



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, August 23, 2013

ANHA NEWS

ANHA Office Closed for Labor Day Holiday

The ANHA Office will close today, Friday, August 30, at 12:00 p.m. in observance of the Labor Day Holiday. The office will re-open on Tuesday, September 3, at 8:00 a.m. We hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable Labor Day Weekend!

Registration Now for 2013 ANHA Annual Convention & Trade Show

Registration is now open for the 2013 ANHA Annual Convention & Trade Show to be held September 16-19 at the Hyatt Regency Birmingham – The Wynfrey Hotel. The convention will feature timely educational seminars, social events and officers for 2014 will be elected at the Annual General Business Session. Attendees can also take part in Alabama's largest long term care trade show. Continuing education credits will be offered for nursing home administrators, assisted living facility administrators, nurses, social workers and certified risk managers. Party on the Moon will bring its high energy show to the Dinner/Dance. *Please see the attached brochure and registration forms for more information.*

Host Hotel Reservation Deadline Extended to September 3

The newly renovated Hyatt Regency Birmingham – The Wynfrey Hotel will be the host hotel for this year's convention. Reservations can be made by calling the hotel at 800-233-1234, or online at www.hyattregencywynfrey.com and using code "G-ANHA".

The following rates have been negotiated for 2013 Annual Convention Attendees:

- \$147 per Standard/Double Room
- \$177 per Double – Concierge Level

Based on space availability, these rates will be offered one day before and following the meeting dates. To ensure availability of reservation space, all participants are encouraged to make their overnight reservations by **September 3**. After this date, rooms from our block which are not reserved will be released for general sales to the public and availability cannot be guaranteed.

ANHA Nominating Committee Requests Nominations for ANHA Officers

The ANHA Nominating Committee is charged with the task of collecting the names of individuals interested in serving our Association in a leadership role.

The Committee is accepting nominations for the following positions:

Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer

Our nursing homes are blessed with countless people passionate about caring for our state's elderly. Pursuing a leadership position within this Association is a way to help shape the future of our profession. Your insight and expertise are needed.

If you are interested in one of the above positions, or if you have questions, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee.

Committee Members are:

- **Sal.Lee Sasser-Williams, Chair**, Sasser Enterprises, (334) 222-2133
- **Eddie Jackson, Member**, Heritage Health Care & Rehab, (205) 759-5179
- **Cindy Lewis, Member**, Woodland Village Health Care Center, (256) 739-1430

Elections will be held during the General Business Session of the ANHA Annual Convention on Monday, September 19, 2013, at 5:30 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Birmingham – The Wynfrey Hotel.

ANHA 2013 Activity/Social Services Annual Convention

Join ANHA as we present the 2013 Activity/Social Services Annual Convention October 16-18 at The Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham. This year's convention is packed with great educational offerings for ALL nursing home staff. Continuing education will be offered for activity professionals (12 hours), social workers (12 hours), nursing home administrators (12 hours) and nurses (14.4 hours).

During the convention, we will hold the Annual Activity/Social Services Auxiliary General Business Session and officers will be elected for 2014. The Activity/Social Services Auxiliary Nominating Committee is charged with the task of collecting the names of individuals interested in serving the Auxiliary Association in a leadership role.

The Committee is accepting nominations for the following positions:

Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer

If you are interested in one of the above positions, or if you have additional questions, please contact *Ina Brown* (ina@tlnursingcenter.com) or *Gail Gunn* (mona.gunn@eamc.org). Elections will be held during the General Business Session of the Activity/Social Services Auxiliary Annual Convention on Thursday, October 17 at 1:30 p.m. at The Hyatt Regency Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham.

Host Hotel Reservations for 2013 Activity/Social Services Convention

The newly renovated Hyatt Regency Birmingham – The Wynfrey Hotel will be the host hotel for this year's convention. Reservations can be made by calling the hotel at 800-233-1234, or online at www.hyattregencywynfrey.com and using code "G-AASS".

The following rates have been negotiated with the Hyatt Regency Birmingham – The Wynfrey Hotel for our 2013 Activity/Social Services Annual Convention Attendees:

- \$140 per Standard/Double Room
- \$170 per Concierge Level Room

Based on space availability, these rates will be offered one day before and following the meeting dates. To ensure availability of reservation space, all participants are encouraged to make their overnight reservations by **OCTOBER 2**. After this date, rooms from our block which are not reserved will be released for general sales to the public and availability cannot be guaranteed. *Please watch for more information to follow next week.*

NATIONAL NEWS

Template Contract to meet new requirements for Long Term Care and Hospice

In June, CMS published a final rule with requirements for nursing centers that contract with outside entities to provide hospice services for patients in the center. These new regulations became effective on August 26, 2013.

To assist nursing centers in meeting the contract requirements, the American Health Care Association's Legal Counsel, ReedSmith, LLC, developed a template contract, *which is attached*. The note at the top of the first page is important and AHCA and ReedSmith, LLC remind every nursing center to seek advice of knowledgeable counsel to provide advice related to preparing for or negotiating a contract that could have significant financial and legal consequences.

ALERT: Need to Complete MDS Discharge Assessments

On August 23, 2013 CMS sent a memo to State Survey Directors clarifying steps to take to address MDS 3.0 discharge assessments that have not been completed and/or submitted. The purpose of the memo is to promote the completion of discharge assessments for inactive residents by September 30, 2013 to ensure compliance with related regulation.

Beginning October 1, 2013, MDS assessments older than 3 years will no longer be accepted.

Since the discharge assessment information is used for quality measurement (QM) and to minimize impact on QM data, CMS has selected a reference date of October 1, 2012. CMS is requiring centers to take the following steps when discharge assessments have not been completed and/or submitted prior to September 30, 2013:

1. Identify any residents appearing on the facility's current MDS 3.0 Roster report who are no longer active residents.
2. If the resident was discharged prior to October 1, 2012, a discharge assessment must be completed for the resident indicating the actual date of discharge in Item A2000, Discharge Date.
3. If the resident was discharged on or after October 1, 2012, a discharge assessment must be completed for the resident indicating the actual date of discharge in Item A2000, Discharge Date.

CMS is asking centers to complete and submit uncompleted discharge assessments as soon as possible, but no later than September 30, 2013. For more details related to completing and submitting the discharge assessments for inactive residents, click on the following link:

<http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/Downloads/Survey-and-Cert-Letter-13-56.pdf>

New Therapy G Related Codes

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released a reference chart listing the new G-codes needed for outpatient therapy services claims. The chart breaks down the codes by set (mobility etc.) and includes the long descriptor and short descriptor for each code and the seven new modifiers. The chart is available on the following link: <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/Downloads/G-Codes-Chart-908924.pdf>

STATE NEWS

Medicaid Update

Members of the Alabama Nursing Home Association have been meeting regularly with Medicaid since last fall on ideas and ways in which we can improve the current Medicaid Nursing Home Eligibility process. As a result of our joint efforts we have the following to report:

Expedite Online Web Portal:

1. Remember to attach documents to the applicable page of the expedite application. If you are waiting until you get to the signature page to attach all documentation for the entire application, the system won't know that you have submitted the appointment of representative form. If you indicate in the status of a page that a form is attached, make sure you attach the applicable form to that page.
2. Status matters! "Saved" status just means you have saved it in the queue to return to later. "Submitted" status means you have submitted the application to Medicaid for processing.
3. You may attach more than one appointment of representative form. It may be a good idea to attach one for the nursing home and another signed by a family member. That way there won't be confusion about who submitted an application on behalf of the patient.
4. Internet Explorer version should be IE-9 or newer.
5. If you have an old operating system, you may have to use work-arounds or update the operating system.
6. If you are submitting for more than one nursing home facility, remember that you will need multiple facility codes so that Expedite will route the application to the appropriate Medicaid District Office. You may want to have different user names to keep up with the different facilities, e.g. first initial of your name, last name, and short name for nursing facility.
7. For more information please visit the Medicaid website at www.medicaid.alabama.gov, click "Apply for Medicaid", then "Expedite On Line Nursing Home Application System". You may also try this link: http://medicaid.alabama.gov/CONTENT/3.0_Apply/3.5_Expedite.aspx. ANHA encourages you to utilize this tool and submit applications via the EXPEDITE System.

Paul McWhorter, Medicaid's Policy Director, will be at ANHA's tradeshow. Please stop by his booth and ask him any Expedite or policy questions you may have.

Annual Renewals:

Some of you who assist families to submit nursing home applications have asked for a heads up on annual renewals that are coming due each month. Beginning in September, facilities will begin to receive a letter addressed to the *Medicaid Application Counselor* that contains a list of the residents in the facility whose annual renewals are coming due the next month. **Please make sure that letter goes to the staff member who tracks and monitors Medicaid eligibility and assists families with applications and renewals.** The application counselors may assist the family in gathering any information needed to submit the annual renewal; remind family sponsors that Medicaid is up for renewal; or assist in other ways to ensure continued eligibility and care.

Trouble with SSI cases?

You may have noticed that patients who are eligible for Medicaid because of SSI status sometimes get terminated when they are actually still eligible. It isn't uncommon for SSI to suspend status when a SSI check is returned undeliverable or for other reasons when the recipient is still eligible for Medicaid. When SSI places a recipient in *suspended* status, their Medicaid *terminates*. (It happens via a nightly file transmission from SSI to Medicaid). If a patient is SSI eligible and their Medicaid terminates but you have reason to believe they are still Medicaid eligible, you may want to contact Patricia Swain at Medicaid. She can submit a form 8036 to the Social Security Administration to find out the reason and request appropriate actions. Ms. Swain can be reached at 334-353-3690.

Conservator Issues?

Mr. Paul McWhorter, Director of Medicaid's Policy Division and his staff prepared training materials for DHR to use in upcoming conservator training. The training will be provided via webinar to DHR attorneys and other attorneys in the state working on behalf of DHR on conservator issues.

Medicaid Check Write Schedule for FY 2014

The release of funds is normally the second Monday after the check write (remittance advice) date. Please verify direct deposit status with your bank. *As always, the release of direct deposit and checks depends on the availability of funds.*

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| October 4, 2013 | October 18, 2013 |
| November 1, 2013 | November 15, 2013 |
| December 6, 2013 | December 13, 2013 |
| January 3, 2014 | January 17, 2014 |
| February 7, 2014 | February 21, 2014 |
| March 7, 2014 | March 21, 2014 |
| April 4, 2014 | April 18, 2014 |
| May 2, 2014 | May 16, 2014 |
| June 6, 2014 | June 20, 2014 |
| July 11, 2014 | July 25, 2014 |
| August 8, 2014 | August 22, 2014 |
| September 5, 2014 | September 12, 2014 |

Medicaid Cost Reports due September 15

The Alabama Nursing Home Association will collect 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

Alabama Medicaid Provider and Vendor Testing for ICD-10

Providers could begin ICD-10 testing on August 26, 2013. Providers and vendors are encouraged to test to ensure file layout information is in the correct format prior to the federal mandate date for ICD-10, which is currently, October 1, 2014. It is critical that providers and trading partners test with Alabama Medicaid prior to implementation. We encourage early testing from August 26, 2013 through October 11, 2013. However, testing will continue until the ICD-10 federal mandate date. Testing will ensure our readiness and your readiness and will reduce the impact of this implementation for all parties.

What transactions are affected by ICD-10 changes?

- 837I (Institutional claims)
- 837P (Professional claims)
- 278 (Prior Authorization)
- 835 Remittance Advice and 835 Electronic remittance advice
 - No specific changes were made but new Explanation of Benefit (EOB) codes and corresponding Claim Adjustment Reason Code (CARC)/Remittance Advice Remark Codes (RARC) will be returned related to ICD-10

What do I need to do prior to testing if I use a vendor or clearinghouse, or if I am a vendor or clearinghouse?

ICD-10 changes must be made to your system first. If you work with a software vendor or clearinghouse, work with that vendor or clearinghouse to understand when the ICD-10 software upgrade will be available.

Review and understand the changes being made by Alabama Medicaid and how they affect you and the transactions you submit.

Understand the use of the ICD-9 end dates and ICD-10 effective dates.

Contact HP Enterprise Services (HP), who is the fiscal agent for Alabama Medicaid, in advance to ensure you are set up to test with us.

Obtain a copy of the spreadsheet required to record and submit testing activities and outcomes so we can better support you.

How do I begin testing if I use a vendor or clearinghouse?

If you have tested with HP in the past, attempt to logon to the secure web site by selecting the **Secure Site** link at <https://www.alabama-uat.com/ALPortal/> and answer the security questions to reset the password. If this is unsuccessful, contact the EMC Helpdesk to ensure you are set up to test with us.

If you have **never** tested with HP, contact the EMC Helpdesk to obtain a Trading Partner ID for testing. The telephone number is 1-800-456-1242 and the e-mail address is AlabamaSystemsEMC@hp.com.

How will I test after I am assigned a Trading Partner ID?

Once a Trading Partner ID has been issued to you from the EMC helpdesk:

- Logon to the secure web site by selecting the **Secure Site** link at <https://www.alabama-uat.com/ALPortal/> and select the **setup account** button.
- Enter the **Login ID** (Trading Partner ID) and **Personal Identification Number** (PIN) that has been issued and select **setup account** button.
- Enter data in all required fields to set up the web account and select **submit**.

The Medicaid Home Page will be displayed and you are now set up to begin submitting batch files for testing.

For those with an existing testing ID, if you are unable to logon, please attempt to answer the security questions and reset the password. If this is unsuccessful, please contact the EMC help desk for further assistance.

I use Provider Electronic Solutions, how do I test?

Ensure you have Version 3.02 of the Provider Electronic Solutions software which is ICD-10 compliant. Follow the instructions above to obtain a Trading Partner ID. Once a Trading Partner ID is obtained go through the steps to set up the web account establishing a user ID and password.

- Open Provider Electronic Solutions, select tools/options and under the Batch tab enter your Trading Partner ID, Web Logon ID (this is the user id you created on the web portal) and your Web Password.
- Lastly, select the Web tab, and change the Environment Indicator (Environment Ind) from a 'P' to a 'T' and select OK.
- You are ready to submit **test** files.

NOTE: Be sure to change the User ID and Web Password back to your production logon details and Environment Indicator back to 'P' if you need to submit **production** claims.

I use Medicaid's Interactive Web Portal to submit claims, how do I test?

Contact the EMC Help Desk and request a Provider Web Portal ID for User Acceptance Testing, you will need to provide the NPI and service location information for testing.

Once you receive the web logon ID and PIN, follow the steps listed above for setting up a Trading Partner ID to establish a provider web account for testing.

The link to the portal for testing is <https://alabama-uat.com/ALPortal>.

What other information do I need to know for ICD-10 testing?

- ✓ Submit “real” data, if possible. Use production data and submit it on the **testing** site with ICD-10 codes and compare results.
- ✓ Dates of service on the claims should be changed prior to submission based on ICD-9 end dates and ICD-10 effective dates listed below.
- ✓ Try conditions that you feel will be accepted and validate they are paid.
- ✓ Try conditions that you feel will fail and validate that they do deny.
- ✓ Keep track of the ICN’s returned to help us research identified issues.
- ✓ For issues concerning submission errors (TA1 or 999) note the tracking number to assist with research.

The ICD-9 and ICD-10 Testing Effective Dates are as follows:

August 26, 2013 – March 31, 2014

- ICD-9 end date = August 25, 2013 & ICD-10 start date = August 26, 2013

April 1, 2014 – September 30, 2014

- ICD-9 end date = March 31, 2014 & ICD-10 start date = April 1, 2014

October 1, 2014 and thereafter

- ICD-9 end date = September 30, 2014 & ICD-10 start date = October 1, 2014

The ICD-9 end date indicates the last date where ICD-9 codes may be submitted without error. The ICD-10 start date indicates the first date where ICD-10 codes may be submitted without error.

The schedule is also available on the ICD-10 testing page of the Alabama Medicaid website at: http://medicaid.alabama.gov/CONTENT/6.0_Providers/6.12_ICD-10/6.12.3_ICD-10_Testing.aspx

How will testing be monitored?

Monitoring will occur to ensure testing activity has begun. If we are not seeing transactions submitted, we will be contacting you to ensure there are no issues and offer assistance if needed. Contact the EMC help desk for setup and account access issues.

Document any other issues on the Test Results Feedback spreadsheet located at the following link: http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov/CONTENT/6.0_Providers/6.12_ICD-10/6.12.3.4_ICD-10_Secure_Testing_Web_Site.aspx

Please submit your testing spreadsheet on a regular basis to the EMC Helpdesk by e-mailing the information to alabamasystemsemc@hp.com

How can I obtain additional information about ICD-10 testing?

Please be sure to visit this site for more information that you will need for testing.

The ICD-10 testing link on the Alabama Medicaid website may be accessed from the general page at: http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov/CONTENT/6.0_Providers/6.12_ICD-10/6.12.3_ICD-10_Testing.aspx

A webinar will soon be available on the Alabama Medicaid website on the ICD-10 webpage.

Alabama Medicaid - Synagis® Criteria for 2013 – 2014 Season

The Alabama Medicaid Agency has updated its prior authorization criteria for the Synagis® 2013-2014 season. Below are some highlights for the season. Complete criteria can be found on the website at the following link:

http://medicaid.alabama.gov/CONTENT/4.0_Programs/4.5.0_Pharmacy/4.5.14_Synagis.aspx

The approval time frame for Synagis® will begin October 1, 2013 and will be effective through March 31, 2014.

Up to five doses will be allowed per recipient in this timeframe. Some recipients may only receive up to a max of 3 doses, depending on the gestational and chronological age.

There are no circumstances that will result in approval of a sixth dose.

If a dose was administered in an inpatient setting, the date the dose was administered must be included on the request form.

For approval of requests, the recipient must meet gestational and chronological age requirements. In order to meet chronological age requirements, the recipient must not exceed the specified age at the start of the RSV season.

Prescribers, not the pharmacy, manufacturer or any other third party entity, are to submit requests for Synagis® on a separate prior authorization form (Form 351) **directly** to Health Information Designs and completed forms may be accepted beginning September 3, 2013 (for an October 1 effective date).

Stamped or copied physician signatures will **not** be accepted and will be returned to the provider.

A copy of the hospital discharge summary from birth or documentation of the first office visit with pertinent information (gestational age, diagnosis, etc.) is required on all Synagis® PA requests.

If approved, each subsequent monthly dose will require submission of the recipient's current weight and last injection date and may be faxed to HID by the prescribing physician or dispensing pharmacy utilizing the original PA approval letter.

Letters will be faxed to both the prescriber and the dispensing pharmacy notating approval or denial.

Criteria

Alabama Medicaid follows the 2012 American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Redbook guidelines regarding Synagis® utilization. Additional questions regarding Synagis® criteria can be directed to the Agency's Prior Authorization contractor, Health Information Designs at 1-800-748-0130.

LPN License Renewal Begins September 1

LPN license renewal begins on September 1, 2013, that's only 12 days away. The Alabama Board of Nursing (ABN) only has about 3,500 LPNs (out of 18,000+) who are eligible to renew.

The reasons an LPN might not be eligible to renew are as follows:

- Lack of sufficient continuing education (this is the primary reason for LPNs not being eligible to renew).
- Fees and fines owed to the Board. Payment of owed fines and fees is required before renewal can proceed.
- Citizenship/legal presence has not been verified (we are still lacking about 1/3 of LPNs who have not been verified because we have not received the documents or we've had to return documents for completion).
- Lack of mandatory CE class for those licensed by examination in the last two years (4 contact hours; 7 segments; required of newly licensed LPNs).
- Currently suspended (very low number).

LPNs and RNs can check to see if their citizenship has been verified by going to <https://www.abn.alabama.gov/abnonline/MyprofileLogin.aspx> and using the license number and last 4 digits of the social security number, signing in to the profile.

If you have LPNs in your facility or LPNs that you know, please advise them to get their required CE, pay any outstanding fees or fines, submit citizenship/legal presence documents, watch the mandatory CE class if licensed during the past two years and this is their first renewal. ABN will mail a notice to all LPNs next week.

Editor's Note: This article was provided by the Alabama Board of Nursing.

ADPH Technical Services ALERT

It has come to the ANHA's attention that ALL correspondence, specifically the 2567, from ADPH/Technical Services (Life Safety) is being sent to a facility's e-mail with a receipt request/verification. Technical Services has indicated to ANHA that many facilities are not replying to the receipt request and that they will "eventually" not be placing a physical call to a location to confirm receipt. Technical Services has asked that each facility send in a current and valid email address in order to ensure correct correspondence and timely POC's.

It is STRONGLY recommended that each facility send an email address, contact designee, facility name and phone number to: lifesafety@adph.state.al.us.

Changes to Medicaid Hospice Election and Physician's Certification Form 165

Hospice providers are required to include within the medical record a Medicaid Hospice Election and Physician's Certification form (Form 165) that has been signed and dated by the physician. The exception to this is when an individual is eligible for Medicare as well as Medicaid. In that case, the Medicare election form will continue to serve as election for both hospice programs.

Form 165 was recently revised to include blanks to enter the ***Date of Benefit Period*** and the ***Date Physician Signed***. Effective September 1, 2013, all Hospice Providers should discard all copies of the previous Form 165 and utilize the revised form.

The revised Form 165 and the *Instructions for Completion of Hospice Election Form 165* will be located on the Agency's website, effective September 1, 2013 and can be accessed at the following:

http://medicaid.alabama.gov/CONTENT/5.0_Resources/5.4_Forms_Library/5.4.3_LTC_Forms.a_spx, then go to the Form 165.

For questions or concerns regarding the Medicaid Hospice Program, please contact Felicha Fisher at (334) 353-5153.

FACILITY NEWS

2013 Alabama's Best Practices a Success!



The 2013 Alabama's Best Practices was an overwhelming success! Over 400 long-term care professionals from every discipline learned innovative care techniques from their colleagues. Eight facilities gave creative presentations on how they were able to improve resident care or resident quality of life. A special thanks to all who sponsored or participated in this event.

Nursing Home Employees Recognized for Contributions to Long-Term Care



As a part of the Best Practices Program, certified nursing assistants and other staff members were recognized for their contributions to long-term care. The longest serving employee recognized was Mattie Stines of Park Manor Health & Rehab. She has 41 years of service as a Certified Nursing Assistant. Pictured from left to right are ANHA President Richard Brockman, Ms. Stines and ANHA Executive Director Bill O'Connor.

Magnolia Haven Earns Deficiency Free Survey!

Magnolia Haven Health & Rehab Center recently earned a deficiency free health survey! Ouida Gandy is the Administrator, and Erin Hill is the Director of Nursing. The facility is located in Tuskegee and is owned by Ball Health Care Services. Congratulations to the staff of Magnolia Haven Health & Rehab Center on this outstanding accomplishment!

Oakview Manor Earns Deficiency Free Survey!

Oakview Manor Health Care Center recently earned a deficiency free health survey! Sherry Roberts is the Administrator, and Kathy Ingalls is the Director of Nursing. The facility is located in Ozark and is owned by United States Health & Housing Foundation. Congratulations to the staff of Oakview Manor Health Care Center on this outstanding accomplishment!

OTHER NEWS

AQAF Offers Educational Seminar: *Cognitive Connections: Awakening the Human Spirit Through Innovations in Dementia Caregiving*

The Alabama Quality Assurance Foundation is offering a seminar regarding Dementia Care on September 26 in Birmingham and September 27 in Montgomery. To register: Go to www.aqaf.com then to News/Events, Events Calendar, September 2013, then select the date you plan to attend. The registration form will appear. After completion, you will receive an e-mail confirmation.

If you do not have access to a computer or an e-mail address, please call for assistance to: Rose Finkelstein, Administrative Assistant **800-760-4550, Ext. 3107** or rfinkelstein@alqio.sdps.org

AHCA Offers Webinar: ICD-10-CM – What is it? Why? And What Next?

Please join AHCA for a webinar, titled “ICD-10-CM – What is it? Why? and What Next?”, on Thursday, Sept. 12, 2013, at 1:00 p.m., to learn more about implementation and the upcoming deadlines for the transition from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-CM.

As you are well aware, on October 1, 2014, the ICD-9 code sets used to report medical diagnoses and inpatient procedures will be replaced by ICD-10 code sets. The transition to ICD-10 is required for everyone covered by the Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act (HIPAA); which includes all SNFs/NFs and some assisted living facilities. Unfortunately, most of the information and materials you read about in the media or find on the internet is focused around hospital compliance. LTC providers also must understand the implications and make the successful transition from ICD-9 to ICD-10 or claims will not be processed. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has instructed all providers to develop an implementation strategy now that includes an assessment of the impact on the organization, a detailed timeline and a budget. To learn more about how to get started, please join us, with expert Deborah Johnson, RHIT, CHP (Life Care Centers of America, Corporate Director of Health Information Management/Privacy Officer; and AHIMA – Approved ICD-10 Trainer), and learn the background and reasons for the upcoming changes, as well as the first steps to take to begin to implement the changes.

Learning objectives include:

- Learn the basics about ICD-10 and CMS’ timeline for implementation;
- Understand why the change from ICD-9 to ICD-10 and the ensuring differences;
- Discuss the important steps in an ICD-10 implementation strategy including how to perform an impact analysis, develop training and get additional ICD-10 expert help; and
- Learn about important budget considerations for ICD-10 implementation.

To register for this free webinar, go to <http://webinars.ahcancal.org/session.php?id=11516>.

Save the Dates and Listen to Pre-recorded Webinar Events – September 4, 10 Be Prepared. Don't Let New Surveyor Guidance for F309 Catch You Off-Guard!

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently released new surveyor guidance to assess compliance with F309 and F329 as they relate to residents with dementia and use of antipsychotic drugs. AHCA is pleased to offer a series of brief, fast-moving and content-rich webinars to help your nursing center ensure that you are well-prepared for these changes. Webinars will be grounded in a QAPI approach and provide strategies for achieving compliance with the new guidance. **Each webinar is 30-minutes and will be available on-demand.** Please visit the American Health Care Association (AHCA) website <http://webinars.ahcancal.org/index.php> 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.

Governor Bobby Jindal Confirmed as Closing Keynote Speaker at AHCA Annual Convention & Expo



Governor Bobby Jindal has been serving as the Governor of Louisiana since 2008. As Governor, he has focused on issues involving the state's health care, education, and transportation systems, as well as encouraging workforce development and continuing recovery efforts in areas devastated by hurricanes such as Katrina and Rita. He has also been concerned with comprehensive ethics reform. In his career, he has served a number of public offices and has faced many challenges in disaster recovery efforts, as well as issues concerning Medicare and Medicaid. Jindal will share his experiences and perspectives on these issues. [Advance registration](#) for the American Health Care Association's Annual Convention and Expo continues through September 9.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| <u><i>Date</i></u> | <u><i>Event</i></u> | <u><i>Location</i></u> | <u><i>Time</i></u> |
|--------------------|---|--|--------------------|
| September 4 | ANHA Region VI Act/SS Auxiliary Meeting RSVP: Katie Morgan (256)825-9244 Ext. 129 Topic: Connecting with Your Co-Worker Lunch will be provided | Oak Park Nursing Home Auburn | 11:00 a.m. |
| September 16 | ANHA Region I Act/SS Auxiliary Meeting RSVP: Kim Allred (256) 352-9100 Topic: Coping with Stress and Burnout in Healthcare Lunch will be provided | Westminster Assisted Living Cullman | 11:00 a.m. |
| September 16-19 | ANHA Annual Convention and Trade Show | Hyatt Wynfrey Birmingham | |
| September 18 | ANHA Region IX Act/SS Meeting and Eleciton RSVP: Debra Dixon (205) 932-1173 | Fayette Medical Center LTC Fayette | 12:00 p.m. |

Alabama Nursing Home Association
 4156 Carmichael Road ♦ Montgomery, AL 36106 ♦ PH: (334) 271-6214 ♦ FAX: (334) 244-6509
 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>