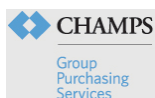




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Ready or not, it's coming!—MDS 3.0 – MDS 3.0 is being implemented October 1 and will bring many changes to your facility. Will you be ready? Plan to attend "**Essentials of MDS 3.0 Coding**" to help your facility prepare. Join ODH MDS/NATCEP Unit Supervisor and RAI Coordinator Patsy Strouse, RN for this timely program. Ms. Strouse was one of only two coordinators in the country to review and comment on the new MDS 3.0 Manual from the initial to final version. The Academy and AOPHA have partnered to offer this important course.

Dates and locations:

- **Tuesday, April 20**
Kings Island Resort & Conference Center
5691 Kings Island Dr.
Mason, Ohio 45040
- **Thursday, April 22**
Catering By Design
6465 Busch Blvd.
Columbus, OH 43229
- **Wednesday, April 28**
Crowne Plaza (Formerly Skyline Hotel)
5300 Rockside Rd.
Independence, OH 44131
- **Thursday, May 20**
Catering by Design
6465 Busch Blvd.
Columbus, OH 43229

The cost for this program is \$179 for OANH/AOPHA members and \$209 for non-members. Three or more members from same campus/facility are \$143 each. **This price includes the MDS 3.0 Manual!** Registration for this course begins at 8:30 a.m. The program is from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Six (6) CEUs have been approved for LNHAs, RNs, LPNs, LSWs; RD/LDs, activity professionals and CDMs eligible for comparable credit. Breaks, lunch and the manual are included in the program cost. AOPHA is handling all registrations for this program and information has been mailed and faxed. You can also register [online](#). For questions contact [Dawn Kennedy](#). ([Back to top](#)).

Fore! OANH PAC Golf Outing brochures headed your way – Keep an eye on your mailbox as the registration brochures the seventh Annual OANH PAC Golf Outing are headed your

way! This year the outing will take place on **Monday, May 24**. Academy members will once again enjoy the private greens at The Medallion Club in Westerville. Registration and lunch will begin at 11:30 a.m. with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. After a challenging game of golf, attendees will stay at the course for food, drinks and prizes at "19th Hole." Prices are \$250 per golfer or \$950 per foursome. For more information contact [Dawn Kennedy](#). ([Back to top](#)).

Save the date for Academy Billing Summit – Mark your calendar now for the upcoming OANH Billing Summit. This all day program is slated for **Tuesday, May 18 in Columbus**. Topics covered will include RACs, MICs, MIAs and various other billing compliance issues. More information will be faxed and emailed soon. For more information contact [Dawn Kennedy](#). ([Back to top](#)).

State begins to look at Medicaid aspects of federal health reform – The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) made significant changes to state Medicaid programs. Less than two weeks after the act passed, Ohio is already investigating the potential impact of these changes. The most significant relates to expanding Medicaid coverage for Covered Family and Children from 90% of the federal poverty level (FPL) to 133% of the FPL as required by the PPACA. An additional 275,000 people may be covered by Medicaid. Another federal mandate that could have a significant budget impact is equalizing the Medicaid rate with the Medicare rate for primary physicians. Currently, Medicaid pays just over half to two-thirds of the Medicare rate. In a change related to long-term care, the PPACA gives states more flexibility in offering some home and community based services as a state plan service instead of as a waiver service as done now. The implementation of these and other facets of the PPACA may take several years. The Academy will continue to monitor state laws and regulations and represent your interests as Ohio continues to review the PPACA and considers policy changes.
(Source: Gongwer Ohio Report, April 5, 2010) ([Back to top](#)).

ULTCS subcommittee charters established, continue work – The Unified Long-Term Care Systems (ULTCS) Workgroup ratified the charters of the subcommittees clearing the way for the subcommittees to begin working on recommendations to present to the ULTCS Workgroup. The subcommittees, which will tackle issues related to balancing, financing, eligibility, integration, care management, service array, and workforce, have to have recommendations with budget impacts for the next fiscal year finished by July 1, 2010. The subcommittees continued their work of collecting data and input from the various interested parties to develop those recommendations. Below are notes from two subcommittee meetings:

- **Eligibility Subcommittee** The Eligibility Subcommittee met to continue its work under the ULTCS Workgroup. ODJFS presented information about the recent Medicaid redetermination rule (5101:1-38-01 and 5101:1-38-02) and the Reinstatement of Medicaid for Public Institution Recipients (RoMPIR) to the group. The redetermination rule will allow for the face-to-face portion of the redetermination process to be eliminated. ODJFS also shared that starting October 2010 Medicaid applications will be available online to the public and will be able to be electronically submitted by consumers and their advocates. Other discussion centered around:
 - expedited eligibility for home and community based services beyond PASSPORT
 - increasing the personal needs allowance across settings and programs
 - counting judgments against a recipient as an allowable deduction in order to offsite the patient liability
 - changes to the assisted living waiver program
 - creating a state-funded room and board subsidy for individuals who are low income but not eligible for SSI to subsidize room and board in assisted living
- **Budget and Funding Subcommittee** The Budget and Funding Subcommittee heard presentations on an overview of the Medicaid program and the role the Executive Medicaid Management Agency (EMMA) will play in the upcoming budget process. The subcommittee requested more information on provider taxes and the impact of increasing the personal needs allowance. The subcommittee then discussed Ohio's current definition of "balancing" via the indicators being discussed for the State Profile Tool. Unfortunately, the "indicators" were created on data availability rather than on what would be a good indicator of a balanced system. Many of the indicators are focused on money and the use or availability of resources instead of consumer choice, needs, and health outcomes. The result of using such indicators to influence policy could be detrimental to Ohio's seniors.

For more information on the ULTCS Workgroup, please contact [Chris Murray](#). ([Back to top](#)).

Health Reform Analysis: Medicare billing deadline changed – Section 6404 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act amends Sections 1814(a), 1842(b)(3), and 1835(a) of the Social Security Act that establish the allowable timeframes for submitting Medicare claims. Instead of the current three calendar years, the act changes the maximum time for submission to one calendar year from the date of service and removes the “deeming any services furnished in the last three calendar months of any calendar year to have been furnished in the succeeding calendar year” language. The act does give the Secretary of Health and Human Services the ability to create exceptions to the one year deadline. Section 6404 (b) of the act establishes the implementation date for the new timeline: “shall apply to services furnished on or after January 1, 2010.” Furthermore, the act dictates that services furnished before January 1, 2010 shall be filed not later than December 31, 2010. For more information, please contact [Chris Murray](#). ([Back to top](#)).

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

- **New MLN Matters**

[Special Edition *MLN Matters Article # SE1011 - Edits on the Ordering/Referring Providers in Medicare Part B Claims \(Change Requests 6417, 6421, and 6696\)*](#) is now available. The article provides guidance on the edits required to be identified in Part B claims from Medicare providers or suppliers who furnish items or services as a result of orders or referrals. Medicare providers and suppliers who order or refer items or services for Medicare beneficiaries must submit an enrollment application to Medicare by using Internet-based Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System (PECOS), or by completing the paper enrollment application (CMS-855I).

- **New Data Format for Medicare National Correct Coding Initiative Edit Files**

Beginning with the April 2010 update, CMS will now post the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) Edit files in Excel 2007 and in text formats. Because Excel 2007 can support a larger number of rows, each code range will be contained in one file as opposed to multiple files. This should correct the incompatibility issues that some of our users experienced last quarter with the Excel 2003 files. Please be aware that Excel 2003 and earlier versions of the software have a maximum row count of 65,536. Some of the NCCI Edit files exceed the maximum row count. If you do not have Excel 2007, please use the text format to import the data into an application that can support larger files. For more information on NCCI edits and to download the files, visit the [web page](#).

- **CMS Issues Final Payment Policies for Medicare Advantage and Prescription Drug Plans**

CMS announced the capitation rates for Medicare Advantage plans for 2011. The 2011 Rate Announcement was accompanied by the final 2011 [Call Letter for Medicare Advantage \(Part C\)](#) and Medicare prescription drug (Part D) plans. CMS stated in the 2011 Advance Notice that, if new legislation was enacted after the Advance Notice was released, but before the Rate Announcement was published, changes would be incorporated into the Announcement. As required by Section 1102 of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, the capitation rates for 2011 are the same as the capitation rates for 2010. ([Back to top](#)).

Reserve your trade show booth NOW! – Many booths have already been reserved for the 2010 OANH Trade Show. To ensure placement in the booth of your choice, reserve yours today. The 2010 OANH Annual Convention & Trade Show will be held Oct. 20-22, 2010 (Wednesday - Friday) at the Hilton Columbus at Easton. Trade show hours will be very similar to the 2009 show. Booth prices are as follows:

- **Regular Booth Pricing**
Early Bird Booth Prices (Through June 30, 2010)
OANH Member: \$875
Non-Member: \$975

Regular Booth Prices (After June 30, 2010)
OANH Member: \$975
Non-Member: \$1075
- **Premium Booth Pricing**
Early Bird (Through June 30, 2010): \$1,075
Regular (After June 30, 2010): \$1,275

Contracts for 2010 are available via the [OANH website](#), or you can contact [Dawn Kennedy](#) to reserve your booth. ([Back to top](#)).

The Academy Advocate provides something for everyone – Whether it's the latest

industry information on critical issues, or a photo spread on our award winning facilities, *The Academy Advocate* has something for everyone. Here are two ways you can take advantage of the upcoming publication:

1) Participate in our Member Viewpoint

Are you using high-efficiency washers/dryers to decrease water consumption or eco-friendly detergent; recycling paper in your activities or billing department; or simply shutting your computers down every night to conserve energy? These are all different ways to be environmentally friendly. Some facilities are purchasing organic food, installing high-efficiency light bulbs, and using email to decrease the use of paper. And with spring finally here, many facilities are planting gardens, trees or flowers to not only make the landscape more tranquil, but to also improve the air quality. If you are using any of these practices, you are promoting green consciousness at your facility and the Academy would like to hear about it! The "Member Viewpoint" question for the upcoming issue of *The Academy Advocate* is: **"How do you keep your facility environmentally friendly and promote the importance of green consciousness and behavior?"** Please email your answer (250 words or less) to [Christina O'Neal](#). If your response is published, you will receive one free education course for 2010! All responses are due no later than April 30, 2010.

2) Purchase an advertising bundle

Don't miss your only opportunity to promote your products and services to every Academy administrator and owner by signing up for the new 2010 advertising bundle. Reserve your space today in the *OANH Membership Directory* and summer and winter issues of *The Academy Advocate* before April 30 and you will save 10% on your total cost. Your message will reach hundreds of potential customers! [Click here](#) to view ad measurements and prices.

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2010 Ohio government directories available to members for free – The Academy can help you become more involved in the legislative process by providing free copies of the *2010 Ohio Legislative and Government Directory, 129th General Assembly*. This directory contains a listing of Ohio's elected representatives: United State Senators and Representatives, Ohio Senators and Representatives, Governor, Lieutenant Governor and others, as well as committee information for both the Senate and House and Cabinet Member information. If you or your facility would like copies, please email [Christina O'Neal](#) at the Academy. To find out how to get more involved through the OANH Political Action Committee or to find your state representative or senator, [click here](#).

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