

ISDH Long Term Care  
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## Older Americans Month

Each year the Administration on Aging (AoA) issues a theme for Older Americans Month to assist our National Aging Services Network of state, tribal, area agencies on aging, and community services providers plan for activities that might take place in May or throughout the year. This year's theme "*Age Strong! Live Long!*" recognizes the diversity and vitality of today's older Americans who span three generations.

When Older Americans Month was established in 1963, only 17 million living Americans had reached their 65th birthdays. About a third of older Americans lived in poverty and there were few programs to meet their needs. Interest in older Americans and their concerns was growing and, in April of 1963, President John F. Kennedy's meeting with the National Council of Senior Citizens served as a prelude to designating May as "Senior Citizens Month." Thanks to President Jimmy Carter's 1980 designation, what was once called Senior Citizens Month, is now called "Older Americans Month," and has become a tradition.

Historically, Older Americans Month has been a time to acknowledge the contributions of past and current older persons to our country, in particular those who defended our country. Every President since President Kennedy has issued a formal proclamation during or before the month of May asking that the entire nation pay tribute in some way to older persons in their communities. Older Americans Month is celebrated across the country through ceremonies, events, fairs and other such activities.

Click [here](#) to visit the U.S. Administration on Aging's website.

## AHRQ Offers Resource for Spanish-Speaking Patients

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) is offering a new education resource for

Spanish-speaking patients. Healthcare 411 in Español is an audio podcast series that provides Spanish speakers with evidence-based consumer information to help them stay healthy, prevent disease, and obtain high-quality care. Health care providers can download the podcasts from the AHRQ website at [www.healthcare411.ahrq.gov](http://www.healthcare411.ahrq.gov).

## CMS Updates

The following are program updates provided by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS):

### [Survey and Certification Letter 10-18-LSC:](#)

Letter 10-18-LSC addresses the CMS policy regarding the use of corridor wall-mounted computer touch screens in health care facilities. Corridor wall mounted technologies and other items, if properly installed, shall not be considered corridor obstructions. Other items may be considered corridor obstructions.

## Recalls

Ultram (tramadol hydrochloride), Ultracet (tramadol hydrochloride/acetaminophen):  
Label Change

[Posted 05/25/2010] Ortho-McNeil-Janssen and FDA notified healthcare professionals of changes to the Warnings section of the prescribing information for tramadol, a centrally acting synthetic opioid analgesic indicated for the management of moderate to moderately severe chronic pain. The strengthened Warnings information emphasizes the risk of suicide for patients who are addiction-prone, taking tranquilizers or antidepressant drugs and also warns of the risk of overdose. Tramadol-related deaths have occurred in patients with previous histories of emotional disturbances or suicidal ideation or attempts, as well as histories of misuse of tranquilizers, alcohol, and other CNS-active drugs. Tramadol may be expected to have additive effects when used in conjunction with alcohol, other opioids or illicit drugs that cause central nervous system depression. Serious potential consequences of overdose with tramadol are central nervous system depression, respiratory depression and death. Tramadol has mu-opioid agonist activity, can be abused and may be subject to criminal diversion.

Metronidazole injection 500 mg / 100 ml: Voluntary recall due to non-sterility

[Posted 05/17/2010] Sagent Pharmaceuticals, Inc. announced the voluntary nationwide recall of all lots of metronidazole injection, USP 500mg / 100mL manufactured by Claris Lifesciences and distributed by Sagent due to the discovery of non-sterility in two lots of metronidazole injection. Non-sterility of an antimicrobial administered via the intravenous route has the potential to result in infections, which could be fatal, especially in patients who are immunocompromised. Sagent is not aware of any adverse patient events resulting from this product and is continuing its diligent investigation of the situation.

The lot numbers being recalled are: A090742, A090743, A090744, A090745, A090746, A090769, A090770, A090771, A090772, A090773, A090774, A090775, A090776, A090968, A091014, A000013, A000016 and A000019, which were distributed to hospitals, wholesalers and distributors nationwide from February through May 2010. Metronidazole injection, USP is an intravenous antimicrobial product used to treat infections and is supplied in a single dose plastic container.

Baxter Colleague Infusion Pumps: FDA Ordering Recall

[Posted 05/04/2010] FDA notified healthcare professionals and consumers that it has ordered Baxter to recall and destroy all of its Colleague Volumetric Infusion Pumps (Colleague pumps) currently in use. This action is based on a longstanding failure to correct many serious problems with the pumps. The FDA believes there may be as many as 200,000 of those pumps currently in use. FDA is ordering Baxter to recall and destroy all Colleague infusion pumps, reimburse customers for the value of the recalled device, and assist in finding a replacement for these customers. Hospitals and other users of Baxter's Colleague pumps will be receiving further instruction and information from Baxter and the FDA regarding their transition.

Cardiac Science Automated External Defibrillators - Powerheart, CardioVive, NK, Responder models: Class I Recall

[UPDATED 04/27/2010] This update alerts users that Nihon Kohden (NK) and GE Responder models are also affected although they were not identified in earlier communications about this recall. In addition, Cardiac Science issued a software upgrade for the devices' self tests on 02/24/10 for the Powerheart automatic external defibrillators (Models 9390A and 9390E) and is planning on issuing a similar software upgrade for other affected devices. However, FDA's review of the updated software indicates that it detects some but not all electrical component defects.

Normally, users of these devices should always check the status indicator on the front of the external defibrillator and/or audible indicators to see whether the device is rescue-ready (green light is displayed). However, the presence of a green light on the affected devices may not reveal defective or non-working components inside the external defibrillators and give a false sense that they are in proper working order. Updated recommendations and complete list of affected models can be found in the 04/27/2010 Medical Device Update.

[Posted 03/08/2010] Cardiac Science Corporation and FDA notified healthcare professionals and consumers of a Class 1 recall of automated external defibrillators (AED). These devices may not deliver therapy during a resuscitation attempt. Defects in certain electronic components may not be detected by the device's Daily/Weekly/Monthly self-tests. These defects can cause improper functioning of the device during a rescue attempt, which may prevent resuscitation. This can lead to serious adverse health events and/or death. List of affected models includes:

- Powerheart 9300A, 9300C, 9300D, 9300E, 9300P, 9390A, 9390E
- CardioVive 92531, 92532, 92533
- NK 9200G, 9231
- Responder 2019198 and 2023440.

The affected AEDs were manufactured and distributed between August 2003 and August 2009.

For further information about medical recalls, see the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Website at <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/>.

## Coming Events and Deadlines

August 9-11, 2010: Pioneer Network 10th National Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana. For conference information, go to [www.pioneernetwork.org](http://www.pioneernetwork.org).

October 14, 2010: ISDH Indiana Healthcare Leadership Conference, Caring for Alzheimer's and Dementia, Indiana Convention Center, Indianapolis, Indiana. Watch for information late this summer.

As we conclude Older Americans Month, Memorial Day weekend is an appropriate time to recognize their contributions to country and community throughout their lives. Have a safe and enjoyable Memorial Day weekend.

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