

Reminder: 2015 Membership Renewal

Just a reminder that your 2014 INHAA membership expires December 31 and renewal for 2015 is only \$100. INHAA offers more than 40 high quality professional CE Hours for administrators and nurses each year at one-third to one-half the cost of other organizations. And remember, if the facility administrator is a member of the association, all staff at that facility can come to INHAA conferences at member rates. Don't miss out. Sign up today. A 2015 membership brochure is [linked here](#).

Special OBRA Surveys in 2015 Focus on MDS Accuracy and Staffing

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that special surveys to determine MDS coding accuracy and nursing home staffing levels will occur nationwide starting in 2015, according to a memorandum (S&C 15-06-NH) released October 31.

CMS conducted 25 special surveys in five states this past year and found MDS deficiencies in 24 out of the 25 surveys. The problems included "inaccurate staging and documentation of pressure ulcers, lack of knowledge regarding the classifications of antipsychotic drugs, and poor coding regarding the use of restraints." The surveys also focused on checking the accuracy of facility-reported staffing data. The special surveys were started both in response to the Office of Inspector General findings that skilled nursing facilities widely supply MDS information that is not "supported or consistent with medical need" and a recent New York Times article that many nursing homes "game the system" in self-reporting staffing data.

The special focused surveys could result in violations and be subject to further review. These surveys will involve two surveyors and are expected to take two days. "While on-site, surveyors will ask a series of questions regarding staffing and MDS related practices of the facility staff, leadership and others as appropriate." CMS will work with state agencies to determine how many special surveys will take place in each state and which facilities will be involved. CMS will conduct a half-day web-based training for the state surveyors conducting these reviews.

We Kept Our Ducks in Line!

The 2014 INHAA Convention and Trade Show October 29-30 - Springfield Crowne Plaza

A record 282 attendees and 136 exhibitors did a great job in getting all our ducks in line, including a scavenger hunt throughout the Crowne Plaza Hotel looking for more than 200 sneaky little yellow duckies. Twelve educational sessions and three inspirational sessions with Jason Kotecki, Al Litwiller and Kevin Brown provided all participants with both the tools and motivation to keep all our ducks in line. Among the prize winners for games, scavenger hunts, booth prizes and grand prizes are:



Booth prizes:

Southern Bus and Mobility	\$50 Gift Card	Dawn Lamp
Southern Bus and Mobility	\$50 Gift Card	Connie Holselton
Preferred Podiatry	\$50 Gift Card	Megan Hodel
Ovitsky Vision Care	Kindle	Joy Hutchinson
Sysco Food Service	Gift Card	Peggy Aschenbrenner
Gardiner Consulting	Gift Basket	Julie Ellinger-Lawson
United Scripts	Gift Basket	Robyn Johnson
Mobilex	Nook Reader	Becky Woiwode
Williams Bros LTC Pharmacy	\$50 Gift Card	Jackie Liddell
Williams Bros LTC Pharmacy	\$50 Gift Card	Lori Rodgers
Achieve Accreditation	\$50 Gift Card	Lori Pritchard
AFFIRMA Rehabilitation	Gift Basket	Janice Buerger
Integra Healthcare	Bose Bluetooth Speaker	Lisa Canady
Pathway Health	Gift Basket	Cissy Bloomfield
Firm Systems	\$50 Gift Card	Peggy Thomas
RJ Kool Company	\$50 Gift Card	Belinda Mortag
Greenberg and Associates	Wine Caddy	Debbie Hull
ONR	Visa Gift Card	Jill Scogins
Martin Bros Distributing	Wine Bucket	Jo Boles
United Rx	Gift Basket	Marge Cornejo
Insight Drug Abuse Testing	Starbucks Card	Karen Jones
Gamma Health Care	\$50 Gift Card	Kathy Biron
M.E.S. of Illinois	Gift Basket	Denise Rau
NHRMA Mutual	\$50 Gift Card	Anne Johnson
US Foodservice	Gift Basket	Debbie O'Dell
Aegis Therapies	\$50 Gift Card	Emily Dykstra
Nutrition Care Systems	Target Gift Card	Margie Lyle
eSolutions	\$100 Amazon Gift Card	Jodi Jude
Podiatry Plus	\$50 Gift Card	Sherry Head
Podiatry Plus	Case of pies	Jerlene Jamison
Green Tree Pharmacy	Stadium blanket	Kim Harvey
Green Tree Pharmacy	Stadium blanket	Ann Kelley
Green Tree Pharmacy	Stadium blanket	Cathy Bergmann
Gentell	Digital picture frame	Mary Marcocig
Select Rehabilitation	\$50 Gift Card	Sandra Cubas
Select Rehabilitation	\$50 Gift Card	Sara McMahan
FR&R	Gift Basket	Connie Holselton
Forum Extended Care	\$25 Macy's Gift Card	Barbara Waters
Health PRO Rehabilitation	Stereo Headset	Jeremy Woodle
McGladrey LLP	Kindle Fire	Rhonda Hancock
Rane Bathing Systems	\$50 Gift Basket	Angela Lackowski
Simply Rehab	Gift Basket	Susan Dulaca
Omicare	\$100 Gift Card	Margaret Ferris
UVANTA Pharmacies	Clock	Chrystal Coultas
BioTech X-Ray	\$50 Gift Card	Mary Kay Hirsbrunner

INHAA Game Winners:

First place	\$30 Gift Cards	Jennifer Barber Chrystal Coultas Lisa Wessels
Second place	\$20 Gift Cards	Joy Hutchinson Donna Weeks Angela Lackowski
Third place	Christmas Candle Display	Marjorie Moritz Tony Miner Lindsay Schweningen



The \$100 gift card winner of the yellow ducky scavenger hunt was Cindy Russell of Brother James Court, who found 42 little yellow duckies, just beating out Karen Noffke with 41 and Debbie Hull who found 32, but Debbie Hull found the special ducky worth a \$50 gift card. And the INHAA \$500 Grand Prize Drawing went to Nancy Pryor. Congratulations!

Come again next year to the 2015 INHAA Convention and Trade Show at the Springfield Crowne Plaza on November 17-18, 2015 for fun, great networking, professional education and inspiration. Mark your calendars now.

Other News:

More Analysis on IMPACT

Last month we mentioned that the Improving Medicare Post-Acute Care Transformation Act of 2014 (IMPACT), supported by the national nursing home provider associations passed both houses of Congress and was signed by the President on October 6. We offer the following additional analysis from a recent FR&R Healthcare Bulletin:

At this time, there are different Post-Acute Care (PAC) assessment instruments for each individual PAC provider. These include the Minimum Data Set (MDS) in Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs), the Outcome and Assessment Information Set (OASIS) in Home Health Agencies (HHAs), the Patient Assessment Indicator (IRF-PAI) in Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRFs), and the Continuity Assessment Record and Evaluation Data Set (LTCH-CARE) in Long Term Care Hospitals (LTCHs). With the passing of the IMPACT Act, the Secretary will modify the PAC assessment instruments in order to enable PAC providers to report and submit standardized patient assessment data no later than October 1, 2018 for SNFs, IRFs, and LTCHs, and January 1, 2019 for HHAs.

The IMPACT Act also requires PAC providers to begin reporting standardized quality measures data on October 1, 2016, for SNFs, IRFs, and LTCHs and January 1, 2017 for HHAs. Although quality measures are already being reported for each of the PAC providers, new data related to functional status and changes in function, skin integrity and changes in skin integrity, medication reconciliation, incidence of major falls and patient preferences will be added.

Currently, there are four separate payment systems and major cost and care variations between the various PAC settings. By standardizing the data, patient care outcomes and costs will be able to be compared across the PAC provider settings. No later than two years after the CMS has collected two years of quality measures and patient assessment data, the IMPACT Act requires recommendations for a new PAC prospective payment system. Beginning October 1, 2018, failure to report the standardized assessment data or quality measures will result in a two percent reduction in payment.

Additionally, the IMPACT Act includes a number of provisions relating to hospice providers. Currently, there are no specific time requirements for CMS to survey hospice agencies. The Act requires state or local survey agencies (or an approved accreditation agency) to conduct a routine survey at least once every 3 years. CMS is also mandated to conduct eligibility recertification of all hospices that have a high number of patients receiving care for longer than 180 days. According to the Act, CMS must set a threshold for the reviews.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss how the IMPACT Act may affect your organization, please contact a member of our Health Care Management Group at 847-236-1111. If you are interested in a previously published FR&R bulletin, please email healthcareconsulting@frrcpas.com.

New Medicaid Benefits Eligibility Form (ABE) For November 1

As required by law, the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) will begin using a new Application for Benefits Eligibility (also known as ABE) beginning November 1, 2014. All applications for Illinois long term care Medicaid eligibility submitted by facilities will be required to use this form, found at www.abe.illinois.gov. The HFS website also has an [ABE Introductory Manual for Community Partners \(pdf\)](#) and other resources available on the HFS Affordable Care Act website. Also on the HFS website is a training slide show called [Completing an ABE application for LTC facilities webinar \(pdf\)](#). Again, we repeat, the new ABE form must be used after November 1, 2014 for all applications for long term care Medicaid eligibility.

First ICD-10 testing week is November 17-21

The new ICD-10 implementation is October 1, 2015 (having been postponed a year). During the coming year, CMS has established three separate testing weeks: November 17-21, 2014; March 2-6, 2015; and June 1-5, 2015. Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) and Common Electronic Data Interchange (CEDI) real-time help desk support will be provided during this time. More information regarding ICD_10 testing weeks, along with the required Change Request 8858 Form can be found at: <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R1423OTN.pdf>.

According to FR&R, the following are key points for the ICD-10 testing process:

- *Submitted test claims with ICD-10 codes must have current dates of service*
- *Test claims will receive the 277CA or 999 acknowledgement to show the claim was accepted or rejected by Medicare*
- *Claims will undergo front-end edits such as NPI validation and Submitter authentication*
- *MACs and CEDI will be well staffed to handle increased call volume on their Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) help desk numbers*
- *Testing will not show claim payment or create a remittance advice.*

HFS Clarifies MDS Section Q Referral Requirements.

HFS released an Informational Notice on September 12, 2014 that outlines what facilities need to do if, in completing Section Q of the MDS, a resident indicates that they would like to talk to someone about the possibility of returning to the community. Facilities have 10 business days after that to complete and submit a mandated HFS referral form. The memo outlines the requirements and procedures:

“Federal CMS Requirements: MDS 3.0, Section Q

Federal law (42 CFR 483.20), requires Nursing Facilities (NFs) participating in the Medicare and/or Medicaid programs to complete the Minimum Data Set (MDS) 3.0 assessment on all residents upon admission and on a prescribed schedule thereafter. Section Q of the MDS 3.0 is used to record the participation and expectations of the resident, family members or significant others in the assessment, and to determine the resident’s goals regarding discharge and return to community. All residents are required to be asked upon admission and annually thereafter if they would like to talk with someone about the possibility of returning to the community. Individuals may opt-out of being asked if they want to speak with someone regarding discharge and return to community during MDS quarterly assessments, however residents must still be asked during the annual review.

Process for Submitting Section Q Referrals

The Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) implemented a web referral form as part of the Money Follows the Person (MFP) Program in the spring of 2012. The form streamlines the MFP [referral process](#) on the [MFP Web site](#). To facilitate compliance with Section Q reporting requirements, facilities may complete the web referral form for those individuals that have answered yes to Section Q, Q0500B. Please note that the MDS requires that within a reasonable timeframe of a “Yes” response,

NF staff submit referrals. The expectation in Illinois for a referral to be made is within 10 business days. Facilities may print the completed referral page prior to transmitting and retain for documentation purposes. This notice reiterates information contained in an earlier [Provider Notice dated May 31, 2013 \(pdf\)](#), defining requirements for the implementation of MDS 3.0 Section Q. Referrals can also be made by contacting the Senior Helpline at 1-800-252-8966, 1-888-206-1327 (TTY).

Upon receipt of a referral, HFS routes the referral to a Local Contact Agency (LCA) for follow-up. There is a 10-day requirement of follow-up after receipt of a referral by an LCA. To comply with federal reporting requirements, HFS tracks Section Q referrals received from NF staff through the web referral form and compares the Section Q responses to referrals received. HFS is also tracking follow-up on referrals by LCAs. Since April 2012 through July 2014, 4,066 referrals have been generated by nursing facilities through the online referral system. HFS data shows that only one third of the State's nursing facilities that serve the Medicare/Medicaid population have utilized the online referral system.

If you have questions regarding this informational notice, please contact: <mailto:HFS.MFP@illinois.gov> or 217-557-1868.”

CMS Allows Power Strips in Patient Care Areas

In S&C memo 14-46, CMS is permitting a categorical Life Safety Code (LSC) waiver to allow for the use of power strips in both new and existing healthcare facilities in patient care areas, if the facility is in compliance with all applicable 2012 LSC power strip requirements and with all other 2000 LSC electrical system and equipment provisions. Resident rooms using line-operated patient-care-related electrical equipment in the patient care vicinity must comply with the NFPA 99 power strip requirement and may elect to utilize this categorical waiver. Providers are expected to have written documentation that they have elected to use the waiver. A provider must notify the LSC survey team at the entrance conference that it has elected to use the waiver permitted under this guidance and that it meets the applicable waiver requirements.

Contacting the INHAA Office

Illinois Nursing Home Administrator Association Office
P.O. Box 4407, Oak Park, Illinois 60304
Phone: 708-800-6161 Fax: 708-848-4219 Email: tsullivan@inhaa.org
Association Coordinator: Terry Sullivan

Contacting INHAA Board Members

Contact Information for any of INHAA's board members can be found on the Board of Directors page at our website at www.inhaa.org.

Upcoming 2014-2015 INHAA Events Calendar

March 18-19, 2015 Conference at the Par-A-Dice Hotel in East Peoria
June 17-18, 2015 Conference at the Chateau in Bloomington
August 5-6, 2015 Conference at the Par-A-Dice Hotel in East Peoria
November 17-18, 2015 Convention and Trade Show at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield

Administrator Licensing Information

Information about 2014 Administrator Licensure Examination dates and locations, Administrator Test Review Courses for 2014, Requirements for Obtaining NHA Continuing Education Credits, and how to contact the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) can be found on the IDFPR page at our website at www.inhaa.org.

Employment Alley

POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

Full Time Administrator in Sterling: Our long term Administrator has decided to retire. Therefore, we are looking for a licensed Administrator in the Sterling, IL area. Applicants must be energetic, willing to get their hands dirty, and experienced with residents with a psychiatric diagnosis. If you have strength in operations, a desire to succeed, and love working to make the lives of others better, we want to talk to you about this opportunity. Interested parties, please send your resume to healthcare@hicaremanagement.com.

Long Term Care Administrator: Heritage Health in Springfield is seeking an energetic person to fill our leadership position of Administrator. This person would be responsible for overseeing the entire operations of our 178-bed, Medicare/Medicaid licensed facility. We are looking for someone who has great communication skills, a strong background in long term care rules and regulations, is active in the local community, and can create a memorable living environment for our residents and families. The ideal candidate must hold an active Illinois LTC Administrator's license in good standing, and have 5 – 7 years of experience as a nursing home administrator. Competitive Salary and Benefit package. Please apply online or send resumes to: Heritage Enterprises, Inc., Attn: Kiel Peregrin, 900 N. Rutledge, Springfield, IL. 62702 or online at www.HeritageOfCare.com.

Nursing Home Administrator: The Clayberg-Fulton County Nursing Center, a 49-bed skilled nursing facility in Cuba, Illinois offers a competitive salary, a generous benefit package and a professional work environment if you have strength in operations, a desire to succeed, and love working to make the lives of others better. Interested parties, please send resume to: Fulton County Board, Garry Gensley, Health Committee Chairman, Fulton County Courthouse, 100 North Main Street, Lewistown, IL 61542.

Administrator: Concordia Village, a leading faith inspired not-for-profit continuing care retirement community seeks an innovative Administrator to join its campus. Dedicated to a comprehensive approach to senior care and services, the campus is located in the heart of historic Springfield, Illinois, offering a full continuum of care. The Care Center, opening approximately two and a half years ago, was designed using the person-centered philosophy of care and includes a non-traditional household model. The 5-Star rated center is comprised of four 16-bed households.

The finalist will have a minimum of five years successful leadership experience within a high quality, service oriented healthcare setting. A Bachelor's degree and a current Illinois nursing home administrator license are required. For the individual who derives gratification from being a part of a financially secure, mission driven, not-for-profit organization, this should be regarded as a premier professional opportunity. Candidate nominations or expressions of personal interest may be directed in confidence to Dan Deffet, Deffet Group, Inc., email: info@deffetgroup.com.

SEEKING POSITION

Interim Administrator. Experienced administrator seeking short-term interim administrator position. Capable leader, knowledgeable of state and federal regulations, and proficient in the management of a short-term rehab unit or a long term care facility while you search for a permanent administrator or fill in for your current administrator during an extended leave of absence. Willing to accept assignment in any part of the state. Contact Harry C. Poole (618-806-2125 or hcpoole@gmail.com).

Full Time Administrator with front-line experience. Working up from being a CNA, Registered Nurse, Human Resource Manager, Patient Care Manager, and Administrator in Training over the past 10 years, I have a BS in Business Administration (2008), BSN (2012) and Master in Business Administration (2013). For more information, contact Amanda Gallagher at 724-747-8814.

Employment Alley is published monthly for members and business members. The cost for nonmembers is \$30 a month - \$50 for two months - \$70 for three months. A business member listing is \$25 for one month - \$40 for two months - \$55 for three months. Send your approximate 55-word ad and payment to INHAA, PO Box 4407, Oak Park, IL 60304 or fax it to 708-848-4219. For further information call Terry Sullivan at 708-800-6161.



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