



Indiana State
Department of Health

LONG TERM CARE NEWSLETTER

ISDH Long Term Care Newsletter
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CMS Update

Exit Conferences

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is clarifying guidance to surveyors regarding the procedures for conducting the exit conference. CMS released a Survey and Certification Letter providing the guidance: [SC: 16-11-ALL Exit Conferences - Sharing Specific Regulatory References or Tag](#).

The Exit conference during the onsite survey is both a courtesy to the provider and a way to expedite the provider's planning ahead of the formal receipt of the survey findings in the Form CMS-2567, Statement of Deficiencies. The purpose of the Exit Conference is to informally communicate preliminary survey team finding and provide an opportunity for the exchange of information with the provider. The findings or information conveyed at the Exit Conference are preliminary in nature and are subject to change pursuant to the State and CMS supervisory review processes. The [State Operations Manual \(SOM\)](#) provides additional guidance for surveyors about what to communicate regarding the deficiency findings and create a common set of expectation for States and providers.

Payroll-Based Journal

CMS released a Survey and Certification Letter providing guidance regarding electronic submission of staffing information: [SC: 16-13-NH Payroll-Based Journal \(PBJ\) - Implementation of required electronic submission of Staffing Data for Long Term Care \(LTC\) Facilities](#).

In August 2015, CMS finalized a proposed rule implementing section 6106 of the Affordable Care Act regarding the electronic submission of staffing information based on payroll and other verifiable and auditable data. Providers are reminded that the voluntary submission period ends June 30, 2016, and the mandatory submission period begins on July 1, 2016. All long term care facilities are required to submit data in accordance with CMS specifications. Registration and training instructions is available in SC: 16-13-NH.

Payroll-Based Journal has updated the [Policy Manual](#) to reflect changes to the submission guidelines based on questions received from providers. Nursing Homes will still be required to submit the CMS-671 and CMS-672 once the Payroll-Based Journal goes into effect. The Payroll-Based Journal reporting requirement is not

replacing these forms.

2015 Nursing Home Data Compendium

CMS released a Survey and Certification Letter announcing the release of the 2015 Nursing Home Data Compendium: [SC: 16-14-NH Release of 2015 Nursing Home Data Compendium](#). CMS first published the [Nursing Home Data Compendium](#) in 2000. The 2015 edition represents the 11th version of this volume. To compile the Nursing Home Data Compendium, CMS uses a variety of data - primarily clinical assessment data reported by nursing homes in the Minimum Data Set (MDS), and the results from onsite inspections of nursing homes contained in the CMS CASPER database. The 11th edition contains figures and tables presenting data on all Medicare and Medicaid-certified nursing homes in the United States as well as the residents in these nursing homes.

Psychosocial Harm in Nursing Homes

CMS released a Survey and Certification Letter providing surveyor guidance related to psychosocial harm in nursing homes: [SC: 16-15-NH State Operation Manual \(SOM\) - Surveyor Guidance Revisions Related to Psychosocial Harm in Nursing Homes](#). CMS has revised language in the [Psychosocial Outcome Severity Guide](#) in Appendix P of the State Operations Manual (SOM). CMS believes these revisions will help guide surveyors to identify psychosocial harm or potential harm. The revisions also support activities or actions to improve resident safety and increase quality and reliability of care for better outcomes.

CMS has revised guidance at [F329 in Appendix PP](#). Revisions include:

- Removing medication tables to make F329 easier to use.
- Replacing medication tables with up-to-date medication resources.
- Revising Deficiency Categorization examples to show that noncompliance at F329 can cause significant psychosocial harm.

CMS has also added language to other F-tags. Negative psychosocial outcomes can be found in any regulations, these areas may be more susceptible to a negative psychosocial outcome or contain psychosocial element that may be greater in severity than the physical outcome. Additional F-tags: [F221/222, F223/224/225/226, F241, F242, F246, F248, F250, F310, F320 and F 353](#).

New Area Supervisors

The ISDH Division of Long Term Care is pleased to announce the promotion of two surveyors to Area Supervisor positions.

Heather Hite became the Area 1 Long Term Care Survey Supervisor on February 15, 2016. Heather earned a BS from Purdue University in 1992 and a BSN from Valparaiso University in 1993. She has worked in various settings including orthopedics, pediatrics, mother-baby/NICU and as a school nurse with Valparaiso Community Schools. Heather became a long term care surveyor in 2013. Heather lives in Valparaiso with her three daughters.

Tammy Forthofer became the Area 8 Long Term Care Survey Supervisor on March 29, 2016. Tammy started her medical career in 1982 as a CNA and has worked in acute care, long term care, emergency medicine, and family practice. Tammy is currently a basic life support/CPR/first aid instructor and has worked as an Advanced Emergency Medical Technician. Tammy has been a long term care surveyor for two years. Tammy enjoys painting, home repairs and shopping.