DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
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Center for Clinical Standards and Quality/Survey & Certification Group

Ref: S&C: 17-03-NH

DATE: **October 24, 2016**

TO: State Survey Agency Directors

FROM: Director
Survey and Certification Group

SUBJECT: Save the Date: Training for Phase 1 Implementation of New Nursing Home Regulations

Memorandum Summary

- **Need for Training:** The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is developing an online training for Regional Offices (RO), State Survey Agencies (SA), providers and other stakeholders on the new Nursing Home Regulations.
- **Training Content and Availability:** The online training will include information about Phase 1 of new Nursing Home Regulations, and will be **available to all parties starting November 18, 2016.**
- **Mandatory Requirement:** All Long Term Care (LTC) surveyors are required to complete this training in order to be able to conduct any **LTC surveys after November 28, 2016.**

Training Content

The Department of Health and Human Services along with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services published a Reform of Requirements for Long-Term Care Facilities on October 4, 2016. CMS recognizes the need to develop and provide training to LTC surveyors and providers, related to the new regulations.

The training will contain information regarding Phase 1 of the New Nursing Home Regulations that will be effective starting November 28, 2016. This information will address the new language included in the New Nursing Home Regulations, and how Phase 1 will be implemented via the State Operations Manual, F-Tags, and survey process.

We expect the online training will take no more than 3 hours, and will prepare the surveyors to implement Phase 1 requirements. Around this same time, CMS will be releasing a revised version of Appendix PP which retains existing tags and guidance, but incorporates the newly effective regulatory language. We will be releasing a job aid that identifies the F Tags that have

new regulatory language added. The training will also address how the survey process will be used to address the regulatory requirements.

Surveyor Access to Training

Surveyors can access the training through the Enterprise Learning Management System, at https://cms82.sumtotalsystems.com

Surveyors that conduct LTC surveys must complete this training prior to conducting any surveys after November 28, 2016.

Provider access to the training will be located at http://surveyortraining.cms.hhs.gov/pubs/ProviderTraining.aspx and will be available until July 2017. At this time, provider training will not be tracked, and there is no completion test or certificate provided.

Effective Date: Immediately. This information should be communicated with all Survey and Certification staff, their managers and the State/Regional Office training coordinators within 30 days of this memorandum. Questions regarding this memorandum should be sent to NHSurveydevelopment@cms.hhs.gov. For registration questions and issues, please contact Ruth Rivera at Ruth.Rivera@cms.hhs.gov .

/s/
David R. Wright

cc: Survey and Certification Regional Office Management