



COMMISSIONER
Chris Traylor

August 2, 2012

To: Nursing Facility Administrators, Minimum Data Set (MDS) Coordinators and Directors of Nursing

Subject: Information Letter No. 12-72

Re: Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) Process Changing

The Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) wants to inform Nursing Facility Administrators, MDS coordinators and Directors of Nursing the PASRR process as it exists today will be changing next year. The anticipated date of implementation for the PASRR re-design is May 24, 2013.

In December of 2009, the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) Medicaid Director received notification from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), identifying issues with DADS current PASRR process. As a result, several significant changes will be implemented including:

- Eliminating the role of nursing facilities in the Level II evaluation process;
- Requiring specific specialized services to be identified before admission to the nursing facility; and
- Requiring DADS to have clear processes in place for resident review when an individual experiences a significant change in their MDS assessment.

In order to bring the PASRR process in Texas to achieve federal compliance, PASRR has been undergoing a re-design which will ensure the appropriateness of nursing facility admission, and that individuals with mental illness, intellectual disabilities and/or developmental disabilities (MI/IDD/DD) are receiving the necessary services to meet their overall physical, mental and psychosocial needs. The PASRR program screenings and necessary subsequent evaluations are a federal and state requirement for every nursing facility admission, regardless of payment source.

If you have any questions or need additional information please contact Mendy Blevins, PASRR Policy Analyst, by phone at (512) 438-5477 or by e-mail at mirenda.blevins@dads.state.tx.us or visit <http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/pasarr/redesign/index.html> for additional information regarding the PASRR re-design process.

Sincerely,

[Signature on file]

Geri Willems
Manager, PASRR/MERP

GJ:gw