



CLINICAL & REGULATORY UPDATE

2017-21 | October 12, 2017

The Connecticut Association for Healthcare at Home supports its members in the provision of exceptional quality and accessible services through collaboration, leadership, provision of information, advocacy and education.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

HOME HEALTH

CMS to Revise Medical Review Strategy

Source: NAHC, September 29, 2017

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has issued change request (CR) 10249, that expands Probe and Educate medical review procedures, to all the Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs).

[Continue Reading](#)

Update Coordination of Care, Plan of Care Practices to Comply with New CoPs

Source: HHL

Restructure clinical managers' positions so they function more like case managers. Doing so will help you prepare for care planning and coordination changes that are a part of the revised Home Health Conditions of Participation (CoPs).

Updating the way care planning and coordination are handled will be vital to complying with the CoPs. It's something many agencies aren't ready to do.

Plan of care problems were the source of the most standard-level deficiency citations in 2015 and 2016, according to CMS. But the condition around care planning and coordination is changing, adding new challenges to an area already under a high level of scrutiny.

This new condition will likely be the most difficult to implement, contends Arlene Maxim, vice president of program development with Quality in Real Time (QIRT) in Floral Park, N.Y.

[Continue Reading](#)

CMS Seeks to Add 15 OASIS Items for Special Services Such as Cancer Treatment

Source: HHL

Get ready to collect as many as 15 new OASIS data elements involving cancer, respiration, IVs and tubes and nutritional approaches starting in 2019 if CMS finalizes a proposed change announced in the 2018 PPS rule.

To comply with the IMPACT Act, CMS proposes to add these new items under the header "special services, treatments and interventions."

Agencies would need to start tracking these items at start of care (SOC)/resumption of care (ROC) and discharge beginning Jan. 1, 2019 with data being submitted to CMS in 2020.

[Continue Reading](#)

HOSPICE

CMS Releases Latest Hospice Quality Updates

Source: NAHC, October 6, 2017

On a routine basis the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) releases updates on hospice quality issues to inform and guide hospice providers, vendors, and other stakeholders.

[Continue Reading](#)

New Facts and Figures Report

Source: NHPCO

NHPCO is proud to release a new edition of the report Facts and Figures: Hospice Care in America (PDF attached).

The report provides an overview of hospice care delivery in the U.S. with specific information on hospice patient characteristics, location and level of care, Medicare hospice spending, provider characteristics, and more. In order to ensure this annual report is as accurate and useful as possible to the field, NHPCO's research team is using a new methodology for creating the report and CMS data is the primary data source - this is a significant change from our past reports. The new report is officially the "2016 Edition" that contains 2015 data. Early next year, NHPCO will release the "2017 Edition" that will reflect 2016 data. We are aware members have been looking for this report, thank you for your patience as we developed a new and improved F&F document.

[Download 2016 Facts & Figures](#)

Hospice QRP: Updated and New Resources

To aid providers in compliance with Hospice Item Set and Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems(r) requirements, CMS has posted the following materials on the HQRP Requirements and Best Practices webpage:

Getting Started with HQRP - This document provides detailed information on the requirements of HIS and Hospice CAHPS. It is designed especially for new providers and staff, and gives comprehensive detail on the background of each requirement, data submission deadlines, possible exemptions, and tips for compliance.

HQRP Program Activities Checklist - This checklist can be used as a quick reference for hospice providers, outlining a checklist of HIS and Hospice CAHPS(r) reporting activities and when each activity needs to be completed (e.g., annually, monthly, as needed).

HQRP Fiscal Year 2019 Fact Sheet - This fact sheet outlines the specific compliance requirements for HIS and CAHPS for the Fiscal Year 2019 reporting year (data collection period 1/1/17 - 12/31/17).

[HQRP Requirements and Best Practices](#)

QUESTIONS? CONCERNS? COMMENTS?

Connecticut Association for Healthcare at Home

Tracy Wodatch

VP of Clinical & Regulatory Services

wodatch@cthealthcareathome.org

[Website](#) [Association](#) [Members](#) [Calendar](#) [Legislative](#) [Regulatory](#) [Contact](#)

