



**MEMBER BRIEFING:
FEMA to Send PPE to NF, CDC Webinar for LTCF Module
May 1, 2020**

OF SPECIAL NOTE

In Oregon POLST Forms Can be Completed Virtually/By phone

POLST form submissions to the Oregon POLST Registry have declined substantially (nearly 40%) during the COVID-19 pandemic. Many visits are now virtual and some health care professionals do not know that Oregon POLST forms can be completed virtually. Verbal orders are valid and accepted by both EMS and the Registry. Electronic signatures are valid and while it is required to indicate who the POLST form was discussed with, the patient or surrogate signature is not required on the Oregon POLST form. A note, documenting the content of the conversation, should be placed in the patient's medical record. Copies of the form should be sent to the Registry, entered into the medical record and the original left with/sent to the patient. Please help assure that those who with advanced illness and frailty who want to set limits on medical treatments have access to Oregon's very effective POLST Program during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

FEMA to Send PPE to all Medicare/Medicaid Licensed Nursing Homes in the Country

Katie Smith Sloan, LeadingAge national president, attended a small, invitational event yesterday at the White House on Protecting America's Seniors. At this event, it was announced that FEMA will send PPE "Care Packages" to every Medicare/ Medicaid licensed nursing home in the country; 15,400 SNFs. These include:

- Initially, a seven (7) day supply of masks, gowns, gloves. Amounts determined by each SNFs average census, staffing ratios, and burn rates.
- SNFs in high density areas will be prioritized: New York, New Jersey, Chicago.
- A second seven (7) day supply will arrive within 60 days;
- All SNFs will receive their two shipments by or before July 4th, 2020.

STATE NEWS

All Quality Metrics Webinars Canceled for May

The following Quality Metrics Program webinars are being canceled.

- "Getting Started in Quality Metrics" scheduled for Wednesday May 6 from 2:00 to 3:30 pm.
- "Getting Started in Quality Metrics" scheduled for Friday, May 8 from 10:00 to 11:30 am.
- "QMA – Questions and Answers" scheduled for Tuesday, May 12, 2020 from 9:30 to 10:30 am.
- "Metric #3 – Falls with Injury" – scheduled for Thursday, May 28 from 9:30 to 10:30am.

If you were planning to attend any of these webinars, please remove the dates and times from your calendar.

RESOURCES & TOOLS

The Guide to MDS Codes During COVID-10 – Free Webinar Tuesday, May 5, 2:00 pm

Demi Haffenreffer, who teaches our MDS classes, is offering a free webinar on the MDS codes most significant during the COVID-19 pandemic. The webinar will include:

- Review CMS waivers for completion
- Review section I0020B-COVID ICD 10 code
- Review of section O0100M and Isolation/Quarantine for active Infectious Disease

Date: Tuesday, May 5

Time: 2:00-3:00 pm

Learn more [here](#). Register [here](#).

NATIONAL NEWS

CMS Interim Final Rule Includes Weekly NHSN Reporting for NF

The long-awaited (a couple of weeks at least, long in COVID time) Medicare and Medicaid [Interim Final Rule](#) (IFR) that includes reporting requirements for the SNF Quality Reporting Program was released today. It will likely be published in the Federal Register in the next day or two; provisions of the IFR have different effective dates. Most notably, the rule establishes explicit reporting requirements for SNFs to report information on COVID-19 cases among residents and staff. The reporting requirements are effective the date the IFR is published in the Federal Register. The reporting must include: suspected and confirmed COVID-19 infections among residents and staff; total COVID-19 deaths among residents and staff; PPE and hand hygiene supplies in the facility; ventilator capacity and supply; resident beds and census; access to COVID-19 testing in the facility; and staffing shortages. **The information will be submitted no less than weekly through the CDC National Healthcare Safety Network.** The rule includes many other provisions related to home health, DME, and quality reporting. More detailed analyses and related documents will be coming out in the next few days.

Note: If your organization is already registered with NHSN, you will automatically have access to the COVID-19 Module and there is no need to register again.

CDC Webinar Training for LTCF COVID-19 Module to be Repeated Next Week

The two webinar trainings for the new LTCF COVID-19 Module of CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) will be repeated again next week due to the access challenges many people were having. **We encourage you to sign in early due to the high volume of attendees.** Email questions to the CDC at NHSN@cdc.gov (include LTCF COVID-19 in the subject line). The recordings of the webinars will be posted online, but we have learned it may be a couple of weeks until that happens. Log in information for the webinars is at the bottom of [this page](#).

- **COVID-19 Module for Long-term Care Facilities Enrollment Guidance**
 - **When:** May 4, 2020
 - **Time:** 11:00 – 12:30 PM Pacific Time
- **COVID-19 Module Overview for Long-term Care Facilities**
 - **When:** May 5, 2020
 - **Time:** Noon – 1:30 PM PST