

Meeting summary

Quick recap

The meeting covered updates on ongoing legal actions regarding Medicaid and administrative processes, including discussions about motions to dismiss and recoupment procedures. The team reviewed upcoming changes to cost reporting tools and Medicare rates, with specific attention to quality point calculations and implementation timelines. The group also addressed satisfaction survey requirements for assisted living facilities, water temperature requirements, and upcoming educational events, with plans to follow up on several regulatory clarifications.

Next steps

- Legal team to file response to Department of Medicaid's motion to dismiss within 10-day window
- Providers to submit reconsideration requests for Medicaid recoupments by July 25th deadline
- Providers to provide supporting documentation for Medicaid recoupment requests within 30 days of filing
- Facilities to participate in and facilitate satisfaction surveys for residents and families
- Facilities to ensure proper documentation of ICSN disputes for Medicaid recoupment requests
- Providers to attend one of three 2.5-hour cost reporting training sessions in August
- Providers to verify quality point calculations in new rate file posted July 22nd
- Providers to work with accountants to review rate components and occupancy data
- Providers to ensure proper access to licensure profile for 2567 surveys during temporary IKEY transition period
- Heidi to provide updates from quarterly meeting with Ohio Department of Health in News Bytes on Friday

Summary

Medicaid Legal Case Update

Diane led a meeting to discuss updates on ongoing legal actions and administrative processes. She reported that the Department of Medicaid filed a motion to dismiss the writs of mandamus, claiming the case is moot due to the closure of the previous budget period. Despite this setback, Diane and Pete explained that their legal team is preparing a response, emphasizing that the case is about statutory interpretation rather than appropriations. They also addressed the recoupment process, clarifying that providers must list Icnns and explain why they are being disputed within the first 30 days, and highlighted the challenges facilities face in identifying already recouped Icnns. The team is

actively working to resolve these issues and will continue to provide updates as the legal proceedings progress.

New Cost Reporting Tool Implementation

Diane announced that a new online cost reporting tool will be implemented starting September 1st, replacing the current system, and provided details about upcoming training sessions scheduled for August 13th, 14th, and 20th. She mentioned that there might be a version 2.0 dashboard in the future to address outstanding recruitments and payments that aren't currently tracked. Gene, an accountant, advised keeping the new cost reporting process simple, drawing from his experience in auditing and cost reporting.

Medicare Rate Implementation Updates

The meeting focused on discussing Medicare rates and their implementation. Diane explained that the final rates had been posted on the NF website, and while the quality point calculations were verified, she encouraged attendees to work with their accountants to review the rates. Gene and Pete discussed the upcoming changes to QM rates, with Gene noting that the current rate would remain unchanged until January 1st. Pete confirmed that the value per point had increased to \$1.15 due to recent rate adjustments.

Assisted Living Satisfaction Survey Updates

Pete discussed the importance of participating in satisfaction surveys for assisted living facilities, emphasizing that providers with private rooms must cooperate to avoid losing add-on payments. He shared that the surveys, conducted by the Department of Aging, began in early August and include both resident and family satisfaction measures. Pete also mentioned that the budget webinar recording and slides were posted online, with a passcode available for access.

Satisfaction Survey Data Release Plan

Pete explained that the satisfaction survey data release will be done in two tranches, with the first tranche occurring when approximately half of the surveys are completed, followed by the posting of scores on the website and provision of reports. He mentioned that the old data will be removed once the first tranche is completed, and the new data will be posted for facilities in the first tranche, while other facilities will have blank data. Brian Newman asked about the relationship between the surveys and the \$20 private room add-on, but Pete clarified that it is based on letting them in the door, not on satisfaction scores.

Survey System and Meeting Updates

Pete explained that the current satisfaction survey participation requirements focus on facility involvement rather than specific satisfaction scores, though there are discussions about potentially

incorporating satisfaction scores into future quality incentive payments. He also described a temporary change where 2567 surveys will be accessed through the licensure profile system until October, during which time licensure surveys will not be visible. Heidi announced that she, Pete, and Diane would attend an in-person quarterly meeting with the Ohio Department of Health the following day, where they would address concerns about contracted surveyors and the new complaint portal, with updates to be shared in the Friday news bytes.

Water Temperature Requirements Discussion

The group discussed concerns about water temperature requirements, with members noting that the new CMS critical element pathway restricts water temperature to less than 100°F, which some residents find too cold. Eli explained that water temperature can vary significantly throughout a building, and suggested that a temperature range would be more practical than a strict maximum. The discussion revealed some confusion about the current requirements, with Teresa Raimi noting that the temperature range might have been removed from the draft CEP, and Diane agreed to follow up with Barb to clarify the situation. The conversation ended with Heidi promoting several upcoming educational events, including a dining and nutritional services conference, a financial summit, and a fall conference.

AI can make mistakes. Review for accuracy.