



Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary

MEMORANDUM

TO: Nursing Facility Administrators

FROM: Marlana R. Hutchinson, Acting Director *MRH*
Office of Long Term Services and Supports

SUBJECT: Temporary Waiver of Requirements for Pre-Admission Screening and Annual Resident Review (PASRR) and Minimum Data Set (MDS) Validations

DATE: March 30, 2020

To assist nursing facilities in meeting the many challenges they are facing because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department is temporarily waiving certain requirements. These waivers will be in effect immediately and until further notice.

Waiver for PASRR Level I and Level II Assessments

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services have agreed to waive the requirement that PASRR Level I screens and Level II evaluations be completed prior to nursing facility (NF) admission. Effective immediately, and until further notice, new admissions can be treated like exempted hospital discharges. Nursing facilities will be given up to 30 days following NF admission to complete the Level I screen. If the screen is positive, NFs shall refer the resident for Resident Review no later than 30 days after admission. The local health departments will conduct a Resident Review as soon as possible.

Normally, PASRR reviews need not be updated for residents being transferred between NFs, provided that the discharging NF forwards the documentation to the admitting NF. In the event of an emergency transfer where the admitting NF is unable to obtain documents from the discharging NF, the admitting NF can conduct a Level I screen, and request a Level II Resident Review if necessary, during the first few days of admission as part of the initial assessment.

Temporary Deferment for MDS Validation

The Department its utilization control agent, Telligen, will defer conducting MDS Validation in nursing facilities. This deferment will be in effect until the Department deems it safe for reviewers to visit nursing facilities again.

Any questions regarding this communication may be directed to the Medicaid Program as follows:

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