



April 2019

Volume XVIII, Issue 4



MARK YOUR CALENDARS – JUNE 12-13, 2019!

CHANGES, CHALLENGES and COMPLIANCE, ARE YOU READY?

FOR CONFERENCE BROCHURE/REGISTRATION INFORMATION, [CLICK HERE](#)

Wednesday, June 12 – Thursday, June 13, 2019

Par-A-Dice Hotel, East Peoria

Join your friends and colleagues to learn about:

Understanding PDPM and Drivers of Success: Are you Ready for the Transition?

OSHA Update/TB Exposure Control Plan

IHCA Legislative & Regulatory Update

Look Out for Falling Stars: Understanding CMS's 2019 Changes to the Five Star Rating System

Dealing with the Current Opioid "Crisis" and Dementia and Anti-Psychotics in the DD Population

Medical Cannabis and Long-Term Care

REMINDER - NOVEMBER 30, 2019 LICENSE RENEWAL DATE FOR ADMINISTRATORS

Just a reminder - November 30, 2019 is the license renewal date for Administrators. If you need CEU's to fulfill your requirements for the 11/30 license renewal, you can obtain 20 CEU's total by attending the June and August conferences in 2019. For each conference you will earn 10 CEU's.

APRIL 2019 IMPROVEMENTS TO NURSING HOME COMPARE AND THE FIVE STAR RATING SYSTEM

Source: CMS

A memo from CMS was released on March 5, 2019 regarding April 2019 Improvements to Nursing Home Compare and the Five Star Rating.

- Ending the Freeze on Health Inspection Star Ratings - In April 2019, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will end the freeze on the health inspection domain of the Five Star Quality Rating System. We will resume the traditional method of calculating health inspection scores by using three cycles of inspections. Inspections occurring on or after November 28, 2017, will be included in each facility's star rating.
- Quality Measure (QM) Domain Improvements – CMS is introducing separate ratings for short- and long-stay measures to reflect the level of quality provided for these two subpopulations in nursing homes. We are also revising the thresholds for ratings, adding a system for regular updates to thresholds every six months, and weighting and scoring individual QMs differently. Additionally, we are adding the long-stay hospitalization measure and a measure of long-stay

emergency department (ED) transfers to the rating system. Two measures from the Skilled Nursing Facility Quality Reporting Program (QRP) will be adopted to replace duplicative existing measures.

- Staffing Domain Improvements – CMS is adjusting the thresholds for staffing ratings. Also, the threshold for the number of days without a registered nurse (RN) onsite, that triggers an automatic downgrade to one star will be reduced from seven to four days. [CLICK HERE FOR FULL ARTICLE](#)

REVISIONS TO APPENDIX Q, GUIDANCE ON IMMEDIATE JEOPARDY

Source: CMS

On March 5, 2019 CMS released the following revisions to Appendix Q, Guidance on Immediate Jeopardy.

- Core Appendix Q and Subparts - Appendix Q to the State Operations Manual (SOM), which provides guidance for identifying immediate jeopardy, has been revised. The revision creates a Core Appendix Q that will be used by surveyors of all provider and supplier types in determining when to cite immediate jeopardy. CMS has drafted subparts to Appendix Q that focus on immediate jeopardy concerns occurring in nursing homes and clinical laboratories since those provider types have specific policies related to immediate jeopardy.
- Key Components of Immediate Jeopardy – To cite immediate jeopardy, surveyors determine that (1) noncompliance (2) caused or created a likelihood that serious injury, harm, impairment or death to one or more recipients would occur or recur; and (3) immediate action is necessary to prevent the occurrence or recurrence of serious injury, harm, impairment or death to one or more recipients.
- Immediate Jeopardy Template – A template has been developed to assist surveyors in documenting the information necessary to establish each of the key components of immediate jeopardy. Survey teams must use the immediate jeopardy template attached to Appendix Q to document evidence of each component of immediate jeopardy and use the template to convey information to the surveyed entity. [CLICK HERE FOR FULL ARTICLE](#)

RECENTLY ISSUED CERTIFICATION SURVEY POLICY

Source: IDPH

A certification survey policy was recently issued. The policy, dated March 1, 2019, includes a definition of a “late adopter” facility and identified subgroups (Group One and Group Two). The policy outlines the oversight and enforcement actions resulting from non-compliance at a scope and severity of Level D or above for the requirements F605 (chemical restraints), F744 (dementia care) or F758 (psychotropic medications). Enforcement remedies include denial of payment for new admissions (DPNA) and a per-day civil money penalty (CMP) to be imposed starting the first day of the survey in which the tags F605, F744 or F758 are cited. Further, the oversight also includes on-site revisits by Department staff to confirm that these deficiencies are fully corrected.

The policy is effective immediately from the date of issuance, March 1, 2019, meaning the policies apply to all surveys conducted at the late adopter facilities on or after March 1, 2019. CMS will be notifying Group One and Group Two late adopter facilities (subject to enforcement remedies per policy), through the March 2019, “Nursing Home Compare Five-Star Ratings of Nursing Homes Provider Preview Report.” [CLICK HERE FOR FULL ARTICLE](#)

SPECIALIZED INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL TRAINING FOR NURSING HOME STAFF IN THE LONG-TERM CARE SETTING IS NOW AVAILABLE

Source: CMS

A memo from CMS was released on March 11, 2019 regarding training for specialized infection prevention and control for nursing home staff in the long-term care setting as follows:

- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) collaborated on the development of a free on-line training course in infection prevention and control for nursing home staff in the long-term care setting.
- The training provides approximately 19 hours of continuing education credits as well as a certificate of completion.
- The "Nursing Home Infection Preventionist Training Course" is located on CDC's TRAIN website (https://www.train.org/cdctrain/training_plan/3814).
- This memo supersedes memo Quality, Safety & Oversight policy memorandum QSO 18-15-NH. [CLICK HERE FOR FULL ARTICLE](#)

HFS PROVIDER QUALITY ASSURANCE PARTICIPATION

Source: HFS

The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) is committed to ensuring the highest standards of care at a competitive cost for Medicaid beneficiaries. This commitment mirrors the health care system's transition to measurable outcomes that can be compared across states and populations. As a state, Illinois' quality outcomes are monitored nationally by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), National Centers for Quality Assurance (NCQA) and Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). [CLICK HERE FOR FULL ARTICLE](#)

CHANGES TO SNF INSPECTIONS, STAFFING REQUIREMENTS AND NEW QUALITY MEASURES COMING IN APRIL, CMS SAYS

Source: McKnight's Long-Term Care News

The federal government is further tightening the screws on regulation of nursing home staffing and quality, with a big shakeup starting as soon as April 2019. Changes coming down the pipeline in April will include revisions to the nursing home inspection process, adding new quality measures to its ratings system, and further enhancing details about facilities' staffing numbers. On the latter, officials say they're dropping the number of days SNFs can go without an RN before they're bumped down to a one-star rating. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services first announced the slew of modifications that it's making to both Nursing Home Compare and the field's Five-Star Quality Rating System on March 5th. Agency officials said their primary aim is to promote quality improvement among SNFs and improve outcomes for residents, according to the [announcement](#).

STAFFING "CRISIS" HITTING DIRECTORS OF NURSING HARD, NEW INDUSTRY ANALYSIS FINDS

Source: McKnight's Long-Term Care News

A new analysis finds that the staffing crisis plaguing entry levels of long-term care is trickling upward to impact nursing leaders.

New study results show that staffing shortages are damaging nurse leaders' job satisfaction rates, hastening burnout among the top ranks. The American Association of Directors of Nursing Services released results of its 2019 study on nursing directors recently.

About 75% of respondents cited staffing shortages as their top challenge, and 63% said they do not have adequate staff to properly care for residents. Those shortages are forcing nurse leaders to the frontlines, with about 66% saying they are routinely providing direct resident care. Balancing work and personal life are important to nurse leaders, but such interruptions to their work routines are causing problems, they reported. "Work-life balance is a challenge," said Amy Steward, R.N., Vice President of curriculum development for the affiliated American Association of Post-Acute Care Nursing. "And when you look at that, you also see that work-life balance is interrupted by the fact that they are being pulled into the role of a caregiver." Steward urged nursing leaders to invest more in both education and training, to better engage nurses, and to turn more attention toward encouraging certified nurse aides to further their careers and take up bigger roles in SNFs. "If you're an RN with an associate's degree, you have leadership opportunities in long-term care. But where do we get those RNs? We need to start looking at CNAs who want more responsibilities and are demonstrating leadership qualities, and possibly invest in those CNAs to become nurses and carry on the torch" Steward told McKnight's.

AADNS gathered its information from about 15,000 directors of nursing working in the long-term care field. It also included DON/DNS salary comparisons, along with staff turnover rates and trends. The 2019 AADNS Director of Nursing Services Work Study and Salary Report is available for purchase [here](#).

NEW NURSING FACILITY RATES, EFFECTIVE 04/01/2019

Nursing facilities receive a per diem (a single comprehensive payment per day per resident). The per diem is specific to each facility and is the sum of three separately calculated components – nursing, support and capital. [CLICK HERE FOR FULL ARTICLE](#)

DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED FACILITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

MAY 8, 10 AM – 12 PM

Source: IDPH

Meeting Agenda - TBA

122 S. Michigan Ave., Room 711, Chicago

525 W. Jefferson St., 4th floor, Springfield

5415 N. University St., Peoria

For this meeting, interested persons may contact Connie Jensen at the Bureau of Long-Term Care at **217-785-9165**.

LONG-TERM CARE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

MAY 16, 10 AM – 12 PM

Source: IDPH

Meeting Agenda - TBA

122 S. Michigan Ave., Room 711, Chicago

525 W. Jefferson St., 4th floor, Springfield

245 W. Roosevelt Rd., Bldg. 5, West Chicago

5415 N. University St., Peoria

For this meeting, interested persons may contact Connie Jensen at the Bureau of Long-Term Care at **217-785-9165**.

SAVE THE DATE! INHAA 2019 CONFERENCES

June 12-13 Conference, Par-A-Dice Hotel, East Peoria

August 14-15 Conference, Hilton Doubletree Hotel, Bloomington

November 7-8 Convention & Expo, Crowne Plaza, Springfield

EMPLOYMENT ALLEY

ADMINISTRATOR Aperion Care Marseilles is seeking an Administrator. The Administrator directs the day to day functions of the facility in accordance with current federal and local standards, guidelines, and regulations that govern nursing facilities to assure that the highest degree of quality care can be provided to our residents at all times. The requirements for this position are: A Bachelor's Degree in Public Health Administration or Business Administration or health related degree is preferred; Must possess a current, unencumbered, active license to practice as a Nursing Home Administrator; 2 years' experience in a Supervisor role, healthcare experience preferred; Must be knowledgeable of reimbursement regulations and nursing practices and procedures, as well as laws, regulations, and guidelines pertaining to nursing facility administration; Must possess the ability to make independent decision when circumstances warrant such action; Must be able to read and interpret financial records, reports etc.; Must be able to communicate policies, procedures, regulations, reports etc., to personnel, residents, family members, visitors, and government agencies. For more information contact: Andrea Graunke, Director of Recruitment, 847-262-3800 ext. 264.

RN/LPN

Looking to hire a Registered Nurse or a License Practical Nurse at Heritage Square, a Continuum of Care Facility. Long Term Care Nursing Experience is preferred. The nurse will be responsible for the quality of care rendered to the geriatric population which includes dispensing of medication, charting, treatments and supervision of the direct care givers.

Please contact the DON at 815 288 2251 ext. 104 or stop by at

620 N. Ottawa Avenue in Dixon, Illinois 61021 to fill out an application. May send resume to

don.heritagesquare@comcast.net

ASSISTANT NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATOR

Carlton at the Lake is seeking a strong, experienced healthcare professional to assist the Nursing Home Administrator in the overall management of a premier skilled nursing facility in Chicago, Illinois. The position requires sound business judgment, diplomacy, and positive community relations.

Requirements: Bachelor's Degree in health care administration, business administration, social services, or a medical specialty; Two + years' experience in a Skilled Nursing Facility; Comprehensive knowledge of Long Term Care Medicaid and Medicare regulations and standards helpful; Cultural sensitivity and the ability to communicate effectively with a diverse resident population; The ability to communicate effectively with residents, families, doctors, and corporate leadership, utilizing diplomacy and discretion. Contact: Jonathan Goldstein, 224-935-2392; jgoldstein@legacyhc.com

ADMINISTRATOR Warren Barr Lincoln Park (2732 N. Hampden Court, Chicago, IL 60614) is looking for a Licensed Nursing Home Administrator! Located in the heart of Chicago's historic Lincoln Park neighborhood, and just minutes away from many of Chicago's most prominent hospitals and physicians, Warren Barr Lincoln Park has been continually recognized for both its sophistication and the unsurpassed quality of its post-hospital care. Warren Barr is a wonderful boutique facility certified for 109 beds. Applicants can send a resume to jgoldsteibn@legacyhc.com for consideration.

INTERIM ADMINISTRATOR/CONSULTANT Experienced Interim Administrator/consultant. Mock Surveys, QAPI and Survey preparation with excellent outcomes. Training and coaching staff while monitoring daily operations of Post-Acute Services, CCRC, Big Buildings, as well as Budget and Strategic Planning. Please call Rue Anne Mills 630-935-2556 or text for an appointment.

Employment Alley is published monthly for INHAA members and business members. The cost for non-members is \$30/month; \$50/two months; \$70/three months. A business member listing is \$25/month; \$40/two months; \$55/three months. Send your ad (approximate 55-words) and payment to INHAA, PO Box 272, Rochester, IL 62563 or via email vwiltsie@inhaa.org; fax 708-248-8078. For further information please call Vicki Wiltsie 708-800-6161.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR INHAA OFFICE:

Coordinator: Vicki Wiltsie; vwiltsie@inhaa.org; Phone 708-800-6161; Fax 708-248-8078 PO Box 272, Rochester, IL 62563



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