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ODJFS offers free MDS Section Q webinar – Join experts from the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services (ODJFS) for a free webinar on Ohio's implementation of MDS Section Q on Wednesday, June 15 from 1 to 3 p.m. To reserve your webinar seat, you must register [online](#). After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about the webinar. As a high number of participants are expected, ODJFS asks that you please conserve resources and facilitate group participation from your organization if a number of staff are interested. This webinar will provide an overview and outline the implementation of MDS Section Q in Ohio, explain how the referral process works in Ohio's implementation plan and identify the role of the state agencies, the local contact agencies and the nursing facility. The webinar will also address questions regularly received about Ohio's implementation of Section Q. If you have further questions about the webinar, contact [Terry Moore](#), MDS Section Q Statewide Manager. ([Back to top](#)).

It's back...Fire Prevention! – This popular regional education program, which helps prevent facilities from being cited by code enforcement for Fire Code violations, is back! **"Fire Prevention: Safety & Code Enforcement"** 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:

- **Wilmington - Monday, June 20**
Roberts Centre
123 Gano Rd.
Wilmington, OH 45177
- **Cleveland - Tuesday, June 21**
Crowne Plaza (formerly Skyline Hotel)
5300 Rockside Rd.
Independence, OH 44131

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

Monthly provider meeting notes – The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) met with long-term care associations and other interested parties at the monthly provider meeting last Thursday, May 19. At the meeting, ODH noted that effective July 1, 2011, the Self-Reported Incident submission process will be fully converted to an automated electronic system which will eliminate the burden of paper reporting. On this date, district offices will no longer routinely process incident reports received via fax or alternate methods. If a provider experiences an Internet outage or similar failure after July 1, they may temporarily notify the district office via alternate method, but will still be expected to submit the Self-Reported Incident online once service is restored. If you are a current Enhanced Information Dissemination & Collection (EIDC) user, use your existing account and access [EIDC here](#). To request a username and password, [click here](#) and select "EIDC User Account Request." Please call 614/995-4263 or [email ODH](#), if you have any technical questions or issues. ([Back to top](#)).

Chester Willcox & Saxbe, LLP covers a wide array of practice areas – Chester Willcox & Saxbe, LLP is a premier litigation and general business corporate law firm that has the breadth and depth of knowledge in a wide array of [practice areas](#) that makes them both reliable and efficient. CWS continues to build on its history of excellence and commitment to quality, always striving to meet the expectations of their clients through accessible, responsive, quality services in a cost-effective manner. Visit May's OANH Premier Partner [online](#) or call Geoffrey Webster, Partner, at 614/334-6196 to see what they can do for you. ([Back to top](#)).

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

- **Reminder: National Version 5010 Testing Day**

The Version 5010 compliance date—Sunday, January 1, 2012—is fast approaching. All HIPAA-covered entities should be taking steps now to get ready, including conducting external testing to ensure timely compliance. Medicare Fee-for-Service (FFS) trading partners are encouraged to contact their Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) now and facilitate testing to gain a better understanding of MAC testing protocols and the transition to Version 5010. To assist in this effort, CMS, in conjunction with the Medicare FFS Program, announces a National 5010 Testing Day to be held **Wednesday, June 15, 2011**. National 5010 Testing Day is an opportunity for trading partners to come together and test compliance efforts that are already underway with the added benefit of real-time help desk support and direct and immediate access to MACs. [Click here](#) for more information on HIPAA Version 5010.

- **“Fillable” Medicare Enrollment Application Forms**

Medicare enrollment application forms are fillable on your computer. Completing the forms this way before printing, signing and mailing provides easy-to-read information, which means fewer mistakes, questions, and delays when your application is processed. Plus, you can easily save and print your application for your records. You'll find the Medicare provider enrollment application forms available on the [CMS website](#):

- [CMS 855A – Application for Institutional Providers](#)
- [CMS 855B – Application for Clinics, Group Practices, and Certain Other Suppliers](#)
- [CMS 855I – Application for Physicians and Non-Physician Practitioners](#)
- [CMS 855R – Application for Reassignment of Medicare Benefits](#)
- [CMS 855S – Application for Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies \(DMEPOS\) Suppliers](#)

Signatures are still required to be handwritten. Don't forget to complete this important step prior to mailing your typed form(s). Visit [Internet-Based PECOS](#) to learn more.

- **General Equivalence Mappings (GEMs)**

CMS and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) created the national version of the GEMs to ensure that consistency in national data is maintained. The GEMs are tools that act mainly as a crosswalk between the ICD-9 and ICD-10 codes. You can look up an ICD-9 code and be provided with the most appropriate ICD-10 matches and vice versa. They are not a substitute for learning the new ICD-10 codes; however, they can assist users doing the following:

- Translating lists of codes, code tables, or other coded data
- Converting a system or application containing ICD-9-CM codes
- Creating a “one-to-one” applied mapping (aka crosswalk) between code sets that will be used in an ongoing way to translate records or other coded data
- Studying the differences in meaning between the ICD-9-CM classification systems and the ICD-10-CM/PCS classification systems by looking at the GEMs entries for a given code or area of classification

The 2011 GEMs are posted to the CMS ICD–10 website. As a reminder, if you plan to use a GEM, per the Affordable Care Act, you must use the GEMs posted to the CMS website. For more information on the GEMs, look at the [GEMs Fact Sheet](#) and the [GEMs pages](#) of the ICD–10 website.

- **Partial Code Freeze**

Because continuous updates and changes to the existing code sets have the potential to make the transition to ICD–10 difficult, CMS will be implementing a partial code freeze on October 1, 2011. This is the last day for regular updates to both the ICD-9 and ICD–10 code sets. Starting October 1, 2012 there will be only limited code updates to ICD–9–CM and ICD–10 code sets to capture new technology and new diseases. There will be no updates to ICD–9–CM on October 1, 2013 as the system will no longer be a HIPAA standard. [Click here](#) for the latest news and resources to help you prepare.

- **From the MLN**

A new publication titled “[Comprehensive Error Rate Testing \(CERT\) – Evaluation and Management \(E/M\) Services: Overview](#)” is now available in downloadable format from the Medicare Learning Network®. This fact sheet is designed to provide education on Evaluation and Management Services to Medicare Fee-For-Service providers, and includes information on the documentation needed to support a claim submitted to Medicare for medical services.

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Senators request ACO rule withdrawal – Seven Republican Senators have asked the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to withdraw a proposed regulation creating accountable care organizations, according to [a letter](#) released Tuesday. The letter cites “an increasingly diverse chorus of concerns many of our nation’s leading health care institutions have raised in recent days. The correspondence was sent to HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius and CMS Director Donald Berwick, M.D. While the Senators complimented the work put into the ACO draft, the letter states “based on the feedback we have received from providers around the country, we conclude that the proposed ACO regulation will fail to accomplish its purpose.” Organizations have raised concerns about possibly high start up costs. CMS’ proposed program would allow healthcare providers to share in savings resulting from high-quality treatment, but opponents have said the ACO start-up costs will be much higher than government estimates.

(Source: McKnight’s Long-Term Care News & Assisted Living, 05/25/11, www.mcknights.com)

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MITS update – The new Medicaid Information Technology System (MITS), which goes live in Ohio August 2, 2011, will process claims more quickly and accurately than ever before. It is easy to use and has many self-service features. View [Provider Readiness Release 5](#) which provides information on two different types of training available to the provider community: instructor led and self paced eTutorials. For the most up-to-date information about the MITS Web Portal, MITS functionality and other provider resources to help prepare you for the transition, [click here](#). [\(Back to top\).](#)

Don't "press your luck" and miss the Early Bird deadline for a trade show

booth – Don't "press your luck" and miss the great discount an Early Bird booth offers. Now is the time for a prime spot at the 2011 game show-themed OANH Annual Convention & Trade Show. This annual member favorite will be held Oct. 19-21, 2011 (Wednesday - Friday) at the Hilton Columbus at Easton. Booth prices are as follows:

- **Regular Booth Pricing**

Early Bird Booth Prices (Through June 30, 2011)

OANH Member: \$875

Non-Member: \$975

Regular Booth Prices (After June 30, 2011)

OANH Member: \$975

Non-Member: \$1,075

- **Premium Booth Pricing**

Early Bird (Through June 30, 2011): \$1,075

Regular (After June 30, 2011): \$1,275

The [Exhibitor Prospectus](#) has been mailed, so please complete and return it to the Academy or contact [Dawn Kennedy](#) today to reserve your spot. [\(Back to top\).](#)

Federal funding for age-related diseases and illnesses declining, report says –

Government funding for age-related health conditions, particularly Alzheimer's, is drying up, says a new report from the Alzheimer's Foundation of America. Congress cut National Institutes of Health

funding by 1% this year; the report states NIH spends about \$469 million on Alzheimer's research. Officials there say that for every six grants they receive requesting funding for medical research, they can only fund one project. Researchers say that for Alzheimer's investigators to get more dollars requires other serious diseases, such as heart disease and cancer, to lose out. The report finds that the National Institute on Aging receives 3.6 cents for every dollar Congress sends to the NIH, compared with three to four times that much for heart disease and cancer. Costs for Alzheimer's treatments are expected to increase dramatically. Currently, 5.4 million Americans have Alzheimer's and studies estimate that health and nursing home expenditures for it cost more than \$170 billion a year, much of which is paid by Medicare and Medicaid. In testimony before a Senate appropriations committee, NIH Director Francis Collins, M.D., Ph.D., said that by 2050, more than 13 million Americans are projected to have Alzheimer's, and expenditures are expected to reach \$1 trillion. (Source: McKnight's Long-Term Care News & Assisted Living, 05/24/11, www.mcknights.com) ([Back to top](#)).

Coming soon: *The 2011 OANH Membership Directory & Resource Guide* – *The 2011 OANH Membership Directory & Resource Guide* will soon be in your mailbox! This issue contains alphabetical listings, including addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers and websites of our facility and associate members. The directory also includes a government index, which contains: the Ohio Delegation of the U.S. Congress, Elected Officials, Senate and House of Representatives. Keep a copy of this industry resource within reach and when you use the directory to contact Academy members, tell them where you found their name! Thank you to the following members who purchased ads in this issue—your support continues to enable the Academy to seek new goals and initiatives: Accu Medical Waste Services; Benesch; CHAMPS Management Services; Chester Willcox & Saxbe, LLP/Geoffrey Webster; CompManagement, Inc.; Gaslite Villa Health Care; Gulf South Medical Supply; H&G Nursing Homes (Adams County Manor); HW&Co.; Love Funding; McKesson Medical Surgical; MetroHealth; Mosaic Design Studio; National Eligibility Solutions, Inc.; Plante & Moran, PLLC; PrevMED (Senior Dental Insurance Solutions); Reminger Co., LPA; Resor Financial Group; Risk Management Solutions; Salsbury & Salsbury, LPA; Senior Healthcare Associates; Taft, Stettinius & Hollister, LLP; and Weltman, Weinberg & Reis, LPA. ([Back to top](#)).

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