

Community-based Care News Hour July 24, 2014

RN Delegation

Deborah Cateora reviewed the common errors state staff have encountered related to RN Delegation:

- Nurse notes simply indicating a resident is "stable and predictable" do not meet documentation requirements. A nurse must include supporting data that leads the nurse to declare the resident stable and predictable - a check box on a form is not enough. Ask yourself and document: "Why is the individual stable and predictable?"
- Step by step delegation instructions are "canned" and are not resident specific. Instructions must be specific to the individual resident and to the individual caregiver as well.
- Step by step instructions are located in the med room. This is not acceptable, the instructions should be with the MAR, not in a central location, because caregivers should be reviewing the instructions before each task.
- Nurses are not watching each caregiver perform the delegated task. This is a crucial component of the delegation process. Cateora said some communities try to delegate to "all staff," and this does not meet the intent of the rule. Specific staff should be delegated to perform tasks for specific residents, and each caregiver must be watched performing the task on that particular resident. (Using an orange for tasks related to insulin is not acceptable, you must watch the caregiver perform the task on the resident).
- If an RN delegates a task related to a medication, the nurse must review the MAR specific to the administration of those medications.
- Many incoming/newly hired RNs are not following the rules for transfer of delegation. She noted that nurses/communities should contact the Board of Nursing for guidance if they are unsure about the process. Essentially the new nurse must follow all of the delegation steps with each caregiver that the prior RN had done, although Cateora noted that the nurse does not have to rewrite the step by step instructions. She noted that delegation is tied to a specific nurse, and the delegation is no longer valid when that nurse is no longer an employee of the community. If a nurse leaves and no RN is immediately hired, delegation ends and the community must hire RN staff from a temporary agency or elsewhere to do the formerly delegated tasks until a new RN is hired and once again delegates tasks to unlicensed caregivers.
- Sliding scale insulin is often not addressed adequately, and no directions are provided as to where the sliding scale is. This information is just as important as a resident's regular insulin.
- RNs often don't leave sufficient instructions about when to contact the delegating RN immediately. When there's an issue related to a delegated task, the caregiver must report directly to the RN.
- Communities aren't being specific about when a re-evaluation of the delegation should be completed. Documents often indicate re-evaluation in 90 days or 180 days, which is not enough. Document the week or the actual date the re-evaluation needs to be done.

Renovations

Policy Analyst Debbie Concidine offered the following tips related to renovations ("sprucing up" activities such as painting, repairing, replacing floors, carpeting or doors, etc.).

- Providers should notify residents and families verbally and in writing about the renovations
- Also notify policy analysts, case managers and ombudsmen
- Provide all parties a timeline for completion
- Continue to communicate about the progress of the renovations, especially if timelines change
- Make changes to service plans if the renovations are disruptive to resident routines (i.e., one painting job prohibited residents in a community from returning to their rooms after meals as they were accustomed).

Regulatory updates/reminders

- CBC staff are not always being notified when new administrators are hired. Please remember rules require the state be notified within 72 hours of an administrator change. The Administrator Reference Summary form, background checks, class certification, etc. must be sent to the CBC program staff when a new administrator is hired.
- License renewal: ALF and RCF administrators are asked to find their license and check the date - is it expired, or is expiration coming up? Please start working on the documents you need to send in (background checks, etc.) so you can renew at expiration. Contact your policy analyst or Carolyn Ramus, carolyn.ramus@state.or.us in the CBC office for assistance.
- New staff: Sean Scott has joined the CBC team as a Policy Analyst/Corrective Action, and Cynthia Vargo is replacing Joan Morris as surveyor supervisor (Joan is going back to doing surveys).

MDROs (Multiple Drug-Resistant Organisms) and MDRO transfer forms

Deborah Cateora provided reminders related to infection control and MDROs:

- Be sure to educate all staff on routine infection control
- Administrators should be making sure all staff are educated about and practicing infection control measures, including hand hygiene and respiratory hygiene
- Direct caregivers must be educated about and practicing standard and contact precautions

The state plans to provide trainings related to infection control this fall, watch for more information

ALFs and RCFs also need to watch for and use transfer forms whenever an individual with an MDRO enters or is transferred out of their community.

- Save the forms in the resident record
- Make sure staff are aware of the information on the form/the presence of an MDRO and are taking appropriate precautions
- Make sure the transfer form goes with the resident whenever they are transported, and that emergency transport personnel and staff at the receiving facility (hospital, nursing home, etc.) are aware of the form.
- A [sample form](#) is available on the state website

Top 10 Citations

- Service plans, change of condition and medication administration continue to be top survey citations.

CBC training

- CBC Policy Analyst Warren Bird said they are receiving requests for training on topics such as what to expect during a CBC survey, so they will be scheduling training open to all providers soon, watch for more information.

CBC Provider Tools

- CBC staff are adding more and more information for providers on their [website](#), be sure to check it out.