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Nursing home family satisfaction surveys arriving mid-June – The Ohio Department of Aging (ODA) is conducting the 2010 Nursing Home Family Member Satisfaction Survey. Beginning in mid-June, providers will begin receiving survey materials from Scripps Gerontology Center. It is very important that providers notify staff to be on the lookout for the survey delivery, marked with brightly colored 2010 Family Satisfaction Survey stickers. Instructions on the survey process will be included with the delivery. Providers will also be receiving flyers and a sample newsletter or bill insert text separately from ODA to help increase family participation. For more information about these surveys, please visit [ODA's Family Satisfaction Survey Website](#), call the toll-free survey helpline at 866/300-6911, or email familysurvey@muohio.edu. ([Back to top](#)).

Don't miss yearly "Fire Prevention" class – Have you registered for the upcoming "Fire Prevention: Safety & Code Enforcement?" This class is just around the corner, so make sure you prevent your facility from getting cited by code enforcement for Fire Code violations by attending. 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.

- **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

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

Convention reminders: “Early Bird” discount, sleeping rooms, and going green! – Be "groovy" and save your company \$100 by reserving your trade show booth for the 70s-themed 2010 OANH Annual Convention & Trade Show **before June 25**. 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 25, 2010)
OANH Member: \$875
Non-Member: \$975
Regular Booth Prices (After June 25, 2010)
OANH Member: \$975
Non-Member: \$1,075
- **Premium Booth Pricing**
Early Bird (Through June 25, 2010): \$1,075
Regular (After June 25, 2010): \$1,275

The 2010 Exhibitor & Sponsor Prospectus has been mailed. The prospectus and contracts for 2010 are available via the [OANH website](#). **Sleeping rooms:** The Hilton Columbus at Easton always sells out quickly, so if you haven't reserved your sleeping room, do so today. The Academy has negotiated a special discounted rate for a limited number of sleeping rooms. To make a reservation, call the Hilton at 614/414-5000 and mention the [group code NUR](#), or you can reserve your rooms [online](#). **No paper handouts:** Just a reminder that the convention is “going green” this year, so instead of receiving paper handouts at the individual educational sessions, you will receive a CD with handouts for the entire convention. It's a win for the environment and attendees! Paper handouts will still be available for an additional charge. If you have questions about the convention, please contact [Dawn Kennedy](#). ([Back to top](#)).

Bundled services providers' charges – On June 1, the Academy issued a Member Update containing information on the delivery of bundled services by an entity with which the skilled nursing facility is not contracted. The information stated that *“If a hospital or other health care provider contracts for medical transportation services, a nursing facility, not having a contract for such services, is under no obligation to pay for the transportation service.”* To read the Member Update in its entirety, [click here](#). Specific questions should be directed to your counsel. ([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:

- **Survey & Certification Memos**
 - [10-17: End Stage Renal Disease \(ESRD\) Program Survey Guidance on Patient Care Dialysis Technicians \(PCTs\) Certification \(revised 5/14/10\)](#)

This memo, originally released on April 23, was rereleased on May 14. The revision contains a new version of the Surveyor Worksheet and clarifies the use of the worksheet. CMS regulations require certification by April 15, 2010 of PCTs who have been employed in dialysis facilities since October 14, 2008. PCTs hired after October 14, 2008 must be certified within 18 months of their date of hire. During surveys conducted after April 15, 2010, surveyors are expected to assess the certification status of the PCTs employed at ESRD facilities for determination of compliance with this requirement. Facilities should be cited at the Condition level if most of their PCTs are not certified as required. Standard or Condition level deficiencies may be cited under the Condition for Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement depending on the extent of the deficient practice. CMS will use administrative sources to verify that a plan of correction will be implemented.

- [10-18: Revision of S&C-04-41 dated August 12, 2004, Corridor Width & Corridor Mounted Computer Touch Screens in Health Care Facilities – Clarification Effective Immediately \(5/14/10\)](#)

This letter addresses CMS' policy regarding the use of corridor wall-mounted computer touch. Corridor wall mounted technologies and other items, if properly installed, shall not be considered corridor obstructions. Other items may be considered corridor obstructions.

- [10-19: Posting of Quality of Care and Quality of Life Indicators \(QCLIs\) on the Quality](#)

[Improvement Evaluation System \(QIES\) Technical Support Website \(5/21/10\)](#)

QCLIs threshold change information is publically accessible on the Quality Improvement Evaluation System (QIES) technical support office ([QTSO website](#)), under the QIS link.

○ [10-20: Ambulatory Surgical Center \(ASC\) Waiting Area Separation Requirements \(5/21/10\)](#)
ASC regulations require these facilities to be distinct entities, solely providing surgical services, and containing separate waiting areas which must meet Life Safety Code (LSC) requirements for Ambulatory Health Care occupancies. Waivers will be considered for existing ASCs that share a waiting area with other building occupants when compliance with the LSC requirements is not currently feasible. Interim separation barrier and signage is required. New ASCs should not be recommended by State Survey Agencies (SAs) or accreditation organizations (AOs) for waiver approval.

● **Hospital Anesthesia Services Condition of Participation**

[Transmittal 59, CMS Manual System, State Operations Provider Certification](#) was released on May 21. This instruction updates and clarifies the guidance for the Anesthesia Services Condition of Participation and related standards.

● **MDS 3.0**

Updated MDS 3.0 training information has been posted on the [MDS 3.0 Training Material page](#).

● **ICD-10 Implementation**

CMS has [posted on its website](#) 11 new frequently asked questions (FAQ) about the ICD-10 Implementation.

● **MLN Matters Article**

CMS has released [MLN Matters Article #MM6960 -- Systems Changes Necessary to Implement the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act \(PPACA\) Section 6404 – Maximum Period for Submission of Medicare Claims Reduced to Not More Than 12 Months](#) to advise providers who submit claims to Medicare contractors that, as a result of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), claims with dates of service on or after January 1, 2010, received later than one calendar year beyond the date of service will be denied by Medicare.

● **State Options/Medicaid Premiums and Cost Sharing**

CMS recently put on display at the Federal Register a final rule (with a 30-day comment period for certain provisions) revising regulations addressing State options with respect to Medicaid premiums and cost sharing. This regulation implements the provisions of the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005, as amended by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. [View the regulation here.](#)
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CMS responds to state's request for items in MDS 3.0 – The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) allowed state Medicaid agencies to request MDS 2.0 items be included in their respective MDS 3.0 forms. Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) requested that sections E and M, physician order items, and the resident identifier be included in Ohio's MDS 3.0. CMS denied the state's request for MDS 2.0 Sections E and M, and the physician order items. According to ODJFS, CMS stated that "there are already comparable items included in the MDS 3.0 item set. CMS believes these items would be redundant and could add unnecessary burden on providers." The resident identifier (new item number S0150) was approved by CMS and will continue to be part of Section S as it has been on the MDS 2.0. [\(Back to top\).](#)

Enhanced FMAP on cutting room floor – The enhanced federal match of Medicaid expenses, or eFMAP, is set to expire at the end of this year. eFMAP will have brought about \$3.2 billion of additional funds to the state and has helped to fill the budget gap for the current biennium caused by the recession. House Resolution 4213, The American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act, had contained language that would have extended the eFMAP an additional six months. That provision of the bill was cut over concerns of the large price tag and the possibility of an economic recovery. [\(Back to top\).](#)

Second draft of Olmstead Plan released – *Balancing and Beyond: A Vision for Community Services and Supports for Individuals with Disabilities* is the Ohio Executive Medicaid Management Administration (EMMA)'s plan required under the *Olmstead v. L.C.* decision made by the Supreme Court over 10 years ago. The plan outlines current and future state initiatives on how disabled people can receive services in the community. The [second draft of the report](#) is open for comments until June 11th, and EMMA anticipates releasing the final report in July of 2010. Comments can be sent directly to [EMMA](#). For more information, please contact [Chris Murray](#). [\(Back to top\).](#)

ULTCS Workgroup meets with Strickland policy officials – The Unified Long-Term Care Systems (ULTCS) Workgroup met Thursday with members of Governor Strickland's health policy staff. The format of the meeting was an open discussion with Janetta King, Deputy Chief of Staff, and Robin Harris, Executive Assistant, relating to long-term care issues. Members provided input and commentary on a variety of issues from regulatory reform to implementation of the federal health care reform. The Balancing and Funding Subcommittee, which met after the ULTCS Workgroup, discussed the definition of "balancing." The subcommittee deferred establishing benchmarks for a balanced system until more data is collected. They also discussed a uniform budget and what it means heading into the next biennium. While the option of a unified line item (one big pot of money for the administration to spend) appears improbable, subcommittee members were directed to propose policies that could be implemented in the current fiscal environment to achieve a more balanced system. Members of the group also expressed the desire to avoid any further cuts in the next budget and to maintain current funding levels. For more information, please contact [Chris Murray](#). ([Back to top](#)).

Are you short a few CEUs for your July renewal? – Are you short a few CEUs for the upcoming July 1 renewal? Take an online course! The Academy's online training makes CEUs available wherever you are—at work, home or on the road. These online classes have been approved by the Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators (BENHA), and administrators may use online or home study courses to fulfill up to five of their yearly 20-hour CEU requirement. Some of the new classes include:

- Introduction to OSHA and the OSH Act
- Employment Law
- Managing Electronic Communication
- Customer Service
- Fire Safety
- Building Security

You may sample any class for free, with no commitment. If you would like to take the class and receive CEU credit from BENHA, the cost is \$20-\$25; however, Academy members receive a discount. Members will need to use a discount code, which is available by the logging into the OANH website. Go to www.oanonline.org now to learn more about these courses. If you have any questions, please contact [Dawn Kennedy](#). ([Back to top](#)).