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ODH releases nursing home licensure rule changes for review – The Department of Health (ODH) has released changes to the nursing home licensure rules for public comment. The draft rules along with a brief summary of the changes in the “Memo to Interested Parties” can be found [on the ODH website](#). The draft rules are the product of several stakeholder meetings with the department over the past several months. Some of the proposed changes include new posting of nursing staff requirements, the ability to have two co-directors of nursing, new construction requirements for bathrooms, changes to fire preparedness regulations, inclusion of person-centered care language, updates to reflect current dietary standards, and new licensure data and requirements. Comments are due by February 14. Please contact [Chris Murray](#) with questions or comments. ([Back to top](#)).

Show your commitment to the elderly by becoming a Certified Dementia Practitioner – Show your commitment to the elderly and your profession by becoming a Certified Dementia Practitioner (CDP). Becoming a CDP will validate your Alzheimer's and Dementia skills and make both you and your facility more marketable. Nurses, STNAs, therapists, administrators, activity professionals, social workers, and marketing/admission directors can all become CDPs. The Academy is partnering with Therapy Alliance/Ohio CEUs to offer “**Alzheimer & Dementia Seminar**,” the required course to become a CDP. In addition to attending the “Alzheimer & Dementia Seminar,” some other experience and education are required and you [can view those requirements here](#). Persons attending this seminar and meeting the qualifications will pay a discounted fee of \$25 (a \$75 savings!) to the NCCDP when submitting their CDP application within 45 days. A notary will be onsite to notarize applications the day of the course. Registration for the “Alzheimer & Dementia Seminar” will begin at 8 a.m. with the program from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and will include breakfast and lunch. This class has been approved for seven (7) hours of CEU from BENHA. The CSWMFT Board has also approved this program for seven (7) hours of CEU for Social Workers. Academy members may attend this program for \$249 and non-members may attend for \$299. A member facility may send three or more employees for the discounted price of \$200 each, a savings of \$49 per person! Dates and locations are:

- **Wilmington – Wednesday, February 23**
Roberts Centre
123 Gano Road
Wilmington, Ohio

- **Cleveland – Wednesday, March 2**

Holiday Inn Cleveland South
6001 Rockside Road
Independence, Ohio

Information about this program has been mailed, faxed and emailed. You can also register [online](#). For questions, contact [Dawn Kennedy](#). ([Back to top](#)).

“Census Building” and “MDS 3.0 Interviewing” classes coming soon! – Mark your calendars now for two new OANH education courses! **"Census Building on a Shoestring Budget"** is a fun, interactive and fast-paced workshop addressing the implementation of proven programs and techniques within today's dynamic senior health care continuum without “breaking the bank.” This program will definitely jump start your census as the year unfolds. Dates and locations are as follows:

- Cleveland – Tuesday, April 19
- Wilmington – Thursday, April 21

"MDS 3.0 Interviewing" is a new course providing information and practice for one of the most significant changes to MDS 3.0—interviewing. If you aren't interviewing properly, you aren't getting correct information. Plan to attend "MDS 3.0 Interviewing" to learn techniques that will help you develop a personal style of interviewing that is comfortable for both you and your residents. Dates and locations are as follows:

- Wilmington – Tuesday, May 24
- Cleveland – Wednesday, May 25

Watch your fax and email for more information about this exciting new course. If you have any questions, contact [Dawn Kennedy](#). ([Back to top](#)).

Be a presenter at the 2011 OANH Annual Convention – Presenting at the Academy's Annual Convention is a great way to share your knowledge with others in the long-term care industry, receive recognition from your peers and gain exposure for your company. The 2011 convention will be held **Wednesday - Friday, October 19-21** at the Hilton Columbus at Easton. OANH is now accepting applications for presenters, and this application can be completed and submitted via the Academy's website or printed and faxed. [Click here](#) to view and submit the application. If you have any questions about the application or being a presenter please contact [Dawn Kennedy](#). ([Back to top](#)).

ODJFS issuance of Credit Balance Resolution letters – Many providers are currently receiving “Credit Balance Resolution” letters from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) for old periods. In some cases, the provider may have already resolved the issues in the report and/or adjudicated those periods. The letters may even request payment for items that may have already been paid, but were not booked by the department. At this particular time, the origin or rationale of these letters has not been determined, but it is suspected that the issuance of letters has been directed by the Attorney General's office and the issue could be problematic with possible legal issues involved. Providers should contact their accountant and/or attorney upon receipt of one of these letters, especially prior to paying amounts due because the amount may not actually be owed. There has been some historical litigation in this area and paying an amount from a settled period might be admission of a violation of federal regulation. There are strict time deadlines to respond to these letters, so it is very important that providers are on the lookout for these letters. (Source: [Howard, Wershale & Co.](#))

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Update from CMS – The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently released the following information of interest to long-term care providers:

- **Survey & Certification Memos**

- [11-09: Approval of Deeming Authority of Det Norske Veritas Healthcare \(DNVHC\) for Critical Access Hospitals \(CAHs\) \(1/14/11\)](#)
CMS has approved DNVHC as a national accreditation program for CAHs seeking to participate in the Medicare or Medicaid programs.
- [11-10: Revised Hospital Anesthesia Services Interpretive Guidelines—State Operations Manual \(SOM\) Appendix A \(1/14/11\)](#)

CMS has revised the guidelines concerning the anesthesia services Condition of Participation (CoP) at 42 CFR 482.52. Hospitals are expected to develop and implement policies and procedures that address the clinical circumstances under which medications that fall along the analgesia-anesthesia continuum are considered anesthesia, and specify the qualifications of practitioners who can administer analgesia.

- **Regulation Station – C0284**

Question: Can a CAH use contract employees in the emergency department?

Answer: The answer is yes and no. 42 CFR 485.602 defines “direct services” as “services provided by employed staff of the CAH, not services provided through arrangements or agreements.” 42 CFR 485.635(b)(4) considers medical emergency procedures that are first response to be direct services. Therefore, it is interpreted to mean that mid-level staff such as nurse practitioners and physician assistants and nurses providing emergency services must be directly employed by the CAH. However, physicians, administrative, and other staff can be employed under contract.

- **AHRQ Draft TA for Review**

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's (AHRQ) Technology Assessment Program will be posting a draft technology assessment for review on January 26, 2011. This draft is entitled "Health Risk Appraisal." If you are interested in reviewing this document, please [click here](#). The document will be available for review from 9 a.m. on January 26, 2011 to 5 p.m. on February 9, 2011. If you have any questions, please contact [AHRQ](#).

- **Important 5010/D.0 Implementation Reminders**

- ANNOUNCEMENT: January 1, 2011 marked the beginning of the 5010/D.0 transition year.
- READINESS ASSESSMENT: [Have you done the following to be ready for 5010/D.0?](#)
- READINESS ASSESSMENT: [What do you need to have in place to test with your MAC?](#)
- REMINDER: [5010/D.0 Errata requirements and testing schedule can be found here](#)
- REMINDER: [Contact your MAC for their testing schedule](#)

- **MLN Revised Article**

The Medicare Learning Network® (MLN) has revised MLN Matters Special Edition Article #SE1035, [“Claims Modifiers for Use in the Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies \(DMEPOS\) Competitive Bidding Program.”](#) to add language regarding the use of the KY modifier for purchased, covered accessories or supplies furnished for use with rented grandfathered equipment. This article informs providers about new Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) modifiers that have been developed for use in the Medicare DMEPOS Competitive Bidding Program. It is important that all providers and suppliers who provide DMEPOS affected by the Competitive Bidding Program use the appropriate modifiers when submitting claims to CMS.

- **HCPCS Collection Instrument**

The Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) collection instrument has been published in the [Federal Register Notice](#) for a 60-day comment period as part of the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) process. To obtain copies of the supporting statement and any related forms for the HCPCS collection, access [CMS' website](#). If you have comments regarding the proposed revision of this paperwork collection, please follow the instructions in the Federal Register Notice. To be assured consideration, comments and recommendations must be submitted by February 8, 2011. Please note that while the form includes CMS' proposed changes for 2013, the form is inadvertently dated 2012. The date will be corrected.

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Medicaid Initiative DVD now available – Information on obtaining the essential training needed to handle Medicaid in your facility and work with your county caseworker is now available on DVD. [“Conquer the Obstacles of Medicaid”](#) contains a comprehensive package of Medicaid rules, policies and how to navigate the program. The program is presented by Patti Wesenberg, a Medicaid Support Specialist for [ECS Billing & Consulting, Inc.](#), and is a joint venture of the Medicaid Initiative comprised of the three long-term care associations. The DVD and manual are available for \$325 (shipping included) and can be purchased by calling 614/832-4561 or [via email](#). [\(Back to top\)](#).

Want to earn FREE products and services? Refer a member today! – Do you know someone (that knows someone) that would be a good Academy member? Use your connections in the long-term care industry and refer a member! The Member Referral Program is specifically designed to:

- give members the opportunity to earn **free products and services**
 - increase the strength of the association through additional support and a wider range of services
 - keep reaching our goal together to improve the quality of life for the elderly in Ohio
- [Click here](#) to download the Member Referral application. Be the one to make a difference in the long-term care profession, and refer a member today! [\(Back to top\)](#).

Become more active in the Academy—join the OANH Billing Subcommittee – The OANH Billing Subcommittee is held quarterly by teleconference to discuss and resolve important

billing issues affecting the long-term care industry. The next subcommittee is Wednesday, January 26 at 10 a.m. If you would like to join, please email [Christina O'Neal](mailto:Christina.O'Neal) your name, title and facility/company. Further details will be sent out to members. ([Back to top](#)).

Attention administrators, DONs: Please take quick survey – If your facility practices consistent assignment, a building block of person-centered care, please take a quick [10-question survey](#). The results will help the Ohio Person-Centered Care Coalition (OPC3) learn more about consistent assignment. To become a registered member of the coalition and to get more involved, [click here](#). The next OPC3 membership meeting is February 18. ([Back to top](#)).

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