



Indiana State
Department of Health

LONG TERM CARE NEWSLETTER

ISDH Long Term Care Newsletter

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CMS Update

Review and Status of Nursing Home Survey: Summary of Traditional & Quality Indicator Survey Findings and Issues - Survey and Certification Letter [SC 15-40-NH](#)

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the States have used two standard survey processes that assess the quality of care and quality of life for nursing home residents. CMS expects to continue to make improvements so that the States currently participating in the Quality Indicator Survey (QIS) process have the support necessary to conduct surveys as effectively as possible and to realize the benefits of the QIS process. At the same time, CMS continues to evaluate both the traditional and the QIS processes to identify, in both quantitative and qualitative terms, the strengths and limitations of each system. These efforts involve considerable data analysis from survey results, user feedback from CMS Regional Offices and State Survey Agencies, technical expert panels, reviews of CMS Form 2567 statements of deficiencies, and observational reviews of the survey processes. The purpose of this Memorandum is simply to provide an overview of the current status of our reviews.

The attached [Assessment of the Nursing Home Survey Processes](#) provides a high-level summary of the work done to examine nursing home survey methodologies for efficiency and effectiveness, as well as the actions that were taken to improve the processes, with particular emphasis on the QIS process. This program brief is focused on the standard recertification survey.

MDS Focus Survey Worksheet #1

Indiana surveyors have been trained in the MDS 3.0 Focus/Staffing Survey and will be starting to conduct surveys. These surveys will focus on compliance with MDS accuracy and staffing regulations. Attached is [MDS Worksheet #1](#) that the surveyors will present upon starting the survey. Additional information regarding the MDS Focus/Staffing Survey is available in April 7, 2015 [ISDH Newsletter 2015-08](#).

Any questions regarding the MDS surveys, please contact Courtney Hamilton, RN, Director of Health Care Education at 317-233-7480 or CHamilton@isdh.in.gov.

Incident Reporting - Mandatory Online Submission

Incident Reporting - Mandatory submission via ISDH Gateway effective July 1, 2015

The Incident Reporting System is located along with the Survey Report System on the ISDH Gateway. To access the Incident Reporting System, go to <https://gateway.isdh.in.gov>. The identification and password to access the Incident Reporting System is the same as for the Survey Report System.

The ISDH has made several changes to the system to improve the usability and clarity for users. Attached are an updated [Quick Guide to the Incident Reporting System](#) and [Incident Reporting System Frequently Asked Questions](#) with instructions.

At this time all facilities are being asked to start submitting incidents via the system. Mandatory use by all facilities will be effective July 1, 2015. Additional information is available in May 1, 2015 [ISDH Newsletter 2015-09](#).

For any questions about the system or requests for assistance, please send an email to srshelpdesk@isdh.in.gov.

Long Term Care Ombudsman Program

Long Term Care Ombudsmen are advocates for residents of nursing homes, assisted living facilities and similar adult care facilities. Begun in 1972 as a demonstration program, the Ombudsman Program today exist in all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and Guam, under the authorization of the Older American Act. After several years of collaborative work the Long Term Care Ombudsman Program now has federal regulations to strengthen the quality of service provided to residents. Additional information is available: [Final Regulation Overview](#) and [Federal Register](#).