

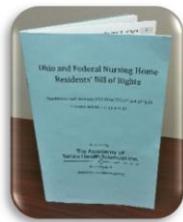
# The Academy Weekly

## News & Information for LTC Providers

The Academy of Senior Health Sciences, Inc.

[www.seniorhealthsciences.org](http://www.seniorhealthsciences.org)

### Friday, 22 June 2018



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## Ohio News

### 1. ODM releases SNF July 1 rates; PL letter to plans

The Ohio Department of Medicaid released the SNF July 1 rates today. [You can download a PDF of the rates by clicking here.](#) In related news, ODM also released a letter they sent to the MyCare Ohio managed care plans related to 2014, 2015 and 2016 patient liability discrepancies with SNF providers. Per the letter: "However, it is the responsibility of the Plans to account for patient liability in its claims payment process with the facilities. If a facility disagrees with the amount of patient liability deducted by the Plan, it is ODM's expectation that the discrepancy be addressed through the business arrangement that the Plans have or establish with the facility. Therefore, the Plans have discretion to choose the best methodology to address any payment discrepancies related to patient liability for fiscal years 2014, 2015, and 2016 with the facilities directly. To that end, ODM will respect the business arrangements made between the Plans and facilities to resolve those payment disputes during any ODM audit for those years." [Please click here to download the full letter. \(back to top\)](#)

## 2. ODA releases satisfaction scores press release

The Ohio Department of Aging announced the release of the SNF and RCF resident satisfaction scores. The results are from surveys performed by Vital Research for ODA during the second half of 2017. According to the press release, "surveyors conducted structured face-to-face interviews with a random sample of residents in each facility. A total of 23,145 residents in 963 nursing homes and 12,849 residents of 687 assisted living facilities were interviewed." The statewide average score for SNFs and RCFs were 77.8 and 85.2, respectively. The survey was changed for 2017 so the overall results cannot be directly compared to the 2015 resident satisfaction survey. [Please click here to view the full press release along with the top 25 overall scores for SNFs and RCFs.](#) [\(Back to top\)](#)

## 3. House sends mental health bill to governor

The Ohio House of Representatives continued to work through its backlog of bills this week, passing many over to the Senate a few on to the governor's desk to become law. One of those was H.B 111, which became the legislative vehicle for many issues related to health care. The bill passed the House with the goal of granting some APNs the ability to have patients involuntarily hospitalized for a mental health examination. The Senate made significant changes including requiring ODMHAS to license all opioid treatment programs. Currently, only programs receiving public funds or providing methadone treatment are licensed. Furthermore, withdrawal management addiction services provided in settings other than acute care hospitals, addiction services provided in a residential treatment setting, and outpatient addiction services unless the services have been certified by the Director of Mental Health and Addiction Services. The bill also reduced from 12 to 6 months experience a dialysis technician has to have before being able to apply for a license. Among other changes, it also would allow an APN with a specialty in mental health to enter into standard care arrangement with a pediatrician, primary care physician, or family practice physician. It also changes the oversight requirements of physician assistant supervision agreements for the State Medical Board. [\(back to top\)](#)

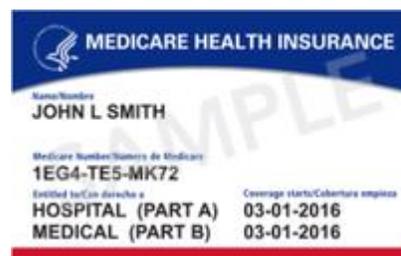
## 4. Scripps launches SNF biennial survey

Scripps Gerontology Center recently released their latest biennial survey of skilled nursing facilities. The data collected from the survey is used to track trends in the industry. Furthermore, the survey is updated with input from interested parties to capture data on the latest issues facing the industry. It can be filled-out online or a paper copy can be requested and submitted. If you have any questions about the survey please contact Scripps at [biennialtcsurvey@miamioh.edu](mailto:biennialtcsurvey@miamioh.edu). [\(back to top\)](#)

## 5. ODH provides updated district office map

The Ohio Department of Health provided an updated district map along with contact information. The state is divided into to offices, western region and eastern region. [Click here to download the map.](#) [\(back to top\)](#)

# Federal News



## 6. CMS releases MDS data to public

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released the Data Element Library (DEL). The DEL is a new CMS database that supports the exchange of electronic health information. Using this free, centralized resource, the public for the first time can view the specific types of data that CMS requires post-acute care facilities (such as nursing homes and rehabilitation hospitals) to collect as part of the health assessment of

their patients. This includes MDS assessment data that is collected on each SNF admission. No health protected information is included in the data. According to CMS, "the DEL also includes the health information technology (health IT) standards that support the collection of health information, which are the nationally agreed upon methods for connecting electronic health systems together. Because the DEL now puts these standards and data elements all in one place in a "one-stop shop," it will be much easier for health IT vendors to incorporate them into electronic health records (EHRs) that are used by post-acute care providers. Integrating these data elements into EHRs will ultimately allow health information to flow more easily from one provider to another." For more information, please visit <https://www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/Fact-sheets/2018-Fact-sheets-items/2018-06-21.html>

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## 7. CMS reviews implementation of IMPACT Act

CMS held a frequently asked question call for the implementation of the IMPACT act. The IMPACT act requires CMS to standardize data across post acute care settings. CMS stressed during the call that they do not intend to pursue a single assessment instrument, but instead would make changes to the current assessment tools, such as the MDS, to establish a core set of data collected in each setting. CMS also confirmed that Nursing Home Compare would be the location for any release of measures related to quality and/or the IMPACT. In the question and answer session, CMS clarified that the drug drug regimen review (DRR) was to be broader in scope than medication reconciliation. Medication reconciliation should be something providers have been doing and should be a part of any DRR. [Please click here to view the slides from the presentation.](#) [\(back to top\)](#)

## 8. CMS releases technical report on SNF VBP calculation

From CMS: "The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has released a technical report to provide additional details on the empirical analyses that were considered when developing and finalizing the logistic exchange function that will be used to translate Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) performance scores into incentive payments for the Skilled Nursing Facility Value-Based Purchasing (SNF VBP) Program. CMS has adopted the logistic exchange function as the method that will be used to translate SNF performance scores into value-based incentive payments beginning in October 2018 (FY 2019). The report includes CMS' analysis of historical Skilled Nursing Facility Readmission Measure (SNFRM) (NQF #2510) data, of the estimated effects that result from using other methodologies as part of our overall scoring process, and analyses of other exchange function forms. We concluded that the logistic function provided the largest percentage of SNFs with net-positive value-based incentive payments. To view the full technical report on our exchange function methodology and analyses, please visit: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/Value-Based-Programs/Other-VBPs/SNF-VBP-exchange-function-analysis.pdf> For more information about the SNF VBP Program, please visit <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/Value-Based-Programs/Other-VBPs/SNF-VBP.html> and refer to the [FY 2018 SNF PPS final rule](#). If you have additional questions, please email them to: [SNFVBPinquiries@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:SNFVBPinquiries@cms.hhs.gov)" [\(back to top\)](#)

## 9. CMS MLN Connects Provider eNews

### [News & Announcements](#)

- [New Medicare Cards May Have QR Codes](#)
- [Continuous Glucose Monitors: Changes Impacting Medicare Coverage](#)
- [Quality Payment Program Look-Up Tool Updated](#)

- [Quality Payment Program Website Includes 2018 MIPS Measures and Activities](#)
- [Hospice Provider Preview Reports: Review Your Data by June 30](#)
- [IRF and LTCH Provider Preview Reports: Review Your Data by July 1](#)
- [SNF Provider Preview Report: Review Your Data by July 1](#)
- [CMS Leverages Medicaid Program to Combat the Opioid Crisis](#)

#### [Provider Compliance](#)

- [Payment for Outpatient Services Provided to Beneficiaries Who Are Inpatients of Other Facilities — Reminder](#)

#### [Upcoming Events](#)

- [Home Health Agencies: Quality of Patient Care Star Ratings Algorithm Call — June 27](#)
- [Ground Ambulance Providers and Suppliers: Data Collection System Listening Session — June 28](#)

#### [Medicare Learning Network® Publications & Multimedia](#)

- [July Quarterly Update for 2018 DMEPOS Fee Schedule MLN Matters Article — New](#)
- [Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Call: Audio Recording and Transcript — New](#)

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