



Aim For Success

FYI – Update – July 2008

Revised Guidelines – Effective 9/1/2008

F-325 Nutrition

F-371 – Sanitary Conditions for Food Service, Preparation, Distribution

On July 1, 2008, CMS published revisions [dated 6/20/08] to F-325 [Nutrition] and F-371 [Sanitary Conditions for Food Service, Preparation and Distribution].

- ❑ F-325 – Revisions include new definitions; guidelines for assessment of nutrition and investigation of weight changes. There is a lot of discussion regarding factors, including medications that contribute to nutritional risks. There is also discussion regarding liberalized diets, residents choices regarding food/drink consistency, and end of life. Guidance is provided to surveyors for additional investigation of other tags when there is a concern at F-325 to include: F-150 Resident Rights- preferences; F-272 Comprehensive Assessments; F-279 Care Plans; F-280 Care Plan Revision; F-282 Provision of Care; F-327 Hydration; F-328 Special Needs; F-329 Unnecessary Medications; F-353 Sufficient Staff; F-361 Dietary Staffing; F-362 Sufficient Staff; F-385 – Physician Services; F-500 Use of Outside Resources; F-501 Medical Director and F-520 Quality Assurance.
- ❑ F-371 – Revisions include new definitions, guidelines to minimize foodborne illness. There is a lot of discussion regarding food preparation, food temperatures and sanitizing of equipment [including ice machines] and prohibition of use of home-prepared food or home-preserved foods for service to residents. Additional guidance is provided to surveyors for investigation at F-322 Naso-gastric Tubes, F-325 Nutrition, F-353 Sufficient Staffing, F-361 Dietary Staffing; F-362 Sufficient Staff; Paid Feeding Assistant, F-441 Infection Control, F-444 Handwashing, F-456 Maintain Essential Equipment; F-465 Other Environmental Conditions; F-469 Pest Control, and F-520 Quality Assurance.

Copy of the revisions along with training material provided to state survey agency may be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/PMSR/list.asp>

CMS Proposal for 5 Star Rating System to be published on *Nursing Home Compare* – December 2008

CMS is proposing a “five-star” rating system that will provide a composite view of quality and safety information currently on *Nursing Home Compare* to help beneficiaries, their families, and caregivers compare nursing homes more easily. The “five-star” quality rating system will provide a nursing home quality of care rating of 1 to 5 stars derived from three data sources. This data is currently provided on Nursing Home Compare. The rating will include health survey inspections, quality measures, and the nurse staffing information from the most recent health survey inspection. Open door forum was held on June 24th; information on the proposal may be found at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/02_HotTopics

CHC -- New Resource for Housekeeping & Laundry

Together with the assistance of Dave Bodman of The Bodman Group, CHC has compiled a comprehensive policy and procedure manual for Housekeeping and Laundry. A manual which includes a CD with all policies, procedures and educational materials can be purchased for \$85 plus shipping. Contact Mary at maryltc@mindspring.com for more information or to order.

OLC – Guidelines for Reporting FRI – June 2008

OLC published revised guidelines for reporting FRI on June 23, 2008; only change to the guidelines are new Fax number for reporting and the correct address for OLC. New FAX number is 804/527-4503.

