

ISDH Long Term Care
Newsletter Issue # 2012-08
June 12, 2012

In Today's Issue:

- CMS Update: Dementia Care
- QIS Update
- State Smoking Ban
- ISDH on Social Media

CMS Update

CMS ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP TO IMPROVE DEMENTIA CARE IN NURSING HOMES
Government partnering with providers, caregivers, patients to ensure appropriate use of antipsychotic medications

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Acting Administrator Marilyn Tavenner announced the Partnership to Improve Dementia Care, an initiative to ensure appropriate care and use of antipsychotic medications for nursing home patients. This partnership - among federal and state partners, nursing homes and other providers, advocacy groups and caregivers - has set a national goal of reducing use of antipsychotic drugs in nursing home residents by 15 percent by the end of 2012.

Unnecessary antipsychotic drug use is a significant challenge in ensuring appropriate dementia care. CMS data show that in 2010 more than 17 percent of nursing home patients had daily doses exceeding recommended levels.

"We want our loved ones with dementia to receive the best care and the highest quality of life possible," said Acting Administrator Marilyn Tavenner. "We are partnering with nursing homes, advocates, and others to improve the quality of care these individuals receive in nursing homes. As part of this effort, our partnership has set an ambitious goal of reducing use of antipsychotics in nursing homes by 15 percent by the end of this year."

CMS and industry and advocacy partners are taking several steps to achieve this goal of improved care:

Enhanced training: CMS has developed Hand in Hand, a training series for nursing homes that emphasizes person-centered care, prevention of abuse, and high-quality care for residents. CMS is also providing training focused on behavioral health to state and federal surveyors;

Increased transparency: CMS is making data on each nursing home's antipsychotic drug use available on Nursing Home Compare starting in July of this year, and will update this data;

Alternatives to antipsychotic medication: CMS is emphasizing non-pharmacological alternatives for nursing home residents, including potential approaches such as consistent staff assignments, increased exercise or time outdoors, monitoring and managing acute and chronic pain, and planning individualized activities.

"A CMS nursing home resident report found that almost 40 percent of nursing home patients with signs of dementia were receiving antipsychotic drugs at some point in 2010, even though there was no diagnosis of psychosis," said CMS Chief Medical Officer and Director of Clinical Standards and Quality Patrick Conway,

M.D. "Managing dementia without relying on medication can help improve the quality of life for these residents. The Partnership to Improve Dementia Care will equip residents, caregivers, and providers with the best tools to make the right decision."

These efforts will help achieve the 15 percent reduction goal by the end of this year. In addition, to address this challenge in the long-term CMS is conducting research to better understand the decision to use or not to use antipsychotic drugs in residents with dementia. A study is underway in 20 to 25 nursing homes, evaluating this decision-making process. Findings will be used to target and implement approaches to improve the overall management of residents with dementia, including reducing the use of antipsychotic drugs in this population.

QIS Update

The ISDH began Quality Indicator Survey (QIS) training in January 2011. In 2011 the ISDH completed QIS training for one team from each of the seven survey areas as well as training of trainers. In January 2012 the ISDH completed training of Area 3 survey teams and in March completed training of Area 6 teams.

The ISDH began training two more survey teams on June 11, 2012. Each training class completes one week of classroom training followed by one mock survey and two surveys of record. The QIS Training class that began June 11 includes the remaining two teams from Survey Area 2. Participants in this training will include:

Area 2, Team A
Honey Kuhn
Carol Miller
Shelly Vice-Miller
Ann Armey
Deb Kammeyer (New surveyor who started May 29)

Area 2, Team B
Christine Fodrea
Tim Long
Julie Wagoner
Susie Scott (Informal Dispute Resolution Program Director)

At the conclusion of this class, we will have 69 of 112 surveyors trained. We continue to anticipate completion of our QIS training to be at the end of 2012.

State Smoking Ban

In this year's legislative session, the Indiana General Assembly passed a statewide smoking ban. The legislation becomes effective July 1, 2012.

The Alcohol and Tobacco Commission (ATC) is responsible for the administration and enforcement of the prohibition on smoking as codified at Indiana Code 7.1-5-12. The Indiana State Department of Health will follow the ATC's determinations for interpreting the statute. Certified health care facilities that are federally regulated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) must also comply with CMS provisions.

The Alcohol and Tobacco Commission website (www.in.gov/atc) is the primary site for implementation of the state law. The website includes frequently asked questions and offers sample signage. If a question is not addressed in the frequently asked questions, then questions can be posted on the ATC website and they will be reviewed by ATC. The frequently asked questions section is updated on a continual basis.

Smoke Free Indiana is a website created by the ISDH to provide information about the new law. The ISDH

implementation website is available at smokefreeindiana.isdh.in.gov. The content includes information about the law, FAQ, and information on 1-800-QUIT-NOW.

The *Breathe Easy Indiana* website (www.breatheindiana.com) is designed to assist Hoosiers in understanding the new smoking laws. The site is intended to assist businesses in implementing the new law. A business education kit will be available through the site. The business education kit includes website information, window clings, posters, coasters, palm cards, tables tents, a brochure on the new law, a checklist for businesses to help them prepare for the new law, a letter from Dr. Larkin, and Quit Now resources.

The Quit Now Indiana Program provides assistance to Hoosiers in quitting tobacco use. The Quit Now Indiana Program is found at www.quitnowindiana.com.

Quit Now Indiana on Facebook at www.facebook.com/quitnowindiana

Quit Now Indiana on Twitter [@QuitNowIndiana](https://twitter.com/QuitNowIndiana)

Social Media

The Indiana State Health Department is on social media! Check out our social media pages for the latest health information, updates, event information and photos.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ISDH1

Twitter: [@StateHealthIN](https://twitter.com/StateHealthIN)

YouTube: www.youtube.com/INStateHealthDept

INShapeIndiana on Facebook at www.facebook.com/INShapeIN

Follow INShape Indiana on Twitter [@INShapeIndiana](https://twitter.com/INShapeIndiana)

Office of Minority Health (OMH) on Twitter [@INMinorityHth](https://twitter.com/INMinorityHth)

Office of Women's Health (OWH) on Twitter [@INPublicHealth](https://twitter.com/INPublicHealth)

Women, Infants and Children (WIC) on Twitter [@IndianaWIC](https://twitter.com/IndianaWIC)