

ISDH Long Term Care Newsletter
Issue 2019-10
November 26, 2019

Today's Issue:

- **CMS Update**
 - QSO-20-03-NH- Updates and Initiatives to Ensure Safety and Quality in Nursing Homes
- **Long Term Care Update**
 - Tuberculosis Prevention – Program Advisory Letter – Comprehensive Care Nursing & Residential Care Facilities

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Update

QSO-20-03-NH Updates and Initiatives to Ensure Safety and Quality in Nursing Homes

Updates and initiatives include:

Phase 3 Interpretive Guidance: CMS will be releasing updated Interpretive Guidance and training for the Requirements for Participation for Long-Term Care (LTC) Facilities. However, this guidance will not be released by the November 28, 2019 implementation date of the regulation. The guidance will be released the second quarter of calendar year 2020, along with information on training and implementing related changes to the Long Term Care Survey Process (LTCSP).

Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Revision of Requirements for Long Term Care Facilities: Arbitration Agreements: On July 18, 2019, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) published a final rule establishing requirement related to the use of binding arbitration agreements. This became effective on September 16, 2019 and facilities are required to comply with this and all requirements.

[Revision of Requirements for Long Term Care Facilities: Arbitration Agreement](#)

Improve Infection Prevention and Control in LTC Facilities: CMS has created a nursing home antibiotic stewardship program training; updates the Nursing Home Infection Control Worksheet as a self-assessment tool for facilities; and reminds facilities of infection control resources.

[Infection Prevention and Control for *Candida auris*](#)

[Nursing Home Infection Preventionist Training Course](#)

[State-based HAI/AR program contact information](#)

[CMS infection control requirements for nursing homes - 42 CFR §483.80](#)

Additional Infection Prevention & Control Programs – available December 2, 2019:

[Development of an Antibiotic Stewardship Program for Nursing Home Providers](#)

[Nursing Home Infection Control Worksheet \(ICWS\) Revised](#)

Release of Toolkit 3, “Guide to Improving Nursing Home Employee Satisfaction”: CMS has developed optional toolkits (total of 3 toolkits) to aid nursing home teams with improving staff competency and employee satisfaction. These toolkits are provided through the Civil Money Penalty Reinvestment Program (CMPRP).

- Toolkit 1 – Nursing Home Staff Competency Assessment helps nursing homes identify areas where staff competency may need improvement.
- Toolkit 2 – Nursing Home Employee Satisfaction Survey was designed to help nursing home recruit, motivate and retain staff
- Toolkit 3 – Repository of evidence-based approaches, solutions and interventions to address challenging areas discovered from Toolkit 2.

[Toolkits 1, 2, and 3](#)

[Long Term Care Update](#)

Tuberculosis Prevention Advisory Letter

These advisory letters set out the expectations for both Indiana licensed comprehensive care facilities and Indiana licensed residential facilities for preventing the transmission of Mycobacterium tuberculosis. To become exempt a facility must adopt and implement a nationally recognized standard for the control and prevention of tuberculosis. The effective date is January 1, 2020.

[Program Advisory Letter – LTC-2019-01-SNF/NF](#)

[Program Advisory Letter – LTC-2019-01-RES](#)

Additional information:

[Health Care Personnel \(HCP\) Baseline Individual TB Risk Assessment](#)

[TABLE Comparison of 2005 & 2019 Recommendations for TB screening and testing of HCP](#)

[Updated Recommendations for TB Screening, Testing and Treatment](#)

Questions may be addressed to: Tammy Alley, Deputy Director LTC, 317.233.7441 or talley@isdh.in.gov; or Brenda Buroker, Division Director LTC, 317.234.7340 or bburoker@isdh.in.gov.

*Happy
Thanksgiving!*

A decorative graphic consisting of two light gray, stylized swirls. One swirl is positioned behind the word 'Happy' and the other is behind the word 'Thanksgiving', adding an elegant touch to the calligraphic text.