

LNHA Agency Liaison Meeting | MINUTES

April 4, 2017 | 1:00 pm | LNHA Office

Committee members present: Jamie Shelton (Central Management), Phyllis Chatelain (Lakeview Manor), Dave Rambo (Zachary Manor Nursing and Rehab), Lannie Richardson (Central Control), Wayne Plaisance (Chateau de Notre Dame), Marcus Naquin (Hammond Nursing Home), Dale Hewitt (Senior Village Nursing & Rehab Center)

Staff members present:
Mark Berger, Wes Hataway, Nancy Russell

State representatives present:
Cecille Castillo and Margie Huguet (Louisiana Department of Health)

Call to order

Committee Chairman Jamie Shelton called the meeting to order and the following topics were discussed.

Discussion of 42 CFR § 483.60 Food and Nutrition Services

A concern was raised regarding the timeframe by which the new qualifications for director of food and nutrition services must be met. After considering the plain language and underlying intent of the rule, it was surmised that individuals hired or designated prior to November 28, 2016, must meet the requirements no later than five years after November 28, 2016. Those hired or designated after November 28, 2016, must meet the requirements by November 28, 2017. Everyone hired or designated after November 28, 2017, must meet the requirements at the time of hire or designation. Representatives from the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) expect future interpretive guidelines on the matter.

CNA Registry

A recent finding resulted in the need to decertify a number of certified nursing assistants (CNAs) who graduated from a specific institution during a specific timeframe. LNHA offered its assistance in disseminating information and contacting individuals. LDH noted that the issues involved in the recent decertification effort were very fact-specific. LDH determined that a mass communication was not feasible and the matter needs to be addressed on a one-on-one basis. LDH encourages facilities to tell affected CNAs to contact LDH if the CNA is flagged in the registry.

Psychotropic/anti-anxiety drugs and hospice care

A question was raised as to whether regulations regarding PRN order for psychotropic/anti-anxiety drugs apply to hospice care. It was determined that the regulations do apply. PRN orders for psychotropic drugs are limited to 14 days. Except as provided in Section 483.45(e)(5), if the attending physician or prescribing practitioner believes that it is appropriate for the PRN order to be extended beyond 14 days, he or she should document their rationale in the resident's medical record and indicate the duration of the PRN order.

LaPOST

A question was raised as to whether a second physician was required to sign off on a LaPOST Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) Physician Order Sheet. It was determined that laws and regulations pertaining to LaPOST DNR require only one physician and a second physician signature was not required. It was noted that alternative advanced directives do exist. For any non-LaPOST advanced directive, state law requirements calling for two physician signatures should be followed.

Requirements of Participation and the Reporting Abuse and Abuse Allegations

Clarification of this rule was sought regarding reporting abuse or allegations of abuse. Specifically, additional guidance was sought with respect to the two-hour reporting requirement versus the 24-hour reporting requirement. While it is clear an allegation of abuse resulting in serious bodily injury should be reported within two hours of forming the suspicion of abuse, additional guidance will be sought regarding the reporting timeframe for other alleged violations involving abuse, neglect, exploitation or misappropriation. Accordingly, LDH will seek further clarification from CMS regarding this issue.

Disaster Preparedness

A question was raised as to when facilities will be expected to comply with the new CMS community and in-facility emergency planning requirements. LDH commented that facilities are expected to comply prior to November 2017. In short, each facility will be expected to conduct both a tabletop and community-wide exercise prior to November 2017. LDH also suggests contacting and working with your local Office of Emergency Preparedness.