

The Academy Weekly

News & Information for LTC Providers



The Academy of Senior Health Sciences, Inc.
www.seniorhealthsciences.org

Week of 19 December 2021

Happy New Year! Wishing you the best in 2022.

No *Weekly* next week as we take a break for the holidays.

Ohio News

[Contact R3AP for assistance](#)

[Governor signs H.B. 169; S.B. 58](#)

[January 1 Medicaid rates available](#)

National News

[CDC Update: Isolation and quarantine guidance updated](#)

[CMS releases FAQ on visitation](#)

[CMS MLN Connects](#)

Ohio News

Contact R3AP for assistance

Nursing home and assisted living providers are reminded that Ohio's [R3AP program](#) is available to provide assistance in the following areas:

- Vaccination,
- COVID-19 testing and cohorting,
- Temporary staff support, and

- Infection prevention and control education.

As the number of COVID cases increase in Ohio and staffing shortages continue, there is a greater likelihood providers will need assistance. ***If you require any help in the areas above, please contact R3AP at 1-855-732-7632 between the hours of 7 AM and 7 PM, Monday through Friday.*** You may leave a message during off hours. R3AP will have a 24/7 call line with an expected start date of January 3. Until that call line is active for 24 hours, ***if you are facing an urgent crisis situation where you are concerned about the safety of your residents, have exhausted all other options, and it is outside of the R3AP calling hours and you have left a message and have not heard back within 2 hours, please contact The Academy at 614-915-9265.*** We will notify the administration of your crisis situation so they can help you find a solution. ([Back to top.](#))

Governor signs H.B. 169; S.B. 58

Governor Mike DeWine signed H.B. 169 last week. The bill allocates \$300 million of enhanced federal matching dollars to nursing homes. It also provides additional pandemic funding to other health care provider groups and education. We are unsure at this time how those funds will be allocated among the nursing homes. We do know that the funding amount includes federal matching dollars; therefore, ODM will have to request an 1135 waiver from CMS to get permission from CMS to spend those dollars and receive the match. That will delay the release of the funds to the providers for at least a month as ODM drafts and submits the 1135 waiver request and waits for approval from CMS. We will keep you updated as we learn more.

The Governor also signed S.B.58. That bill, named "Esther's Law," requires nursing homes to allow monitoring devices in rooms under certain conditions. ([Click here to view the LSC analysis of the bill.](#)) That bill takes effect March 21, 2022. ([Back to top.](#))

January 1 Medicaid rates available

ODM has calculated the January 1 to June 30 Medicaid rates for nursing homes. Providers should be able to access their rate package via MITS. ([Back to top.](#))



National News

CDC Update: Isolation and quarantine guidance updated

With the growing number of COVID-19 cases from the Omicron variant, and consistent with current understanding of the disease trajectory, CDC has released updated [guidance for isolation and quarantine for healthcare workers](#). Additionally, CDC has released an update to its [guidance for contingency and crisis management in the setting of significant healthcare worker shortages](#). These updates provide healthcare facilities with the strategies to limit the effects of staff shortages caused by COVID-19 on patient care. More information from the CDC about this updated guidance is available [here](#)

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CMS releases FAQ on visitation

CMS released a FAQ document Friday that addresses issues related to the latest visitation regulations. [Click here to download the document.](#) [\(Back to top.\)](#)

CMS MLN Connects

News

- [COVID-19 Vaccine Access in Long-Term Care Settings](#)
- [DMEPOS Final Rule](#)
- [NPPES: Public Reporting of Digital Contact Information](#)
- [VBID Model: Hospice Benefit Component](#)
- [Federally Qualified Health Center CY 2022 PPS](#)
- [RHC: AIR Payment Limit for CY 2022](#)

Compliance

- [Surgical Dressings: Medicare Requirements](#)

Claims, Pricers, & Codes

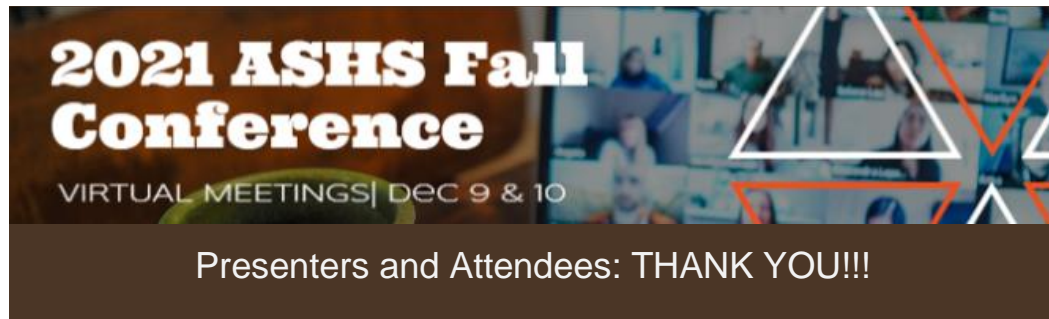
- [January 2022 Integrated Outpatient Code Editor \(I/OCE\) Specifications Version 23.0](#)

MLN Matters® Articles

- [Addition of the QW Modifier to Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System \(HCPCS\) Code 86328](#)

- [January 2022 Update of the Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System \(OPPS\)](#)
- [Claims Processing Instructions for the New Pneumococcal 15-valent Conjugate Vaccine Code 90671 and Pneumococcal 20-valent Conjugate Vaccine Code 90677 — Revised](#)
- [Intravenous Immune Globulin Demonstration — Revised](#)

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ODDS AND ENDS

CDC Project Firstline offers IPC information in Spanish

At Project Firstline, we aim to provide all healthcare workers with the infection control knowledge they need to protect their patients and themselves. To improve access to Project Firstline materials for Spanish-speaking healthcare workers, a selection of our content and training resources is now available in Spanish on our website.

Spanish-language materials include:

- Facilitator guides and session plans for anyone who would like to lead an infection control training on key topics, including how respiratory droplets spread COVID-19 and how viruses spread from surfaces to people
- Printable job aids, including a checklist for multi-dose vial safety

[Check out the new page](#) for more info and stay tuned for additional content!

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NOTABLE DATES OR EVENTS

[S.B. 58 Effective](#)
21 March 2022

[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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