

# QIES MDS eNewsletter

Oklahoma State Department of Health, QIES Help Desk

**This QIES Help Desk eNewsletter brings you information, announcements, and available training.**

*([Webpage links are in red lettering](#))*

## **QIES Help Desk Upcoming Training:**

- **SAVE THE DATE!** The *MDS 2-Day Basic Clinical* training is scheduled for October 31 - November 1, 2018 at Gordon Cooper Technology Center in Shawnee, OK. This training will look at reasons for assessment, clinical coding, CAAs and care plans, corrections, and a review of the changes to the RAI Manual and MDS item set. An RAI Manual will be needed at the training in either printed or electronic format. Registration will be open from August 24 - October 5, 2018, or until maximum capacity is reached.

- **SAVE THE DATE!** The *MDS Quality Assurance/Performance Improvement (QAPI)* training is scheduled for December 13, 2018 at the Oklahoma City-County Health Department in Oklahoma City, OK. QAPI programs are critical to improving the quality of life, and quality of care and services delivered in nursing homes. Attendees will receive an overview of the PDSA cycle, flow charting, and root cause analysis, which are valuable tools in your QAPI planning process. Additionally, you will learn how to use data from your CASPER reports as indicators to improve resident outcomes and correct potential problem areas. Registration will be open from October 8 – November 19, 2018, or until maximum capacity is reached (seating is limited).

Visit our website at [MDStraining.health.ok.gov](http://MDStraining.health.ok.gov) for more training information!

## **Other Upcoming Training:**

- **TMF Quality Innovation Network** Webinar on [Antipsychotic Medication Use in Older Adults: A Focus on Safety](#) is being offered on Tuesday, July 24, 2018 from 2:00 - 3:00 pm CT. For more information and to register for this webinar, click on the link above.

- **TMF Quality Innovation Network** has announced that the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) is launching a new, 12-month antibiotic safety program in December 2018. The AHRQ Safety Program for Improving Antibiotic Use provides participating long-term care facilities with antibiotic use guidelines, expert coaching, online education, improvement tools and patient education materials to help prevent antibiotic-associated conditions. To learn more about the project, register for a one-hour introductory webinar offered on the following dates:

- [Thursday, July 26, 1:30 pm CT](#)
- [Thursday, August 9, 1:30 pm CT](#)
- [Thursday, August 30, 9:30 am CT](#)

## **News to Know:**

### **- SNF QRP Non-Compliance Letters: Request for Reconsideration by August 7, 2018**

CMS provided notifications to facilities that were determined to be out of compliance with Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program (QRP) requirements for CY 2017. This will affect your FY 2019 Annual Payment Update. Non-compliance notifications were mailed by Medicare Administrative Contractors and placed into QIES CASPER folders on July 9, 2018.

If you received a letter of non-compliance, you may submit a request for reconsideration to CMS via email no later than 11:59pm PT on August 7, 2018. See the instructions in your notification letter and on the [SNF Quality Reporting Reconsideration and Exception & Extension webpage](#).

**- Have you accessed your PEPPER?** If not, you can boost Oklahoma's rates:

1. Visit the [Distribution Schedule - How to get your PEPPER](#) page.
2. Review the instructions and obtain the information required to authenticate access. (NOTE: A new validation code will be required. A patient control number or medical record number from a claim for a traditional Medicare FFS beneficiary with a 'from' or 'through' date in July 1 - September 20, 2017 will be required).
3. Access the [PEPPER Resources Portal](#).
4. Complete all the fields.

Download your PEPPER. For questions or comments about PEPPER, or help obtaining your report, visit the [PEPPER Help Desk to request assistance with PEPPER](#).

### **- Local Contact Agency Information:**

Nursing homes are required to make a referral to the Local Contact Agency when a resident expresses a desire to speak to someone about returning to the community, as instructed in Section Q of the MDS. This requirement is following the resident's civil rights and is considered a violation of the individual's rights if not done.

*Living Choice in Oklahoma has been serving as the point of contact for this requirement and overseeing the Money Follows the Person program. CMS is no longer funding Money Follows the Person, therefore Living Choice is no longer accepting referrals.*

To fulfill this requirement, and until further direction and information is obtained from CMS, contact your Ombudsman representative when you have a resident who indicates they wish to speak to someone about returning to the community. You should be able to locate the Ombudsman's name and number posted in your facility. If needed, you may also call the Senior Information Hotline number at (800) 211-2116.

***We welcome your feedback regarding our eNewsletter!***

Email your comments, questions, concerns, or ideas to [MDShelp@health.ok.gov](mailto:MDShelp@health.ok.gov).

***[Click here to take our anonymous Customer Satisfaction Survey](#)***



***Do you have MDS questions?  
Contact the QIES Help Desk at (405) 271-  
5278 or [MDShelp@health.ok.gov](mailto:MDShelp@health.ok.gov).***