CMS Announces Proposed Rules, User Manual Updates, and Retention Schedule Changes

Information posted May 18, 2016

CMS Proposes FY 2017 Medicare Rule Related to Prospective Payment System and Consolidated Billing for Skilled Nursing Facilities

CMS posted a draft rule in the Federal Register on April 25, 2016, that covers payment models for FY 2017 as well as SNF Value-Based Purchasing Program, SNF Quality Reporting Program and SNF Payment Models Research.


A new MDS 3.0 Quality Measures User's Manual v10.0 can be found in the Downloads section at the bottom of the CMS Nursing Home Quality Measures website.

Draft RAI Manual v1.14 Now Available

CMS has posted a DRAFT RAI Manual v1.14 in the Related Links section at the bottom of the CMS MDS 3.0 RAI Manual website. The effective date is Oct. 1, 2016. There are many item set changes, including the new Chapter 3, Section GG: Functional Abilities and Goals. Chapter 2 and Chapter 3, Section A provide information on the new Part A PPS Discharge assessment.

The draft does not include Appendices F and H or replacement pages, which will be published with the final version in September 2016.

How Long Some MDS 3.0 Reports are Retained Changes Nov. 1, 2016

Effective Nov. 1, 2016, MDS 3.0 Facility-Level Quality Measure and Resident-Level Quality Measure Preview reports only will be stored in the shared facility folder for 90 days. This change does not affect the MDS 3.0 Five Star Preview reports.

Currently, these automatically-created preview reports are stored in each nursing home's shared facility folder for 230 days.

The retention change affects the following:

- New MDS 3.0 Facility-Level Quality Measure and Resident-Level Quality Measure Preview reports saved into each nursing home's shared facility folder after Nov. 1, 2016, will be retained for 90 days following the date the report was added to the folder.
- Existing MDS 3.0 Facility-Level Quality Measure and Resident-Level Quality Measure Preview reports that were created more than 90 days before Nov. 1, 2016, automatically will be deleted from the system.

Facilities are encouraged to print or save a copy of reports scheduled to be deleted on Nov. 1 as they can't be recreated once they have been deleted.