

Meeting summary for OHCA NF Member Call (10/22/2024)

Quick recap

The team discussed various updates and concerns, including private room approvals, off-cycle Medicare revalidations, nursing home responsibilities, changes to the Medication Aid Training program, and a proposed 1-10 nursing home rating system. They also debated the new reporting requirements and the potential impact of the FTC's rule on non-compete clauses. The conversation ended with discussions on the need for a more comprehensive and detailed approach to their project, the importance of understanding customer needs, and the necessity of effective communication and collaboration.

Next steps

- Pete to submit Ohca's comments on the draft Department of Health licensing rules for skilled nursing facilities.
- Mandy to share the presentation slides on the draft rule changes in the Friday news byte.
- Ohca members to review the draft rule changes and submit any additional comments to ODH by the deadline.
- Ohca to continue opposing new reporting requirements for elopements, financial issues, and staffing in the draft rules.
- Nursing homes to review their policies on medication administration privacy and update if needed.
- Nursing homes to ensure they have a plan for obtaining medications and records in case of emergency evacuation or closure.
- Nursing homes that allow smoking to review their policies for accommodating smokers during adverse weather or isolation.
- Nursing homes to review their disaster preparedness plans and ensure an offsite copy is maintained.

Summary

Private Rooms, Medicare, and Nursing Homes

Pete provides updates on private room approvals and outstanding revenue codes for billing. Diane reminds members about upcoming off-cycle Medicare revalidations by CMS and the FTC's appeal against the non-compete clause ruling. Debbie Jenkins discusses nursing home responsibilities for ensuring resident voting rights. Erin explains changes to the Medication Aid Training program effective October 24th. The group debates a proposed 1-10 nursing home rating system, draft licensing rules still in the comment period, and retaining the "level of care" quiz despite concerns. Mandy reviews

rule changes like adding oral hygiene to delegable personal care, redefining chemical restraints, and new reporting requirements which raise liability concerns. The team opposes the new reporting requirements and requests a separate elopement category.

Ohio Department of Public Safety Meeting

Pete from the Ohio Department of Public Safety led the meeting, which was held at the Ohio Department of Public Safety. The meeting was attended by various members, including Mandy, Blake, and Diane. The main topics discussed were the private room approvals, the off-cycle Medicare revalidations, and the FTC's rule on non-compete clauses. Pete provided updates on the private room approvals, stating that some members had not received their category one approval. He also mentioned that the revenue codes for billing purposes were still outstanding. Diane reminded the members about the off-cycle Medicare revalidations, which would be conducted by Cms through an entity called Empower AI. She also mentioned that the Ftc had filed a notice of appeal against the court ruling that banned non-compete clauses. Debbie Jenkins discussed the responsibility of nursing homes to ensure resident rights related to voting and the directive issued by the Secretary of State, Frank Larose. Erin discussed the changes in the Medication Aid Training program, which would be effective from October 24th. She also mentioned that the Board of Nursing would use the statutory guidelines to approve new programs on and after October 24th.

Improving Project Structure and Communication

The team discussed the need for a more comprehensive and detailed approach to their project, with a focus on the importance of understanding the customer's needs and pain points. They agreed on the necessity of a more structured and organized process, with clear roles and responsibilities assigned to each team member. The team also emphasized the importance of effective communication and collaboration to ensure the project's success. They ended the conversation with a commitment to work on these aspects and reconvene to review progress.

CMS Final Rule and SNF Billing

Erin discussed a final rule from CMS regarding beneficiary appeal rights on patient status, which could potentially lead to a change in billing from private pay to Medicare skilled nursing facilities. Jill raised a question about potential barriers, specifically regarding the MDS, but Erin clarified that the default score would be paid in such situations. Pete provided updates on various topics, including private rooms, the Department of Medicaid's communication, and the Department of Health's draft rules for skilled nursing facility licensing. Mandy explained how to participate in the call through Zoom or phone. Pete also discussed the status of category one and two applications for facilities, emphasizing the urgency of receiving revenue codes for billing purposes. Diane discussed the upcoming off-cycle Medicare revalidations, advising everyone to give their best effort and seek legal advice if needed.

Medicare Certification, FTC Rule, and Staffing

Diane discussed maintaining Medicare certification and the legal battle over the FTC's non-compete clause rule. Debbie Jenkins provided updates on CMS audits, Empower AI's role, the FTC rule, and a voting rights directive. Erin discussed changes to the Medication Aid program, including reduced training hours, and encouraged reaching out for clarification. Erin and Pete discussed document access issues, delayed physician certifications impacting billing, and the necessity of resident life status for certification. Pete mentioned the Excel technical assistance program for providers, its award, limited participation, and scaling up goals. He also talked about the CNA nomenclature change, staff dissatisfaction with staffing rules, and the idea of a state 5-star rating system. Pete discussed the task force's robust discussions, its potential end date, and a possible future assisted living task force. Erin inquired about retaining the Quality Navigator questionnaire, which Pete explained was designed to determine care levels but faced criticism.

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