

The Academy Weekly

News & Information for LTC Providers



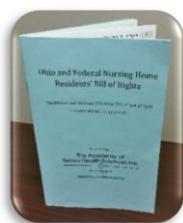
The Academy of Senior Health Sciences, Inc.

www.seniorhealthsciences.org

Friday, 20 October 2017

The Academy welcomes Jarvis Law Office as our newest Associate Member!

Jarvis Law Office specializes in Estate and Long Term Care Planning legal services at their offices in Dublin, Lancaster, and St. Clairsville Ohio. They work on Medicaid and veterans benefits applications throughout the state and help speed up Medicaid reimbursement for residents whose bills would otherwise go unpaid. Please contact Bill Adams (william@jarvisfirm.com) to learn how Jarvis Law Office can help your business. On to the news...



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Ohio News

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Ohio News

1. ODM indefinitely halts exception reviews

The Ohio Department of Medicaid has notified The Academy that it will suspend performing any exception reviews until the issues raised by The Academy and other interested parties are resolved. Exception reviews were supposed to commence this week. The most significant concern is ODM's use of a support documentation manual when performing the reviews. The support documentation manual is inconsistent with the RAI manual; providers have been using the RAI manual as the guidance for filling-out the MDS. By using different criteria, and doing so retroactively, ODM is applying a new regulation that did not go through the rule-making process and could harm providers. ODM will be meeting with The Academy to further discuss these and other issues before moving forward with the exception reviews. ([back to top](#))

2. Scripps advisory panel looks to address future of LTC research

The Scripps Gerontology Center at Miami University held its annual LTC Research Project Advisory Board meeting last week. The Board reviewed some of the recent and current research that Scripps is working on. This included looking at the value of enhanced service coordination, PELI, and LTC utilization in Ohio. The group also discussed issues that the long-term care industry is facing to help generate ideas for future research. Areas the board discussed included workforce availability, informal caregiving, financing of LTC given an increased demand, use and availability of data and technology, medical advancements, and community living alternatives. All of these areas will influence how LTC is delivered in the future and the resources used. Scripps will review the feedback to develop possible areas of research. ([back to top](#))

3. 2017 Fall Conference registration closing this weekend!

The early bird discounted rate of \$229 for OANAC/ASHS members has ended. It's over. Fini. But that doesn't mean you have to miss out on the conference! Registration is open until October 23 - you can still receive up to 13 BELTSS CEUs at an affordable price. Learn about dementia care and quality, the new survey process, Phase II of COP, reimbursement and regulation, and more! [Click here to register for the conference online before it closes October 23!](#) ([Back to top](#))

4. ODH releases updated preventative maintenance manual and LSC tips

The Ohio Department of Health has released the latest preventative maintenance manual. ([Please click here to download the manual.](#)) The manual provides guidance on how to maintain facility infrastructure in compliance with the life safety code (LSC). [ODH also re-issued a Top 10 Tip Sheet for LSC.](#) ([Back to top](#))

5. Latest quarterly reporting spreadsheet for vent providers

The Ohio Departments of Medicaid has provided The Academy with the latest quarterly report spreadsheet for vent providers participating in the enhanced reimbursement program. [The Excel spreadsheet is available by clicking here.](#) ([Back to top](#))

6. ODH looking for input on improving provider feedback for survey process

The Ohio Department of Health is looking for better feedback on how to improve the survey process. ODH is looking to update their current post-survey satisfaction survey. They are also considering sending the survey to providers in batches every six months. This is to alleviate concerns that providers are not answering the survey, or answering truthfully, because they have concerns the surveyors will determine who filled-out the survey. [Click here to view the current satisfaction survey.](#) If you have any suggestions on questions that would be useful to have on the survey, [please contact The Academy.](#) ([Back to top](#))

7. New OBLTSS resource, LOC rules, highlights of FrontDoor meeting

The Ohio Department of Medicaid announced it has officially launched the Ohio Benefits Long Terms Services and Supports (OBLTSS) at the most recent FrontDoor stakeholders meeting. OBLTSS gives any consumer or provider information and referrals to community long-term services and supports via "single entry points," or SEPs, or the OBLTSS website. SEPs include AAAs and other community entities such as Easter Seals. Consumers and providers, including discharge planners, can contact a SEP via a toll free number, 1-844-644-6582. The website is www.benefits.ohio.gov/LTSS. SNF and hospital discharge planners are encouraged to use OBLTSS to help find community service providers. [Learn more about OBLTSS from the ODM PowerPoint presentation by clicking here.](#)

ODM also announced changes to the LOC rules at the meeting. While the criteria to meet I-LOC will not change, the process for those that only meet via the need for 24 hour supervision will. Those that meet level for this reason will be referred for a face-to-face evaluation using a behavioral and cognitive assessment tool - the BCAT. ODM will use the results from the BCAT to determine if the individual satisfies the LOC criteria. [You may view the proposed rules by clicking here.](#)

ODM also provided an overview of specialized recovery services program (SRSP) at the meeting. This 1915(i) waiver program is intended to provide continued Medicaid coverage for individuals who were on ABD Spenddown before 8/1/2016 and who have income between 75% - 225% FPL who are diagnosed with a serious and persistent mental illness (SPMI) or a diagnosed chronic condition (DCC). Individuals in SRSP receive the following additional services: Recovery Management, Individualized Placement and Support-Supported Employment, and Peer Support. The program was implemented for the SPMI population in August, 2016 and now includes the DCC population as of July, 2017. [Please click here to download the ODM PowerPoint presentation outlining the SRSP.](#)
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Federal News

8. Lawmakers ask CMS to delay Phase II of the COP

Congressional lawmakers are making a push to delay the implementation of the latest nursing home regulations. A letter sent to CMS making the request from the House of Representatives had about 120 signatures. The letter notes the costs to providers and requests CMS to reform the regulations before further implementation. A similar letter has been circulated among Senators. Phase II of the new conditions of participation is scheduled to go into effect November 28. This phase contains the majority of the regulatory changes including new staffing requirements and emergency preparedness. [\(Back to top\)](#)

9. CMS MLN Connects Provider eNews

[News & Announcements](#)

- [Preview Draft eCQM Specifications through November 13](#)
- [MIPS Virtual Group Election Period Ends December 1](#)
- [Quality Payment Program: New Resources](#)

- [SNF Quality Reporting Program Confidential Feedback Reports for Claims-Based Measures](#)
- [SNF Review and Correct Report Update](#)
- [Post-Acute Care Quality Reporting Programs FY 2018 APU: Successful Facilities](#)
- [New CMS Legionella Requirement for Hospitals, Critical Access Hospitals, and Nursing Homes](#)

[Provider Compliance](#)

- [Coudé Tip Catheters CMS Provider Minute Video — Reminder](#)

[Claims, Pricers & Codes](#)

- [October 2017 OPPS Pricer File](#)
- [Outpatient Claims: Correcting Deductible and Coinsurance for Code G0473](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

- [Definition of a Hospital: Primarily Engaged Requirement Call — November 2](#)
- [New Medicare Card Project Special Open Door Forum — November 9](#)
- [SNF Value-Based Purchasing Program FY 2018 Final Rule Call — November 16](#)

[Medicare Learning Network Publications & Multimedia](#)

- [Medicare FFS Response to the 2017 California Wildfires MLN Matters Article — New](#)
- [Hurricane Nate and Medicare Disaster Related Alabama, Florida, Louisiana and Mississippi Claims MLN Matters Article — New](#)
- [Medicare Quarterly Provider Compliance Newsletter Educational Tool — New](#)
- [Physician Compare Call: Audio Recording and Transcript — New](#)
- [Prohibition on Billing Dually Eligible Individuals Enrolled in the QMB Program MLN Matters Article — Revised](#)
- [Critical Access Hospital Booklet — Revised](#)

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Our mailing address is:

The Academy of Senior Health Sciences Inc.
17 S. High St.
Suite 770
Columbus, OH 43215