



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES

DIVISION OF AGING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

PO BOX 807

TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0807

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

www.nj.gov/health

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

POONAM ALAIGH, MD, MSHCPM, FACP
Commissioner

October 18, 2010

Dear Hospital and Nursing Home Providers,

On September 21, 2010, the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) and the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS) sent a letter informing you of changes to the PASRR process in New Jersey. DHSS in collaboration with the New Jersey Hospital Association, Health Care Association of New Jersey and the New Jersey Association of Homes and Services for the Aging completed training in early October for hospital and nursing facility staff on these changes.

42 CFR 483.100 et seq requires that all individuals entering a Medicaid certified nursing facility, regardless of payment source, be screened for the presence of serious mental illness, mental retardation or a related condition prior to admission. Medicaid certified nursing facilities (NF) who admitted residents without a Level I PASRR Screen prior to October 1, 2010 must complete one by March 31, 2011. For those residents who underwent Preadmission Screening (PAS) as part of the Medicaid clinical eligibility process, the Health Service Delivery Plan (HSDP) or Medicaid Approval Letter (LTC 13) will verify that the Level I was completed. Please ensure that either document is on the active medical record.

For existing nursing home residents without a Level I PASRR Screen (or HSDP or LTC-13), DHSS is directing the NF CSW or RN to complete a Level I (the new LTC-26), and referral to Level II, if appropriate, by March 31, 2011. To prevent hospital discharge planners from completing Level I's for hospitalized residents that should be done by NF staff, DHSS is asking nursing facility staff to make this of the highest priority. If one of the aforementioned residents is hospitalized, the NF should readmit the person without having the hospital discharge planner complete the Level I. The NF should then either place the HSDP or LTC-13 on the active record or, if these documents are not available, complete the Level I (LTC-26) and place it on the resident's record.

In addition, DHSS is aware that there are some acute care hospitals who are not completing a Level I PASRR for patients being discharged to Medicaid certified NFs. Some of these hospitals are requiring the NF external case manager to complete the Level I. After consultation with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, DHSS is concerned about the accuracy and validity of a Level I completed by a non-hospital

employee. It is the position of DHSS that hospital discharge planners will complete the Level I PASRR in the hospital prior to discharge.

DHSS along with the New Jersey Hospital Association, Health Care Association of New Jersey and the New Jersey Association of Homes and Services for the Aging will have regional training on PASRR on November 8th, 15th and 19th. Your facility will be notified of registration details through a separate letter. DHSS will be launching its own PASRR webpage intended to be a resources for all hospital and NF staff.

If you have questions or concerns regarding PASRR, please feel free to contact the PASRR program at (609) 633-8604. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Patricia A. Polansky". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Patricia A. Polansky, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Aging and Community Services