

FYI – Update – June 2006



It has been a while since we sent a “FYI” newsletter out. For those of you who have asked about this, we thank you for your continued interest.

Sex Offender Registry – new Virginia legislation effective July 1, 2007

The Virginia General Assembly passed legislation effective July 1, 2007 requiring licensed nursing facilities and assisted living facilities to:

1. Register with the Virginia State Police to receive automatic notification of convicted sex offenders living in or working in the same or a contiguous zip code where the facility is located.
2. Inform every resident or potential perspective resident prior to admission and during the resident’s stay, how to access the Sex Offender Registry.
3. Obtain a signed acknowledgement from each resident, that the resident has received this notification; and
4. Assist the resident as requested in locating or accessing information from the Sexual Offenders Registry.
5. Evaluate the potential risk posed by the particular individual seeking admission or residing in the facility and appropriate actions necessary to protect residents.

Let us know if CHC can be of assistance to you.

Survey Focus

The top 10 tags cited in Virginia for 2006 have not changed substantially, but their reasons for citation are beginning to change focus a bit. This is a good time to take the opportunity of re-evaluating your current operational systems as well as your current monitoring systems to assist you in identifying opportunities for improvement in a timely manner. Topics that had frequent citations under F-309 Quality of Care and/or F-281 Professional Standards included: diabetic management; labs; and medication administration [not following physician orders]. In addition, we are seeing a significant increase in the number of citations related to pharmacy services using the new pharmacy Interpretive Guidelines from December 2006. The average number of deficiencies cited per survey appears to be significantly increasing along with the number of G-level and higher deficiencies.

Advancing Excellence

CHC is pleased to support the national quality initiative launched at the September 2007. A wide array of organizations has rallied around eight clinical and operational goals intended to help us better tell our story of quality care. Please, visit the campaign website at <http://www.nhqualitycampaign.org> as well as your state association websites to get more information about the goals of the campaign and how you can sign on. Given the shift in survey outcomes, we have got to take control of the story that we want told about the quality of care we provide.

MDS

There is a great training website at mdstraining.org that is available free to registered users. Staff is able to view and listen to CMS approved training on accurate completion of the MDS. This information is broken down into topic selection and can be accessed on demand.

Visit the Virginia MDS bulletin board for recently published guidance on completing Significant Change assessments. I have been told that there will also be Q&A on RAP documentation posted.

