



Oklahoma State Department of Health
Creating a State of Health

July 28, 2011

To: Administrators of Nursing Facilities

RE: Provider Letter 11-04
Quality Indicator Survey (QIS) process

Dear Stakeholder:

As you may know, over the past few years the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) began selecting a limited number of states to implement the new Quality Indicator Survey (QIS) process. To date, 23 states have commenced QIS implementation. The purpose of this letter is to let you know that Oklahoma has been selected by CMS to begin QIS training.

CMS & Oklahoma will be hosting a QIS Stakeholders Conference Call on Wednesday, August 3, 2011 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm CST. Access to QIS information is available at ltc.health.ok.gov on the Oklahoma State Department of Health website. The Oklahoma QIS Overview conference call PowerPoint presentation is posted on this site. The Dial-in number is: 1-877-615-4337 Passcode: 8612935#

QIS is a computer-assisted survey process designed to focus survey resources to better achieve a more comprehensive and consistent survey for nursing homes. It is a process used by surveyors to systematically review specific nursing home requirements and objectively investigate any regulatory areas that are triggered. Although the survey process is revised under QIS, the federal regulations and interpretative guidance remain unchanged.

In August 2011, the CMS contractors will begin training the first group of Oklahoma's nursing home surveyor staff on QIS. Please keep checking our website for new and updated information on QIS. If you have any questions please contact me at 405.271.6868 or email at Mikec@health.ok.gov.

Sincerely

Mike Cook
QIS State Lead
Protective Health Services, Long Term Care
Oklahoma State Department of Health