Minimum Data Set (MDS) Maintenance Downtimes

Information posted February 5, 2016

Providers should be aware of two upcoming maintenance downtimes that will affect submission of MDS files.

The local Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services server will undergo maintenance on February 9, 2016. The QIES (Quality Improvement and Evaluation System) Technical Support Office (QTSO) reports that MDS data files for February 8, 2016, and February 9, 2016, should be available on February 10, 2016.

All QIES systems will be down from Wednesday, March 16, 2016, after 7:00 p.m., through Monday, March 21, 2016, at 10:59 p.m. This downtime will affect all QIES connectivity and systems. This means the national database, Certification and Survey Provider Enhanced Reports (CASPER), and QIES Workbench (QW) will NOT be available during this time. In addition, the following submission systems will not be available for:

- Hospice Providers and the Hospice Item Set
- Impatient Rehabilitation Facilities and the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities Patient Assessment Instrument (IRF-PAI)
- Long Term Care Hospitals (LTCH) and the LTCH Continuity Assessment Record and Evaluation (CARE) Data Set
- Skilled Nursing Facilities and the Minimum Data Set (MDS) and Payroll-Based Journal
- Home Health Agencies and the Outcome and Assessment Information Set (OASIS)

It is critical that affected providers make the necessary contingency plans to accommodate for these downtimes and ensure that data is submitted in a timely manner.

For more information, call the Long Term Care (LTC) Help Desk at 1-800-626-4117, Option 1, then Option 3.