

The Academy Weekly

News & Information for LTC Providers

The Academy of Senior Health Sciences, Inc.

www.seniorhealthsciences.org

Week of 31 March 2019

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2019 OANAC/ASHS Spring Conference

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Ohio News

HB 166: ODM testifies before House Finance HHS Subcommittee

Director Maureen Corcoran testified before the House Finance Health and Human Services Subcommittee last week. The director spent some time justifying the reductions in Medicaid expenditures, including the removal of the 2.4% market basket increase for skilled nursing facility rates. She noted that the JMOC limit of a 3.4% increase in per member per month expenditures put their budget in the red by \$270 million. By removing

the SNF rate increase and making other adjustments, the agency was able to meet the JMOC limit. The SNF rate increase accounted for about \$240 million of the \$270 million. Furthermore, one reason Medicaid was over the limit was because of the increased state share for the expansion Medicaid population. The federal share will drop to 90% and the state will have to spend about \$200 million more per year because of that decrease. On the issue of managed care, Director Corcoran did note that the upcoming provider agreements with the managed care companies will require more value based purchasing, quality improvement and reduce administrative burdens for providers. She also noted that the department intended to continue the MyCare Ohio program as the cost of unwinding the program may be too disruptive and the long-term benefits are still not known. ([Back to top.](#))

Transportation bill passed, GA to focus on Budget Bill

The first significant bill with a topic of disagreement among the legislative chambers and administration passed last week. The transportation bill was subject to significant debate as Governor DeWine requested an \$0.18 per gallon gas tax to fund transportation projects. This amount was decreased by the House and further reduced in the Senate. Conference committee, and assumingly the administration, agreed to a \$0.105 increase, close to what the House had passed. Diesel fuel will also cost more, by \$0.19, as will fees for owning a hybrid or electric car. Some consider this a victory for DeWine, as his administration secured \$865 million of the \$1.21 billion initially requested. Now that the transportation bill has passed, the General Assembly will move on to the next big-ticket item - the "Budget Bill" or H.B. 166. H.B. 166 was introduced at the end of March and has already had several hearings. (See story above.) The GA has until June 30 to pass the bill.

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April 16 is NCTA day. Get your resources here!

From Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG): "Coordination of care during care transitions plays a critical role in determining the quality of care patients receive—and reducing preventable 30-day hospital readmissions is a priority for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). To increase awareness of the importance and value of safe and effective care transitions and coordination, CMS has designated April 16, 2019, as the first NCTA day. Your organization can take part in NCTA Day by participating in any of the following activities, brought to you by Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG):

[Navigating Care Transitions for Homeless Patients](#)

Tuesday, April 16, 2019

3 to 4 p.m. EDT

Join HSAG Hospital Improvement Innovation Network (HIIN) and St. Joseph Health

Orange County, Calif., for an informational session to discuss navigating care transitions for homeless patients. The webinar includes sharing implementation strategies, barriers, revisions, and collaborations. There is no charge to attend.

[Download and Print the Best-Practices Toolkit](#)

Share the HSAG Care Coordination Best-Practices Toolkit—an overview of more than 25 care coordination tools and samples designed to help reduce readmissions across care settings.

[Watch Helpful Care Coordination Videos](#)

Check out the HSAG video playlist highlighting care coordination. Share these videos at stand-up and staff meetings.

[Utilize Patient Education Resources](#)

Engage and encourage patients to care for their own health condition by using patient zone tools."

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ODA to contact RCFs that require heightened scrutiny

The Ohio Department of Aging notified The Academy that they were going to move forward with the process of ensuring residential care facilities (RCFs) meet the latest federal requirements to be considered a home and community based setting. To continue to qualify as a HCBS provider, some providers that are similar to an institution setting have to undergo "heightened scrutiny." ODA had done surveys of these RCFs and is not sending letters to those that did not meet the new regulations. The letter notes that the provider has 45 days to submit a remediation plan. It also notes that ODA staff are available in helping providers meet the new requirements. [\(A copy of the letter is available by clicking here.](#) A copy of [Attachment B can be found by clicking here.](#)

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compmanagement

National News

SNF QRP review and correction reports

From CMS: "The enhanced Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) review and correct reports are now available, on demand in the Certification and Survey Provider Enhanced Reporting (CASPER) application. In addition to enhanced sorting functionality, this report now includes patient level data and automated CSV file

creation functionality that contains patient level results. Providers can access these reports by selecting the CASPER Reporting link on the “Welcome to the CMS QIES Systems for Providers” webpage.

NOTE: You must log into the CMS Network using your CMSNet user ID and password in order to access the “Welcome to the CMS QIES Systems for Providers” webpage.

In addition to the sorting enhancements and inclusion of resident level data, these reports:

- Contain quality measure information at the facility level
- Allow providers to obtain aggregate performance for the past four quarters (when data is available)
- Include data submitted prior to the applicable quarterly data submission deadlines
- Display whether the data correction period for a given CY quarter is “open” or “closed.”

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New measure added to CASPER QM reports

From CMS: "Starting on April 1, 2019, the Certification and Survey Provider Enhanced Reports Quality Measure (CASPER QM) Reports now include the Hospice Visits when Death is Imminent measure pair. This measure pair assesses whether a hospice patient's and caregiver's needs were addressed by hospice staff in the last three and seven days of life. For more information please see the “Public Reporting of the Hospice Visits when Death is Imminent Measure Pair Fact Sheet” in the Downloads section of the [Public Reporting: Background and Announcements](#) webpage."

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CMS MLN Connects

News

- [New Part D Policies Address Opioid Epidemic](#)
- [“Qué está Cubierto”](#)
- [Physician Compare: Supplemental Preview Period Open until April 27](#)
- [Open Payments: Review and Dispute Data by May 15](#)
- [Comparative Billing Report on Subsequent Hospital Visits](#)
- [PEPPERS for Hospices, LTCHs, SNFs, IRFs, IPFs, and CAHs,](#)
- [Hospice Visits when Death is Imminent Measure Pair](#)
- [Mapping Medicare Disparities Tool: New Enhancements](#)
- [Medicare-Medicaid Crossover Bad Debt Accounting Classification](#)
- [Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Billing Requirements](#)

- [National Minority Health Month: Active & Healthy](#)
- [Looking for Educational Materials?](#)

Compliance

- [Coding for Specimen Validity Testing Billed in Combination with Urine Drug Testing](#)

Events

- [Comparative Billing Report: Subsequent Hospital Visits Webinar — April 11](#)

MLN Matters® Articles

- [Activation of Systematic Validation Edits for OPPS Providers with Multiple Service Locations](#)
- [ASP Medicare Part B Drug Pricing Files and Revisions: July 2019](#)
- [Changes to the Laboratory NCD Edit Software: July 2019](#)
- [Correction to FY 2019 IPPS Pricer](#)
- [FY 2017 SSI/Medicare Beneficiary Data for IPPS Hospitals, IRFs, LTCHs](#)
- [NCCI PTP Edits: Quarterly Update](#)
- [E/M and Superficial Radiation Treatment — Revised](#)

Publications

- [Understanding the Medicare Beneficiary Identifier](#)
- [Acute Care Hospital Inpatient Prospective Payment System — Revised](#)
- [Hospice Payment System — Revised](#)
- [Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment System — Revised](#)
- [Medicare Preventive Services — Revised](#)

Multimedia

- [Reducing Opioid Misuse Call: Audio Recording and Transcript](#)
- [Promoting Interoperability Call: Audio Recording and Transcript](#)
- [SNF Value-Based Purchasing Program Call: Audio Recording and Transcript](#)

[View this edition as a PDF \[PDF, 278KB\]](#)

[View this edition's webpage](#)

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ODDS AND ENDS

HOME Choice Provider Connections Issue #12

All the latest and updated information about HOME Choice can be found in the latest edition of HOME Choice Provider Connection. [Please click here to download.](#)

Upcoming CGS educational events:

[Provider Enrollment Updates and Open Forum for Providers ACT](#)

Please mark your calendars and plan to participate and hear the latest Provider Enrollment updates and get your questions answered.

April 23, 2019

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time (2:00 p.m. Central Time)

Please submit questions specific to provider enrollment prior to the event to have them answered in this open forum for other providers to listen and learn. Please send enrollment related questions to the [J15 PartA Education@cgsadmin.com](mailto:J15_PartA_Education@cgsadmin.com) mailbox by the close of business on April 12, 2019.

[How to Prevent SNF Denials](#)

Attention Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs): Have you received an Additional Documentation Request (ADR) and not sure what to send? During this webinar, we will discuss Targeted Probe and Educate (TPE) guidelines, TPE review results for SNF RUG codes and how to prevent SNF claim denials. We encourage all SNFs, including those not currently participating in a TPE review, to attend to ensure you are in compliance with Medicare policy, billing and documentation guidelines.

April 30, 2019

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. ET

You can always click the link to the right to view all CGS training events.

NOTABLE DATES OR EVENTS

[Navigating Care Transitions for Homeless Patients Webinar](#)

Tuesday, April 16, 2019
3 to 4 p.m. EDT

[OANAC/ASHS Spring Conference](#)

April 26
Columbus, OH

[CMS National Provider Compliance Conference](#)

May 7 and 8
Denver, CO

[CMS SNF ORP 'Train the Trainer'](#)

May 7 and 8
Kansas City, MO

[NAB 2019 Annual Meeting](#)

June 12 and 14
Charleston, SC

[NELS 2019 Summit](#)

July 16-18
Washington, D.C.

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