response at the University of South Alabama Center for Strategic Health Innovation is hosting a *nursing home specific* Advanced Regional Response Training Center Program (ARRTC). This training session is only open to nursing homes.

ARRTC for nursing homes is a comprehensive approach to all-hazards disaster preparedness and response training. The curriculum has been designed to teach responders and leaders how to effectively respond and collaborate.

The course is designed for individuals charged with disaster preparedness, response and leadership responsibilities and will provide basic core knowledge of their roles and responsibilities during an emergency or disaster. This training will also provide leaders and responders valuable information on how to perform their jobs, make the best decisions, how to communicate needs and offers of assistance, along with the roles and responsibilities of them and their partners during disaster response.

A variety of critical and timely issues will be covered, including Incident Command, National Incident Management System and Surge Capacity issues. *Please see the attached brochure for more information.*

AHCA Quality Improvement Toolkits/Webinars

The 4 Key Strategies to Retain New Hires and Reduce Employee Turnover (toolkit and webinar) and the *Clinical Considerations of Antipsychotic Management* (Toolkit and webinar) are available (free) to all AHCA members at: <http://qualityinitiative.ahcancal.org>. This resource uses a process framework, based on the Nursing Process, to identify care objectives and expectations. It identifies tools and resources to help providers successfully manage antipsychotic medication use at the resident and facility level. The guide focuses on 7 critical steps needed to ensure quality outcomes that are successful and continuous.

Members will need to log-in to access the toolkits, as it is a member-only benefit. If log-in information is needed, please contact your facility Administrator or State Association and they can give you the information you need.

AHCA Announces Advocacy Day May 16, 2013

Ever wish there were a day dedicated to sending out invitations to your Member of Congress for a facility tour? A day just to tell your friends and family to sign up to join our advocacy network? During National Nursing Home Week, Thursday, May 16, 2013, will be Advocacy Day. Everyone is strongly encouraged to organize an activity to bring awareness to protecting and advocating for our profession.

Simple ideas include:

- Setting up a table in the lobby of facilities to recruit new advocates or installing an advocacy board in the break room.
- Visiting your statehouse and meet with legislators or introduce yourself to staffers at your Congressional representative's district offices.
- Requesting a FREE Advocacy Center in a box for your facility from Clark Princell or feature yours prominently with balloons.
- Taking time to talk about what's happening in Washington and registering for Congressional Briefing in Washington, DC June 3-4.
- Emailing AHCA's advocacy network sign up link to friends, family and co-workers or make sure at least five new people fill out the advocacy post cards from your Advocacy Center boxes and return them to AHCA.
- Contacting your members of Congress regarding observation stays legislation.

Come up with creative ideas to showcase advocacy in your facility. We'll feature pictures and stories from Advocacy Day at facebook.com/saveseniors so start planning today. Contact mcowden@ahca.org for questions or requests for help.

Free Workplace Violence Seminar Available

Nearly two million American workers report having been victims of workplace violence each year. Many more cases go unreported. Workplace violence can strike anywhere, anytime, and no one is immune. On May 15, OSHA and the University of Texas at Arlington OSHA Education Center will offer a four-hour seminar on workplace violence prevention. The event will include guest speakers, an OSHA update and emergency action planning, prevention techniques and active shooter preparedness. The seminar is designed to provide best practices to prevent workplace violence and strategies when encountering an active shooter scenario. Participants may join in person at the University of Texas at Arlington or remotely via the web at no cost. Registration information is available at www.uta.edu/ded/wpv/.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
May 14	ANHA Region I Act/SS Auxiliary Meeting & Election RSVP: Endya Gibbs (205) 796-0214, egibbs@ballhealth.com Topics: Region Director Election and Ms. Alabama Nursing Home Pageant	John's Bar B Que Moulton	12:00 p.m.
May 22	ANHA Region IX Act/SS Auxiliary Meeting RSVP: Debra Dixon (205) 932-1173 Speaker: Kim Johnson, Ombudsman CEUs and refreshments provided	Fayette Medical Center LTC Fayette	1:00 p.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>