



Helping innovative long-term care professionals provide quality health care to Ohioans.

## OANH Premier Partners



Become a Premier Partner!

## FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2010 HEADLINES:

[Last chance for MDS 3.0](#)

[Academy Billing Summit slated for May 18](#)

[LTC Consumer Guide Advisory Council meeting notes](#)

[AL waiver transition study; ODA joins Facebook](#)

[Health Care Reform Analysis: Full disclosure](#)

[Update from CMS](#)

[OANH Premier Partners help keep your dues low](#)

[Back by popular demand! "Fire Prevention" classes scheduled for June](#)

[BWC introduces new Drug-Free Safety Program , offers paperless payroll option](#)

[Is your facility environmentally friendly? Tell us about it!](#)

**Last chance for MDS 3.0** – Are you registered for the upcoming "Essentials of MDS 3.0 Coding" seminar? Don't miss your chance to learn about the many changes the October 1 implementation of MDS 3.0 will bring to your facility. The speaker for this program is ODH MDS/NATCEP Unit Supervisor and RAI Coordinator Patsy Strouse, RN. 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](#)).

**Academy Billing Summit slated for May 18** – The world of SNF billing is always

changing. Plan on attending you the "**Academy Billing Summit**" to ensure your facility stays compliant with billing and all the issues surrounding it. The "Academy Billing Summit" is slated for Tuesday, May 18 in Columbus and will feature speakers from Cummins, Krasik & Hohl, ECS Billing & Consulting, Inc., Howard, Wershbale & Co. and Richter and Associates. Topics covered will include RACs, MICs, MIAs and various other billing compliance issues. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. The program is from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and includes lunch. This class has been approved for four (4) hours of CEU from BENHA. The cost for this program is \$99 for Academy members and \$139 for non-members. A member facility may send three employees for the discounted price of \$229, a savings of \$68. Information will be faxed soon or you can register [online](#). For more information contact [Dawn Kennedy](#). ([Back to top](#)).

**LTC Consumer Guide Advisory Council meeting notes** – The Long-Term Care Consumer Guide Advisory Council met this week to discuss the results of the resident satisfaction survey, the rollout of the family satisfaction survey, and possible changes to the rules. Below are notes from the meeting:

- **Resident satisfaction survey:** Vital Research, the contractor for the resident satisfaction survey, presented the results of the survey. They noted that all but two skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) and seven residential care facilities (RCFs) participated in the survey. Based on the statewide results of the survey, the highest priority domains for improvement are direct care and nursing assistants, general satisfaction, and meals. Council members raised concerns about dementia individuals responding to the survey and impacting the results. Vital Research and Dr. Jane Straker noted that the survey was designed to take these individuals into account and if the person could not answer the questions they were not included. Agreement was reached to share research on how accurate survey data is from individuals with various levels of dementia. The council also discussed including areas of improvement for each facility based on that facility's survey results. ODA is willing to consider including that information with the next survey. [Statewide results of the survey can be downloaded here](#).
- **Family satisfaction survey:** SCRIPPS Gerontology Center at Miami University will be conducting the family satisfaction survey this summer. Surveys are expected to be out mid-June and facilities should receive enough surveys for most family members. There were little changes made to the 2010 survey from the 2008 survey, however, SCRIPPS will have the survey available online for family members. The facility audit forms will also be available online. SCRIPPS will also be cross-training the helpline staff to improve that service.
- **Consumer guide rule changes:** ODA is willing to incorporate the ability for facilities to request a review of their survey results under certain conditions. The Academy advocated for this change because of members expressing concern over significant changes in their score and the inability to have any quality assurance measure done on the result. ODA is also willing to include the current survey methodology and quality assurances in the rules to ensure transparency and consistency regardless of who the contracted entity is that performs the surveys. ODA is going to continue to review the comments and determine if any require revised code changes.

For more information on the LTC Consumer Guide Advisory Council, please contact [Chris Murray](#). ([Back to top](#)).

**AL waiver transition study; ODA joins Facebook** – The Ohio State University conducted a study on the transition of individuals into assisted living (AL) facilities under the Medicaid AL waiver program. The objective of the study was to determine factors that hinder or help a successful transition. The study sampled AL waiver participating facilities with high enrollment in the waiver program and focused on the question: What do participating providers in the Ohio Medicaid Assisted Living Waiver Program identify as contributing factors and barriers to a successful consumer transition? Study findings support previous research that indicated resident awareness of what to expect, level of expectation, physical and cognitive functional limitations of the individual, and mental health and level of resident self-confidence to adapt were key components of a successful transition. The study also found that a licensed social worker within the facility had little importance for success and AL providers indicated issues around payment structure and financial liability, psychosocial needs, and communication were additional components of a successful transition. The Ohio Department of Aging (ODA) plans on having the complete results of the study posted to its website in early May. In somewhat related news, ODA has decided to join the social media realm by creating a Facebook page. ODA notes that the number of people over the age of 50 using social media continues to grow. ODA believes Facebook will allow greater communication between the department and the individuals it serves. Information on a photo contest and how Facebook members can

become friends is available [here](#). For more information, please contact [Chris Murray](#). ([Back to top](#)).

**Health Care Reform Analysis: Full disclosure** – The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) contained a section subtitled “Nursing Home Transparency and Improvement.” The transparency portion (Section 1601) requires a nursing home to release certain information to the federal Department of Health and Human Services Secretary or Inspector General, or the State, or the State long-term care ombudsman on request (effective with the signing of the act). The information will also be made available to the general public once standardized forms are developed. The information to be provided includes the governing body, managing employees, organizational structure; persons or entities that manage the fiscal, operation or policies of the facility; persons or entities involved in providing financial or operational services or consulting; and those who lease or sublease the property or the owner of a whole or part interest in any mortgage, deed of trust, note, or other obligation secured, in whole or in part, by the entity or any of the property or assets thereof, if the interest is equal to or exceeds five percent of the total property or assets of the entirety. If the information is already provided to the government on a form (example: tax documents), then the facility can provide the form when a request is made for the information until the standardized forms are developed. HHS is supposed to develop the standardized forms for facilities to report the information by April, 2012. Final regulations and implementation of the standardized forms is to be done by June of 2012. For more information on PPACA, 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:

- **Survey & Certification Memos**

- [10-13: Approval of Deeming Authority of the Accreditation Commission for Health Care \(ACHC\) for Hospices \(4/2/10\)](#)

This memorandum announces CMS’ decision to approve ACHC for recognition as a national accreditation program for hospices seeking to participate in the Medicare or Medicaid programs.

- [10-14: Guidance to Surveyors Regarding the STERIS SYSTEM 1® Sterile Processing System \(SS1\) \(4/2/10\)](#)

The FDA has reported that the manufacturer of the SS1 has significantly modified the device, and the FDA has not approved or cleared this modified product. Thus, the FDA has not determined whether the SS1 is safe or effective for its labeled claims. The FDA recommends an 18-month period during which healthcare facilities should identify legally marketed equipment to replace the use of the SS1. This applies to any healthcare facility using the SS1. Instructions are outlined for when and at what level surveyors should cite continued use of the SS1. The manufacturer is seeking FDA approval of the modified SS1. Updated guidance will be provided if approval is granted.

- **Five-Star Quality Rating System – April News**

The Five-Star provider preview reports will be available no later than Wednesday, April 14, 2010. Providers can access the report from the Minimum Data Set (MDS) State Welcome pages available at the State servers for submission of Minimum Data Set data. Provider Preview access information:

- Visit the MDS State Welcome page available on the state servers where you submit MDS data to review your results.
- The helpline will be available from April 14 to 29 for questions and concerns about the April data. Alternatively, providers can write to [BetterCare@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:BetterCare@cms.hhs.gov).
- Nursing Home Compare will update with April’s Five-Star data on Thursday, April 22.
- [Click here](#) for the latest Five-Star Quality Rating system information.

- **Fifth National Medicare Fee-For-Service (FFS) Education Call on HIPAA Version 5010**

CMS will be hosting its fifth national provider call regarding the implementation of HIPAA Version 5010 on Wednesday, April 28 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. There will be a brief presentation given by CMS followed by a Q&A session with CMS subject matter experts. Please note that this call is geared towards vendors, clearinghouses, and providers who are performing their own development of 5010. [Click here to register for the call](#).

- **Guidance Issued on Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act**

CMS announced the release of the first letter in a series of guidance regarding the Medicaid changes and improvements that are included in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (PPACA) as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010. Specifically, this letter provides initial guidance on section 2001 of the Affordable Care Act, [Medicaid Coverage for the Lowest Income Populations](#), which establishes a new Medicaid eligibility group and the option for States to begin providing medical assistance to individuals eligible under this new group as of April 1,

2010

- **Health Reform**

The White House has prepared 10 one-pagers on what health care means to different communities of Americans. These communities are: families, children, young adults, early retirees, seniors, African Americans, Latinos, rural Americans, women and small businesses. [Download the documents here.](#) [\(Back to top\).](#)

**OANH Premier Partners help keep your dues low** – Did you know that one of the most effective ways for trade associations to help keep dues in check is through non-dues revenue? The Academy's [Premier Partners](#) have demonstrated their loyalty and commitment to our association through a marketing-based financial partnership with the Academy. Their generous participation enables the Academy to keep our dues the lowest of the three long-term care associations in Ohio. So check out the companies on the left sidebar of our newsletter and thank them for their dedication to the Academy—and the long-term care profession as a whole! [Click here for more information on becoming a Premier Partner.](#) [\(Back to top\).](#)

**Back by popular demand! “Fire Prevention” classes scheduled for June** – Once again the Academy will help prevent your facility from getting cited by code enforcement for Fire Code violations by offering “**Fire Prevention: Safety & Code Enforcement.**” This popular regional education class will review common citations and answer questions specific to your facility. Each class will feature both a Fire Safety Educator and a Code Enforcement Official from the Ohio Department of Commerce Division of State Fire Marshal. Fire Prevention: Safety & Code Enforcement will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will include lunch. This class has been approved for four (4) hours of CEU from BENHA. Academy members may attend this popular program for \$89 and non-members may attend for \$129. A member facility may send three employees for the discounted price of \$199, a savings of \$68! This is great opportunity for administrators, maintenance directors and nursing staff to learn together how to make their facilities safer. Dates and locations:

- **Columbus – Wednesday, June 16**  
Confluence Park Restaurant  
679 W. Spring Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215
- **Cincinnati – Tuesday, June 22**  
Kings Island Resort and Conference  
5691 Kings Island Drive  
Mason, Ohio 45011
- **Cleveland - Thursday, June 24**  
Crowne Plaza (Formerly Skyline Hotel)  
5300 Rockside Rd.  
Independence, OH 44131

Watch your fax and email for more information or you can register [online](#). For questions, contact [Dawn Kennedy.](#) [\(Back to top\).](#)

**BWC introduces new Drug-Free Safety Program , offers paperless payroll option** – The Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) provided the following updates on its activities:

- **Drug-Free Safety Program (DFSP)**

BWC's Board of Directors voted at its March meeting to adopt the new Drug-Free Safety Program (DFSP) to promote the health of Ohio's work force and to prevent work place injuries attributed to the use or abuse of alcohol and drugs. The new program, which becomes effective July 1, 2010, features a streamlined focus on safety and offers improved measurement and evaluation tools to maintain effectiveness. In addition, the DFSP: replaces the Drug-Free Workplace Program (DFWP); extends eligibility to more employers; eliminates the current program's participation limit of five years; is available to group rated employers and employers who maxed out of the DFWP; and provides premium discounts from three to seven percent. All current and past DFWP employers are encouraged to participate in the new DFSP. **The application deadline for the DFSP period of July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011, is June 30, 2010.** The deadline for the program period beginning January 1, 2011, is the last business day in October 2010. For more information on the program and how to apply, [click here](#).

- **Paperless payroll option**

BWC has a new paperless option that will notify employers of important deadlines by email and allow them to securely pay their premiums online and make future date payments. Employers who are

interested in signing up for paperless payroll should [click here](#) to begin receiving email alerts in time for the July 1, 2010 payroll report. ([Back to top](#)).

**Is your facility environmentally friendly? Tell us about it!** – Are you using high-efficiency washers/dryers or eco-friendly detergent; recycling paper in your activities or billing department; or simply shutting down your computers every night? These are all different ways to not only decrease water consumption and conserve energy but to also SAVE MONEY! 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 make the landscape more tranquil and to improve the air quality. If you are using any of these practices, you are promoting green consciousness AND saving money 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. ([Back to top](#)).

*A publication of The Ohio Academy of Nursing Homes, Inc. All rights reserved. 2010 ©  
To unsubscribe from this newsletter, [click here](#) and type "unsubscribe" in the subject line.*