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Don't miss your shot—sign up for the PAC Golf Outing – Don't "bogey" and miss your chance to support the Academy in the upcoming OANH Political Action Committee (PAC) Golf Outing. This annual event is the Academy's largest PAC fundraiser and we need YOU to keep it on "par." Participating in the outing helps the PAC earn funds to give the Academy a strong voice in legislative matters. **If you aren't participating, you aren't helping.** Register now to show members you support their association by being a part of this annual member favorite. This year the outing will take place on Monday, May 24 at the private Medallion Club in Westerville, Ohio. 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 the "19th Hole" reception. Prices are \$250 per golfer or \$950 per foursome. Registration brochures have been mailed and you can also view the brochure [online](#). For more information and to discuss sponsorship opportunities, contact [Dawn Kennedy](#). ([Back to top](#)).

Is YOUR facility ready for federal audits? – Ensure your facility is ready for the upcoming federal audits by attending the "**Academy Billing Summit**." The world of SNF billing is ever-changing, and this program will help your facility remain 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, Wershbaile & 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](#)).

SCRIPPS to study PAA SNF diversion strategies – The SCRIPPS Gerontology Center at Miami University is in the process of evaluating nursing home diversion and transition strategies. The study is being funded by the Ohio Department of Aging (ODA) and Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS). Amended Substitute House Bill 1 of the 128th General Assembly provided ODA more flexibility in implementing diversion strategies including care management at facilities, access to more patient specific data, and increases in care plan costs. To date, ODA has been allowing the Passport Administrative Agencies (PAAs) to implement the strategies with little direction. The SCRIPPS study will look at the different diversion or transition intervention strategies in use and follow the individuals' outcomes. It will also look at the systems and processes the PAAs use. The

study is to provide ODA and ODJFS with baseline information to aid in the development of statewide diversion and transition practices. SCRIPPS anticipates having results by April 2011. At a meeting with stakeholders, ODA provided a list of current practices being done by various PAAs including staff dedicated to certain facilities and/or hospitals, the targeting of facilities based upon criteria such as deficiencies, better partnerships with ombudsmen, and increased use of pre-admission data. PAAs are implementing these strategies using current resources. For more information, please contact [Chris Murray](#). ([Back to top](#)).

AL waiver update – The Ohio Department of Aging (ODA) provided the following assisted living (AL) waiver information:

- Census: 2,154; providers: 247
- Clarification of conditions of participation rule 173-39-02 (E)(4) (d): *The provider shall not allow a staff person to provide a service to a consumer if the person is a spouse, parent, step-parent, legal guardian, or authorized representative of the consumer.*
 - The rule doesn't allow the staff person to provide any element of the assisted living waiver service that is being obtained through the waiver if they meet the above criteria. For example, the waiver participant's care plan indicates the AL waiver provider will be responsible for medication administration. The facility RN is the waiver participant's authorized representative. She is not permitted to administer medications to this consumer.
 - This rule doesn't prohibit the staff persons' family members from being residents of the facility or prevent family members from participating in the care of a family member receiving waiver services.
 - Evidence of compliance: It's typical for the PAA to request a policy describing how the facility will ensure this rule requirement is met. The recommendation is for the policy language to be specific to residents participating in the waiver program.
- ODA-certified long-term care providers are required to inform the PAA within 30 days of any changes in licensure, certification, ownership, control, operational management, address, business name, telephone number and/or federal tax identification number. These changes impact the Medicaid Provider number, the contract with the PAA, and ultimately the facilities' eligibility as a waiver provider and for waiver reimbursement.
- Any provider type (including facilities participating in the ALW) that has been issued a signed Medicaid Provider Agreement with Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) and has not billed for services in a two year period will receive a letter from ODJFS stating the Medicaid Provider Agreement is being terminated. The provider may contact ODJFS to request the Provider Agreement remain active. The termination of the Medicaid Provider Agreement will result in the facility being ineligible to provide assisted living waiver services and would require the facility to complete the ODA certification process again in order to re-instate the facility's waiver provider status.

Contact [Chris Murray](#) at the Academy for more information. ([Back to top](#)).

ODH updates CON bed need; FPF rates set on May 1 licensed beds – The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) has updated the county bed need amounts based upon corrected data. ODH will accept certificate of need (CON) applications for capacity increases based on the inter-county relocation of beds only from July 1, 2010 through July 30, 2010. The new information can be found on ODH's [website](#). Providers are reminded that the franchise permit fee amount (FPF) is determined on the number of licensed beds on May 1. In order to avoid paying the FPF on a bed, the provider must de-license and de-certify the bed, thus effectively forfeiting all rights to operate the bed (beds cannot be licensed or certified for use in the future). ODH can be reached at 614/752-9524 or LICCERT@odh.ohio.gov. ([Back to top](#)).

Update from CMS – Following is a compilation of information recently provided by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for long-term care providers:

• **CMS Asking for Feedback on Healthcare Reform**

CMS is asking nursing homes for feedback on a number of different healthcare reforms that are expected to take effect soon. In a letter sent last week to nursing homes, CMS asked stakeholders to "comment, make suggestions, or express concerns about any of the areas for which the Survey & Certification Group has full or partial responsibility." The letter included several examples of areas of the healthcare reform legislation that affect nursing homes, including: disclosure of ownership, ethics and compliance programs, the Nursing Home Compare website, the national nurse aide registry and a national program for background checks on long-term care employees. Because of the time-

sensitive nature of some of the reform measures, CMS has requested that feedback be sent by May 5. [View the letter here for more information.](#)

- **CMS to Waive Ban on Nurse-Aide Training Program in Some Civil Monetary Penalty Cases**

CMS recently published a rule in the Federal Register that will permit a waiver in some cases of the two-year ban on nurse-aide training. This will apply to facilities assessed a civil money penalty (CMP) of at least \$5,000 for noncompliance that is not related to quality of care. The rule applies only to the CMP disapproval trigger. It does not cover other events that would trigger nurse aide training disapproval. CMS will evaluate submitted waiver requests on a case-by-case basis. The rule is set to take effect May 24. Another provision in the rule would require states to establish a procedure to permit a nurse aide to petition the state to have a single finding of neglect removed from the nurse-aide registry. This would take place if the state determines that the finding was a single occurrence, and does not indicate a pattern of abuse or neglect. CMS said it will continue to evaluate this provision before deciding whether or not to implement it.

- **SNF PPS PC Pricer Files Updated for FY10**

Due to receiving corrected quarterly provider data for April 2010, the FY 2010 SNF PPS PC Pricer has been updated under the [“Skilled Nursing Facilities \(SNF PPS\) PC Pricer.”](#)

- **ICD-10-CM National Provider Conference Call Transcripts Now Available**

The written and oral transcripts of the [Basic Introduction to ICD-10-CM National Provider Conference Call](#), which was conducted by CMS on March 23, 2010, are now available.

- **Special Edition MLN Matters Article #SE1008 - Medicare Coverage of Blood Glucose Monitors and Testing Supplies**

CMS has released a Special Edition MLN Matters article, [SE1008, “Medicare Coverage of Blood Glucose Monitors and Testing Supplies.”](#) to advise providers of what glucose self-testing equipment and supplies are covered for Medicare beneficiaries and what documentation is required for the beneficiary’s medical record.

(NOTE: Information also provided by McKnight’s Long-Term Care News & Assisted Living, [www.mcknights.com.](#))
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AME provides medical innovation to Academy members – American Medical Equipment (AME), an Academy [Premier Partner](#), is well recognized as a leading provider of medical products and clinical services for patients from hospital to home. Hospitals and nursing facilities benefit from AME's specialty solutions: Wound Care & Negative Pressure Wound Therapy (NPWT), Bariatrics and Patient Safety. AME is driven by a pioneering spirit, constantly looking for the best medical innovations and then offering it affordably to customers. AME's Homecare & Hospice Division provides comprehensive equipment solutions for the homebound patient. In addition to Wound Care and Bariatrics, AME also specializes in Power Mobility, Accessibility (Lifts & Ramps) and Respiratory Solutions for the Homebound Patient. AME has been serving the long-term care community since 1993, is a CMS Competitive Bidding Award Winner, and is ACHC Accredited. AME offers Academy members Partnership Solutions, including electronic/web based ordering; protocol development; continuing education programs; utilization reporting; and AME Asset Manager Software Solution. To find out how your facility can benefit from AME’s knowledge and experience, contact [Tushar Shah](#) at 614/237-1133. Visit AME online at [www.ame-medical.com.](#) ([Back to top.](#))

Guarantee your booth NOW! – Have you sent in your booth contract for the **2010 OANH Annual Convention & Trade Show**? Many booths are already reserved, so make certain you get the booth you want by reserving 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 [online](#). If you have any questions about the convention, contact

[Dawn Kennedy. \(Back to top\).](#)

An ad in the directory will let everyone know who you are and what you do – The OANH *Membership Directory* is a valuable resource to industry leaders, as it contains information on all Academy members and pertinent legislative contacts. Get your ad in front of these decision-makers and everyone will know who you are, what you do, and how you serve the long-term care profession. Be creative and highlight your products and services and show that your company supports the Academy! [Click here](#) to reserve your ad. **The deadline for advertisements is Friday, May 21.** Ads received after this date may not be published. Burgie MediaFusion will publish the directory. [\(Back to top\).](#)

Residents' Rights booklets—the more you buy, the more you save! – The Academy is currently offering small (5 ½" x 8 ½") and large (8 ½" x 11") Residents' Rights booklets to all members and non-members at new prices. The [order form](#) can be found on the Academy's website under Membership Info. The booklets include the Ohio Revised Code, sections 3721.10 through 3721.17 and 3721.19, and Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42, subsections 483.10, .12, .13 and .15. Shipping costs do apply. For more information, contact [Christina O'Neal](#) at the Academy. [\(Back to top\).](#)

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