

ISDH Long Term Care
Newsletter Issue # 09-14
April 17, 2009

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CMS Update

Quality of Life Guidance

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has made changes to the Guidance to Surveyors for several Quality of Life and Environment section Tags in Appendix PP of the State Operations Manual in response to public recommendations from the 2008 CMS/Pioneer Network Environment Symposium.

These changes add clarifications to assist surveyors in determining compliance with these Tags. Regulatory language is unchanged.

This revision will be implemented June 17, 2009. At that time, a final copy of this new guidance will be available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/> and ultimately incorporated into Appendix PP of the State Operations Manual.

The [CMS document](#) is attached and is approximately 49 pages in length.

Revisions to Appendix P

CMS has also issued deletions and revisions to Appendix P. CMS deleted just the section numbered M and renumbered it as Section K. In addition, CMS added a new Section L, entitled, "Liability Notices and Beneficiary Appeal Rights." Part VII is deleted because this material is now covered in Section II. B., the Traditional Survey, Subtask 5C. L.

New / Revised Material Effective Date: April 10, 2009

Implementation Date: April 10, 2009

The attached [transmittal document](#) provides the changes and is approximately 46 pages in length.

QMA Renewal Reminder

All qualified medication aide (QMA) certifications expired on March 31, 2009. Over 500 qualified medication aides in Indiana have not renewed their certifications. Individuals with expired certifications may not perform QMA responsibilities.

QMAs can still submit the required six hours of inservice and the fee of \$20.00 until June 30, 2009. Renewal information can be sent to: Indiana State Department of Health, Cashier's Office, PO Box 7236, Indianapolis, IN 46207-7236. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Gilbert at 317-233-7616 or ngilbert@isdh.in.gov or Nancy Adams at 317-233-7480 or nadams@isdh.in.gov.



Best wishes for the coming week.

Terry Whitson
Assistant Commissioner
Indiana State Department of Health



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Visit the ISDH Division of Long Term Care home page at <http://www.in.gov/isdh/23260.htm> for information on long term care.