

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop C2-21-16
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



Center for Clinical Standards and Quality/Quality, Safety & Oversight Group

Nursing Home Provider Entrance Letter

TO: LTC Administrator

FROM: Dr. Daniel Schwartz, CMS: daniel.schwartz2@cms.hhs.gov

SUBJECT: Infection Control Pilot Project

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is conducting a pilot project to improve assessment of infection control and prevention in Long Term Care facilities (LTC) which care for ventilator dependent residents. This unannounced on-site pilot survey of your LTC will focus primarily in the area of Infection Control. A contracted surveyor and infection preventionist from Healthcare Management Solutions (HMS) will be conducting the pilot survey using a survey process based on the new Long Term Care regulations.

This pilot survey is anticipated to take place over the next two days and your participation is a unique opportunity to help improve resident safety. It is intended as an educational survey, meaning that there will be no CMs-2567 created and no citations issued. However, if an Immediate Jeopardy is identified, the survey team will communicate with the CMS Regional Office and official survey activities could be initiated.

An Entrance Conference will be conducted at the start of the survey, and a brief Exit Conference will be conducted at the end. The survey team will be assessing the infection prevention and control program through observations, interviews, and record reviews based on the new survey process. The results of the survey will be shared by the survey team informally at the exit conference.

Hopefully, your facility will find this experience to be an opportunity to improve quality of care. I understand the inconvenience this survey may cause your facility as CMS looks for ways to improve our survey process and I appreciate your willingness to participate. If you have any feedback to improve this pilot survey, please feel free to contact me. Thanks for your understanding!

Sincerely,

Daniel Schwartz, MD
Physician
Quality, Safety, & Oversight Group
CMS
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