

April 13, 2023

LTC COVID-19 Update

Presented by:

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Indiana Department of Health Team



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Today's Topics



- NHSN & Flu – Teresa Hostettler
- NATCEP Waiver – Suzanne Williams
- ABN Form renewal
- Director of Food and Nutrition qualifications
- Frequently asked questions this week with answers – Lori Davenport
- Q&A

Thriving Therapy Departments, a webinar on April 25, details [HERE](#)

RAC-CT Certification course (in-person), May 9-11, details [HERE](#)

Mastering the Art & Science of Dementia Care, an in-person workshop on May 25, details [HERE](#)

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FYI – Advance Beneficiary Notice of Noncoverage

- ABN Form CMS-R-131 and instructions approved by OMB for renewal.
- The use of the renewed form with the expiration date of 01/31/2026 will be mandatory on 6/30/23.
- You may continue to use the ABN form with expiration date of 6/30/23 until the renewed form (expiration date 1/31/26) becomes mandatory on 6/30/23.
- Note: SNFs issue the ABN to transfer potential financial liability for items/services expected to be denied under Medicare Part B only.
- <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/medicare-general-information/bni/abn>



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Food and Nutrition Services

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Director of food and nutrition services

- October 1, 2023 – deadline for compliance with food and nutrition director requirements.
- CMS added to the requirements for the director of food and nutrition services at §483.60(a)(2)(E) as part of the 2023 SNF PPS rule published in August 2022.



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Director of food and nutrition continued

- CMS added an additional pathway to qualify for the position;
 - Includes having two or more years of experience in the position of director of food and nutrition services in a nursing facility setting and has completed a course of study in food safety and management, by no later than October 1, 2023



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Continued

- CMS has noted that the course requirements would be the equivalent of a ServSafe Food Manager certification.
- Must complete the required training before October 1, 2023, to qualify for the role.



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Considerations

- An assistant director, supervisor, or manager of food and nutrition services or other related titles/roles can qualify as having 2 or more years of experience in the position of director if the individual's defined role and the duties they performed in that role comply with the requirements.



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Considerations

- The requirement to have two or more years of experience in the position noted can have occurred at any point before the final rule effective October 1, 2022.
- Facilities that qualify as “nursing facility setting” can vary – experience should support the ability to serve in position in the long-term care setting.



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Telehealth Policy Changes

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PHE – Telehealth -- HIPAA

- Congress extended many telehealth coverage flexibilities – permanently or until December 31, 2024
- A policy change will no longer permit providers to use technology such as unsecure iPads, smart phones, or other technology for telehealth services unless they meet stringent HIPAA patient privacy requirements after **August 9, 2023**.



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Transition

- The Office for Civil Rights is providing a 90- calendar day transition period for providers to come into compliance with HIPAA Rules related to telehealth.
- Transition period – May 12, 2023, and will expire at 11:59 p.m. on August 9, 2023.



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Recommendations

- Evaluate telehealth services used in your facility
- Update policies and procedures, equipment, and arrangements related to telehealth services.
- Evaluate equipment and software technology using for telehealth services and vendor arrangements.
- Do this now before August 9, 2023.



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Questions of the week

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Question

Did the PHE end early?

- Answer: No
- PHE Ends on May 11, 2023



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Question

- When does the 3-day hospital stay waiver end?

- Answer:

May 11, 2023 – those residents admitted under the waiver prior to May 11, 2023 can stay until they no longer qualify or need skilled services.

Waiver will no longer be in place on May 11, 2023



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Question

- Will we need to continue to monitor transmission rates after PHE ends on May 11, 2023?

- Answer:

There has been no changes published to date.



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Question

- Will any guidance change once the PHE ends related to COVID ?

- Answer:

CDC is discussing – but have shared no specifics

CMS is discussing – but have shared nothing in writing



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April 20th weekly webinar is canceled
April 27th resume weekly scheduled call

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2023 SPRING CONFERENCE

Refocus on Regulations

April 18-19, 2023

FRENCH LICK SPRINGS RESORT,
FRENCH LICK, INDIANA

 **IHCA
INCAL**

The poster features a dark blue background with several interlocking gears in light blue and yellow. The gears are labeled with various healthcare and regulatory terms: 'COMPETENCY', 'RISK MANAGEMENT', 'QUALITY', 'SAFETY', 'IMPROVEMENT', 'PERFORMANCE', 'COMPLIANCE', 'INTERDISCIPLINARY', and 'INTERDISCIPLINARY'.


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Q&A

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THANK YOU!

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