

LNHA Agency Liaison Meeting | MINUTES

July 30, 2019 | 1:30 p.m. | LNHA Office

Committee members present: Jamie Shelton (Central Management), Marcus Naquin (Hammond Nursing Home), Lannie Richardson (CCI), Phyllis Chatelain (Lakeview Manor), Dale Hewitt (Senior Village Nursing & Rehab Center)

Guests present: Dave Rambo (Central Management)

Call to order

Committee Chairman Jamie Shelton called the meeting to order and discussed the following topics with the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH).

LaMEDS update

Jen Katzman, LDH Medicaid Deputy Director, provided an overview of the recent changes and updates regarding Medicaid eligibility including 1) the new asset verification system (AVS) requirement which checks Medicaid applicant's various financial records and system interfaces and 2) the spousal consent form required for residents applying for Medicaid who have a legal spouse. She confirmed that LDH is working to provide each facility with an electronic list of residents who have living legal spouses.

Attendees received a [PowerPoint presentation](#) detailing AVS requirements and process. Ms. Katzman also emphasized that nursing facilities should use the "Public Portal" of LaMEDS due to technical issues with the "Partner Portal." She noted a call center would be established soon. More information will be disseminated to LNHA members as it is provided by LDH.

Delayed implementation and proposed changes of Phase III of the CMS Requirements of Participation

LNHA provided attendees with an [AHCA PowerPoint](#) which reviews the changes in the CMS RoP Phase III proposed rule and notes the delay in implementation. LDH mentioned their recent call with CMS and they noted they aren't sure of specifics yet and there is no S&C memo available on the topic. The entirety of RoP Phase III is delayed.

Trends identified by LDH in most recent survey findings

LNHA requested that LDH share trends in the most recent survey findings. Ms. Williams noted the following:

- Immediate jeopardies (IJ): Louisiana is still performing well on the number of IJs being cited as they are low in comparison to other states.
 - The majority of IJs are accidents and supervisions including failure to secure wheelchair in transport
- Care plans timing and revision is the number one deficiency
- Ms. Castello mentioned food procurement (store, prepare, serve-sanitary) was cited 75 times
- Notification of changes of condition to families or physicians was cited 52 times with one instance of actual harm.
- Hand washing remains a commonly cited deficiency

- Labeling and storing drug biologicals was cited 36 times

Attendees received this information in a [handout](#). It was also shared during an LDH presentation at the LNHA Director of Nursing (DON) Boot Camp in July 2019.

[Process for reporting abrasions and skin tears with potential medical intervention](#)

Physicians do not need to be contacted immediately outside of business hours; reporting should depend on the extent of the need. Staff can wait until business hours if it is not related to an incident of abuse or neglect. If a resident has a lot of bruising or skin tears, facility staff need to investigate why that is reoccurring.

[Reporting witnessed falls resulting in fractures to SIMS](#)

LDH strongly suggests that the facility always reports any incident resulting in a fracture even if the fall is witnessed and the cause is known. This is a significant issue with the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) so interview your witnesses and write a full report in SIMS — not just one sentence. If a report is in SIMS and a family member calls LDH, they can reference that.

[Update on Prometric nurse aide testing](#)

LDH contracted with Prometric as the exclusive provider of standardized testing for certified nursing aides (CNAs). LDH addressed the passage rates and provided an update regarding the timing issues previously reported by LNHA. Mr. Shelton noted the passage rates have improved in his experience and echoed his thanks for LDH's assistance in his company successfully becoming a testing site.

LDH noted that a high volume of high school students enter the system near graduation creating a delay in testing. LDH is working with the Board of Education to work through possible testing issues.

LDH said that nursing facilities should call them immediately if there are issues regarding delays in testing through Prometric so they can address the issue. LDH will provide several statistics with LNHA to share with the board regarding Prometric improvement.