

Meeting summary for OHCA Assisted living member call (09/25/2024)

Quick recap

pete discussed the increasing number of Real and Present Danger (RPD) citations in assisted living facilities in Ohio, attributing it to increased attention from the Health Department and the introduction of more specific language around RPD in House Bill 33. He also highlighted the challenges faced by members due to the new enforcement process and the need for facilities to run a medication aid training program. Additionally, pete discussed the development of a free member webinar aimed at assisting those interested in entering the assisted living waiver space and the issues with the current survey system for facilities.

Next steps

- Assisted living providers to document competency of certified medication aides before they start performing new tasks (administering pre-metered insulin and passing schedule 2 drugs) by October 24, 2024.
- Erin to send a link in this week's news bytes for registration to the October 15th webinar on assisted living waiver program.
- OHCA to follow up in writing with the Department of Aging regarding concerns about the Nursing Home Navigator and satisfaction survey changes.

Summary

Real and Present Danger Citations in Assisted Living

pete initiated a discussion about the increasing number of Real and Present Danger (RPD) citations in assisted living facilities in Ohio. He attributed this to increased attention from the Health Department and the introduction of more specific language around RPD in House Bill 33. pete also highlighted the challenges faced by members due to the new enforcement process. He shared that the most common RPD cases involved elopement, with some resulting in tragic outcomes due to freezing temperatures. pete also mentioned that some cases were moved into neglect citations. He concluded by stating that these bulletins would provide recommendations on how to avoid such situations.

Increased Scrutiny in Facilities and Program Updates

pete discussed the increased scrutiny of financial conditions in facilities, particularly skilled nursing ones, and the potential dangers this could pose to residents. He also mentioned the top 10 deficiencies and the need for facilities to run a medication aid training program. Erin then took over to discuss the critical access rate loading with My

Care Ohio, reporting that some payers were still working on correcting claims. She also mentioned the changes to the Medication Aid Training Program and the Certified Nursing Assistant program, which are set to take effect on October 24th, 2024. Lastly, she noted an increase in inquiries about the Assisted Living Waiver program and the process of becoming certified.

Free Member Webinar on Assisted Living Waiver

pete discussed the development of a free member webinar aimed at assisting those interested in entering the assisted living waiver space. The webinar, scheduled for October 15th, will provide a consolidated resource of information on navigating the process and the different components of the assisted living waiver program in Ohio. pete also offered one-on-one education sessions for new providers and encouraged interested parties to reach out to him. He mentioned that the Nursing Home Navigator, now called the Nursing Home Navigator 2.0, is undergoing changes to include assisted living. The Department of Aging is currently in an interim period, awaiting further updates on the Navigator 2.0.

Algorithm Challenges and Navigator Survey Issues

pete discussed the challenges of using algorithms to determine the appropriate level of care for individuals, suggesting that a personal interaction with a trusted advisor is necessary. He also expressed concerns about the survey sent out for the navigator site, stating that it was not suitable for assisted living and had a low response rate. pete emphasized the need for a new survey specific to assisted living and suggested that the aging team should give more thought to the navigator's content. He also mentioned a related issue about a satisfaction survey for providers.

Improving Survey System and Fire Incident Reporting

pete discussed the issues with the current survey system for facilities, highlighting low completion rates and outdated data. He suggested adopting the core queue survey, which consists of 3-4 questions, as it is quicker and more efficient. pete also mentioned that the survey could be administered more frequently, potentially a couple of times a year. He noted that there are some entrenched interests against these changes, but emphasized the importance of better participation rates for consumers. pete also addressed a misleading email campaign from Barclay Water Management regarding Legionella testing requirements, clarifying that it only applies to hospitals. Lastly, he introduced a new fire incident reporting system for facilities, effective from October 1st.

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