FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TO: All Licensed Hospitals
    All Medicaid Certified Nursing Facilities

FROM: Ruth Johnson
      Medicaid Executive Director

RE: Temporary Suspension of Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR)

DATE: April 28, 2020

This Healthcare Facility Notice will clarify and update the previously issued memo dated March 24, 2020 on the suspension of Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) activities. This directive is applicable to all licensed hospitals and nursing facilities in Louisiana.

The State of Louisiana, Department of Health (“LDH” or “Department”), is committed to taking critical steps to ensure public health and safety; to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the State of Louisiana, Department of Health, is DIRECTING that all licensed hospitals and nursing facilities adhere to the following provisions, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

PRE-ADMISSION SCREENING AND RESIDENT REVIEW

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has approved Louisiana’s 1135 Waiver Request in regards to the PASRR Level I and Level II requirements. Effective March 25, 2020, and until otherwise directed by LDH, the Level I and Level II assessments required under PASRR are waived. All new admissions will be treated like exempted hospital discharges and if continued Nursing Facility (NF) placement is still warranted at the end of the initial authorization period, the NF shall use the existing continued stay review process. At that time, persons admitted under the waiver who have suspected mental illness (MI) or intellectual disability (ID) will be identified and receive a resident review.

The facility/hospital should still call in a LOCET prior to proceeding with NF placement. However, in lieu of submitting the Level I PASRR to OAAS to initiate a request for a 142, facilities/hospitals shall submit a fax cover sheet indicating the following:
• the individual's demographic information including at a minimum, the person's name, date of birth (DOB), and social security number (SSN)
• the requestor's name
• the email address the completed Form 142 needs to be emailed to

Requests for a Form 142 shall be sent to OAAS, Nursing Facility Admissions Unit via RightFax at: (225) 389-8197, or, (225) 389-8198.

Also, please note that in accordance with 42 CFR 438.106(b)(4), new PASRR Level I and Level II screens are not required for residents who are being transferred between nursing facilities. If the nursing facility is not sure if a Level I was conducted at the resident's transferring facility, a level 1 can be conducted at the admitting facility during the first few days of admission as part of intake and transfers with positive Level I screens requiring a Resident Review.

End of Memo.