

FYI – Update – September 2008



New Associate

Joanne Biddix RN, a certified wound care nurse, with extensive experience in wound care management for persons in nursing facilities, assisted living and home health, has agreed to be a part-time associate with the CHC team. Joanne is a member of the Virginia Pressure Ulcer Taskforce. Joanne is currently working with Manor Care Health Services but has reserved one day a week for independent consulting and support. Joanne will be working with us to refine and expand our services to you as it relates to wound care management and will be available for limited on-site visits as requested. If CHC can be of support to your team in their on-going effort to prevent pressure ulcers or for accurate assessment of the wound and exploration of effective treatment options, please contact Mary at one of the above numbers.

MDS Training

Judy Wilhide Brandt is conducting a RAC-CT Certification workshop in Virginia Beach Oct 1- 3 and still has space available. This workshop covers coding the MDS, PPS/OBRA scheduling, RAPs, Care Planning, QM/QIs, RUGs, Billing for Clinicians. Registrants have 90 days after the workshop to take the tests online and earn “RAC-CT” credentials. Visit www.aanac.org to download a brochure or register online. Call Judy at 757-271-6796 for more information.

“Stamp” Signatures – Change in Medicare Requirement

In March 2008, CMS published guidelines prohibiting use of stamp signatures. Medicare requires a legible identifier for services provided/ordered. The method used *shall* be hand written or an electronic signature (*stamp signatures are not acceptable*) to sign an order or other medical record documentation for medical review purposes. Copy of CMS Transmittal may be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R248PI.pdf>

Medicare Expedited Form Notice – New Versions Must Be Implemented by November 1, 2008

The renewed, OMB-approved Notice of Medicare Provider Noncoverage (CMS-10123) and Detailed Explanation of Noncoverage (CMS-10124) are now available for download and immediate use. The expiration date for the renewed forms is 07/31/2011. CMS will allow a 60-day transition period for use of the new forms. Mandatory use of the renewed forms will begin on **November 1, 2008**. You may access these new forms at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/BNI/06_FFSEDNotices.asp

ALF Inspections – Revised Inspection Protocols – Effective 7/31/2008

The inspection protocol is a “resident centered” approach to determining the provider’s compliance with regulations. The focus is on the provider’s ability to meet the residents’ needs through the actual delivery of care and services and not just “paper” compliance. The inspection tasks are designed with this in mind and are inter-connected in order to both identify potential problem areas and verify from multiple sources any non-compliance discovered during the inspection. The inspection process has 6 components: entrance conference, tour, interviews [staff, residents, and families], observations [including medication pass], documentation review, and exit conference. DSS is making final edits to the inspection protocol document, but if you would like copy of current protocol please contact Mary. CHC is prepared to assist your facility with inspection readiness utilizing the new protocols; contact Mary to discuss your needs.

Medical Record Law in Virginia – presentation November 12, 2008 in Norfolk, Virginia

Nancy Newman RN JD, a CHC associate will be presenting the opening session at the Lorman sponsored seminar. This seminar was presented in Richmond earlier this year with wonderful response for a quality and informative program. Contact Lorman at www.lorman.com for more information and registration.

New Resources

In the past CHC has compiled Resource Manuals for pressure ulcers, urinary incontinence, and accidents; we have also compiled a policy and procedure guide for housekeeping and laundry. Under development are three new resource guides:

1. Resource Manual for Nutrition – support for F-325
2. Resource Manual for Dietary Sanitation – support for F-371
3. Resource Manual for Effective and Efficient Care Plan – support for F-279 and F-280.

If you are interested in obtaining more information about these resources contact Mary at maryltc@verizon.net.

