The Academy Weekly
News & Information for LTC Providers
The Academy of Senior Health Sciences, Inc.
www.seniorhealthsciences.org

Week of 27 September 2020

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Ohio News

Medicaid managed care RFA released; Jan 2022 start date expected

The Ohio Department of Medicaid has released the Request for Applications for the Medicaid managed care program. This is NOT the MyCare Ohio program, but rather the "community" Medicaid recipients, including Group VIII. There does not appear to be any changes to the LTSS benefits. The most significant change for LTSS providers seems to be related to the administrative area. ODM will have a fiscal intermediary that would receive all of the claims and prior authorizations. This would mean only one form for providers to submit for a claim and one form for a prior authorization regardless of the MCO. Please click here to view the entire RFA. The anticipated start date for the contract winners is January 2022. (Back to top.)

Day 3 of the virtual fall conference: COVID-19

The 2020 ASHS/OANAC (Virtual) Fall Conference and Annual Meeting will be held November 11, 12 and 13. The conference will feature different topics each day. You can pick the day(s) you want to register for, or register for all three and receive a discount! Click here to register. This week we are highlighting Day 3 - COVID-19:

Day three of the conference begins with a discussion of policy making during the public health emergency. Department of Aging Director Ursel McElroy will join us to talk about how the pandemic has impacted public policy making from the administrative perspective. It is definitely not "business as usual" in that arena. State Medical Director Dr. Mary Applegate will follow with a run through of the LTSS Toolkit. The toolkit covers a wide variety of infection prevention and control topics, from communication logistics to PPE. After lunch, Dr. Weigand will discuss COVID testing. The day will conclude with a presentation by Dr. Turner on an overview of COVID from an epidemiological perspective.

Click here to learn more about Day 1 and 2 of the conference and register! (Back to top.)

ODM to start MDS exception reviews early Nov

ODM notified The Academy that they expect to resume MDS exception reviews on November 02, 2020. A more detailed update will be provided as we near this anticipated start date. ODM noted that the exception reviews will be performed from remote locations. (Back to top.)

Notes from the ODH provider meeting

The Ohio Department of Health held its weekly provider meeting last week. Below are notes from the meeting:

* *PCR confirmatory test*: Dr. Marika Mohr from ODH's Bureau of Infectious Disease walked through the CDC's "CONSIDERATIONS FOR INTERPRETING ANTIGEN TEST RESULTS IN NURSING HOMES" flow chart. She confirmed that one negative PCR test was acceptable to consider a staff to return to work if the PCR test was done within 48 hours of the antigen test in a low incidence county. Please see the flow chart for more information.

* *Use of KN95 masks:* Providers have to maintain documentation as to why they are using KN95 masks in place of N95 masks, including attempts to obtain N95 masks. Providers may choose to use KN95 masks in place of surgical masks when surgical masks are appropriate.

* *Use of eye protection*: ODH said they are following the CDC's healthcare worker guidelines for the use of eye protection. **The guidelines state that healthcare workers should wear eye protection.** Please see the CDC guidelines for healthcare workers for more information by clicking here.

* *Fire Marshal's "citing" temporary walls*: Fire Marshals will be creating a "citation" for providers that use the temporary walls for cohorting under the PHE waiver. It is not really a citation, nor is it recorded as one. It is a note about the wall to create a "paper trail" so the Fire Marshal's office can go back to the facility and be sure the wall is removed after the waiver period has expired.

If you have a question you would like addressed at the provider meeting, please let us know by 10 AM Mondays. (Back to top.)

EDIC replay: ODH lab portal webinar TODAY at 1 PM; 10/05 testing schedule

EDIC highlights from last week's *Academy Update*:

ODH Lab Portal Bulk Upload - You should see a batch upload tab in the electronic lab submission portal. This function will allow you to upload data stored in an excel sheet to generate the PDFs. This would mean you only need to capture the required data from those you routinely test once and alter only the fields that need to be altered prior to each upload. Instructions for use of the batch upload are attached. Any file that is uploaded must match the template file (also attached) and be formatted according to the instructions on the second sheet of that template document. If you are seeing any issues with your upload, please reach out to odhlabportal@odh.ohio.gov for assistance. ***Please register for ODH Lab Portal - New Bulk Upload Lab Requisition for Nursing Homes on Oct 5, 2020 1:00 PM EDT*** at:

https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/9207981483072260622 We will be discussing the functionality in more detail.

NH State Supported Testing Schedule - The nursing home testing state-supported testing schedule for 10/5 through 10/18 can be found at this link:

 https://odh.ohio.gov/static/REGOPS/NH-Staff-Test-Schedule-10-05-to-10-18.xlsx

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ODM provides MAL on ICF cost reporting of COVID funds

The Ohio Department of Medicaid released Medicaid Advisory Letter (MAL) No. 647 that address questions for ICF/IIDs reporting of COVID-19 funding. Please click here to view the MAL. (Back to top.)

National News

CMS releases QSO memo on emergency preparedness

CMS recently released QSO-20-41-ALL: Guidance related to the Emergency Preparedness Testing Exercise Requirements- Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). The document allows providers to use the real emergency experiences from COVID-19 to count for EP requirements. From the summary: "Emergency Preparedness Testing Exemption and Guidance - CMS regulations for Emergency Preparedness require specific testing exercises be conducted to validate the facility's emergency program. During or after an actual emergency, the regulations allow for an exemption to the testing requirements based on real world actions taken by providers and suppliers. • This worksheet presents guidance for surveyors, as well as providers and suppliers, with relevant scenarios on meeting the testing requirements in light of many of the response activities associated with the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE)." Please click here to view the memo. (Back to top.)

NHSN to accept POC test data October 15

CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) will release a new Point of Care (POC) Laboratory Reporting Pathway within the NHSN LTC COVID-19 Module on October 15, 2020. The new Pathway will enable CMS-certified nursing homes, and other long-term care facilities, to meet the Department of Health and Human Services' requirement to report SARS-CoV-2 point-of-care antigen test data, and other on-site COVID-19 laboratory testing data, to appropriate federal and state health authorities. ***Using the pathway will require an upgraded NHSN Secure Access Management Service (SAMS) from Level 1 to Level 3. Please be on the lookout for an email invitation from CDC to perform this upgrade.***

This new NHSN Pathway will provide a single reporting system that nursing homes already use for other mandatory COVID reporting and will meet the requirement to report SARS-CoV-2 point-of-care antigen testing data to state health departments and other appropriate federal authorities.

Nursing homes and other long-term care facilities can also email nhsn@cdc.gov with

the subject line "Enhancing Data Security" to begin upgrading their SAMS access to use this Pathway. (Back to top.)

CMS provider resources for flu vaccine

CMS understands that providers play a key role in educating people with Medicare about the importance of flu vaccination. They have created several resources for partners and providers for flu vaccination:

- We developed a new page – cms.gov/flu – for one-stop shopping to help you find CMS's flu vaccination information and resources.
- Visit our Outreach & Media Materials page for flu vaccination materials you can share within your partner networks and use to reach people with Medicare, plus other audiences across our health care programs. We will continue to update this page with additional resources.
- Use this social media toolkit with posts and graphics to spread the word about the importance of getting a flu shot this year (in English & Spanish).
- For partners, we launched a Flu Vaccine Partner Toolkit with flu and other immunization resources.
- For health care providers, we launched a new website – cms.gov/flu-provider – with flu coverage and billing information.

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Updated SNF QRP Tip Sheet available

An updated version of the SNF COVID-19 PR Tip Sheet that was posted on September 8, 2020, is now available. The purpose of this Tip Sheet is to help providers understand CMS' public reporting strategy for the PAC QRP in the midst of the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE). This Tip Sheet explains the CMS strategy to account for CMS quality data which were exempted from public reporting due to COVID-19, and the impact on CMS' Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) data on the Nursing Home Compare website refreshes. The updated Tip sheet is available under the "Downloads" section of the SNF Quality Reporting Training webpage. (Back to top.)

CMS MLN Connects

Editor's Note: This edition includes a new section, Information for Your Medicare Patients, which mirrors information your patients get from Medicare. We'll include occasional messages to help you answer questions from your patients.

News

- Hospital Price Transparency: Requirements Effective January 1
- IRF Provider Preview Reports: Review Your Data by October 26
- LTCH Provider Preview Reports: Review Your Data by October 26
- Therapeutic Injections and Infusions: Comparative Billing Report
- SNF Healthcare-Associated Infections Confidential Dry Run Report
- COVID-19: Optimizing Health Care PPE and Supplies
- Hospice Quality Reporting Program News
- October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

MLN Matters® Articles

- Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) and Long-Term Care Hospital (LTCH) PPS Changes
- Quarterly Update to the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) Procedure-to-Procedure (PTP) Edits, Version 27.0, Effective January 1, 2021
- Change to the Payment of Allogeneic Stem Cell Acquisition Services — Revised
- New Physician Specialty Code for Micrographic Dermatologic Surgery (MDS) and Adult Congenital Heart Disease (ACHD) and a New Supplier Specialty Code for Home Infusion Therapy Services — Revised
- October 2020 Update of the Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) Payment System — Revised
- October 2020 Update of the Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) — Revised

- Penalty for Delayed Request for Anticipated Payment (RAP) Submission -- Implementation — Revised
- Quarterly Update for Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule and Laboratory Services Subject to Reasonable Charge Payment — Revised

Multimedia

- ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Meeting Materials
- SNF Consolidated Billing Web-Based Training Course — Revised

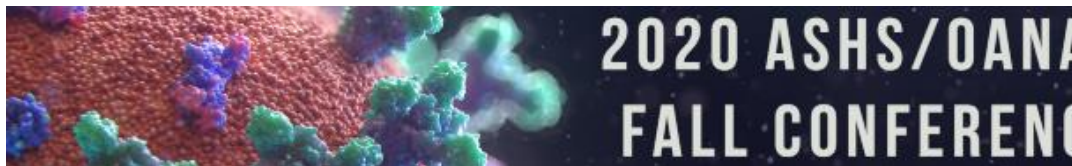Information for Medicare Patients

- Making Insulin More Affordable for Medicare Patients Beginning January 1

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View this edition online

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2020 ASHS/OANAC Fall Conference:

Live Webinars November 11, 12 and 13.

Click here to learn more and register.

Become a sponsor and see your company logo here!

ODDS AND ENDS

From CGS: The October J15 Medicare Bulletin is now available
Articles include:

- MACs Resume Medical Review on a Post-Payment Basis
- Stay Informed and Join the CGS ListServ Notification Service
- Medicare Credit Balance Quarterly Reminder
- Billing for Home Infusion Therapy Services on or After January 1, 2021

And more...

REMINDER: Please submit your CDC report and CCURT NH testing survey results

Providers are reminded to submit your mandatory COVID-19 report at least once a week:
https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/ltc/covid19/index.html

Short on PPE? Staff? Let your local EMA know.

ODM is reminding providers to contact their local EMA if they are running low on PPE or are having staffing concerns.
Please click here for more information on how to contact your EMA for resources.
Please click here for the fillable request form.

NOTABLE DATES OR EVENTS

ASHS/OANAC Fall Conference
Via live webinars!
Nov 11, 12 and 13
Click here to register!

Use Renewed ABN By
1 January 2021

Ohio Provider Relief Funds
Application information

Click here for QIO training series.

Click here for CMS NH COVID-19 Training Modules

Click here to view CGS Part A training events

Click here to view CGS Part B training events

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Our mailing address is:

The Academy of Senior Health Sciences Inc.

17 S. High St.

Suite 770

Columbus, OH 43215

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