



Indiana
Department
of
Health

Long-term Care NEWSLETTER

LTC Newsletter 2023-11
May 18, 2023

LTC Update:

- **CMS Memo QSO 20-39-NH: Nursing Home visitation – COVID-19 REVISED**
- **Alcohol-based Hand Sanitizer and Fire Safety**
- **CMS RAI and MDS Education**
- **Minimum Data Set (MDS) Assessment for Medicaid-Certified Facilities**
- **Building an Infection Prevention Savvy Workforce: Free Training for LTC Professionals**

CMS Memo QSO 20-39-NH: Nursing Home visitation – COVID-19 REVISED

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released [QSO-20-39-NH REVISED](#) on May 8. The memo reflects the end of the public health emergency (PHE) and adds that visitation is allowed for all residents at all times. The Core Principles of COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) include placing visual alerts at the entrances and other strategic places to include instructions about current IPC recommendations. Testing of residents and staff is to be done according to nationally accepted standards: those with symptoms, close contacts and those with high risk exposures.

Alcohol-based Hand Sanitizer and Fire Safety

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has guidance available for healthcare facilities to ensure fire safety when alcohol-based hand sanitizer is used.

[Clean Hands Count: Hand Hygiene and Fire Safety in Healthcare Facilities go Hand in Hand](#)

CMS RAI and MDS Education

In preparation for changes to the Resident Assessment Instrument (RAI) Manual and Minimum Data Set (MDS) Assessment set to take effect Oct. 1, CMS has provided training and education opportunities. From a CMS notification:

The training program consists of two parts:

Part 1: LEARN Part 1 consists of pre-recorded training webinars that deliver foundational knowledge to assist in learning the new and/or revised items and associated guidance. A supplemental Capstone Case Study is also available to give providers additional practice in coding the new and/or revised items. These videos are intended to be viewed in advance of the Part 2 live event and are available now on [CMS YouTube](#).

Part 2: PRACTICE Part 2 includes the live, virtual workshop sessions that provide practice coding scenarios on select data elements covered in the Part 1 training webinars. These live sessions will take place between 12:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. EDT on **June 21**. Registration is open and can be completed online through [Zoom](#).

Additional training resources are located within a ZIP file in the **Downloads** section of the [SNF Quality Reporting Program \(QRP\) Training page](#). These resources include an acronym list, Action Plan worksheet, Case Study documents, resource guide, and PDF versions of the training webinars.

If you have questions regarding access to the resources or feedback related to the training, please email the [PAC Training Mailbox](#). Content-related questions should be submitted to the [SNF QRP Help Desk](#).

Minimum Data Set (MDS) Assessment for Medicaid-Certified Facilities

From Indiana Health Coverage Programs, IHCP bulletin dated May 2:

As of Oct. 1, 2023, the Indiana Office of Medicaid Policy and Planning (OMPP) is requiring that a concurrent Optional State Assessment (OSA) be completed, with the same assessment reference date (ARD), as each federally required assessment submitted. This will allow for a RUG-based case mix score to be calculated and the current RUG-based reimbursement methodology to continue beyond Oct. 1, 2023.

The bulletin with additional information may be found here: [IHCP bulletin](#)

Building an Infection Prevention Savvy Workforce: Free Training for LTC Professionals

The University of Indianapolis Center for Aging & Community and the Indiana Department of Health will host in 2023, 11 sessions of Building an Infection Prevention Savvy Workforce for long-term care professionals. Five more sessions are still available to attend this year. These sessions will each be comprised of three half-days spread over three weeks. The virtual training sessions are designed to provide an in-depth education on infection control with long-term care specific content and examples.

Who should attend?

Indiana long-term care professionals who are interested in infection prevention and control.

When:

Session 6: In session.

Session 7: Aug. 15, 22 and 29

Session 8: Sept. 15, 22 and 29

Session 9: Oct. 6, 13 and 20

Session 10: Oct. 18, 25 and Nov. 1

Session 11: Nov. 3, 10 and 17

Participants are required to attend all three days.

Delivery Mode:

The training is in three day, virtual training sessions. The class is designed to offer three partial days of virtual training, with a week interval between sessions. Participants are required to attend all three days. Class is 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. EDT each day. Please note that breaks will be given, but there is no lunch period.

Content:

The virtual training sessions are designed to provide in-depth education in infection control with long term care specific content and examples. The course will involve a pre-and post-test to reflect knowledge improvement. Additionally, there will be a "final exam" given after the third virtual session.

Credential:

Participants receiving a score of 75% or above on the final exam will receive a Certificate of Training: Infection Prevention in the Long-Term Care Setting. CEUs are available for Administrators and Social Workers.

To register, at no cost, please visit:

[https://store.uindy.edu/catalog?pagename=Infection Prevention](https://store.uindy.edu/catalog?pagename=Infection_Prevention)

Email [Amy Magan](#) for more information.