



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH & WELFARE

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BUREAU OF FACILITY STANDARDS
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INFORMATIONAL LETTER #2012-03

DATE: November 28, 2012

TO: ADMINISTRATORS OF ALL SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES IN IDAHO

FROM: DEBBY RANSOM, R.N., R.H.I.T., Chief
Bureau of Facility Standards

SUBJECT: S&C: 12-47-NH — F tag 155—Advance Directives - Advance Copy

The Survey and Certification Letter listed above was released by CMS on September 27, 2012.

This Survey and Certification Letter with this Informational Letter is posted on our web site at www.facilitystandards.idaho.gov. Scroll to the bottom of the page labeled *Facility Standards (Providers' Page)* and on the right hand side is the title "Informational Letters". Click on the bottom item entitled "State Letters" and that will take you to all our Bureau released Informational Letters.

If you have any questions, please contact Loretta Todd, RN, or Lorene Kayser, LSW, Co-Supervisors, Long Term Care program, in our offices at 208/334-6626.

DEBBY RANSOM, R.N., R.H.I.T., Chief
Bureau of Facility Standards

DR/nm
Attachment

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/ Survey & Certification Group

Ref: S&C 12-47- NH

DATE: September 27, 2012
TO: State Survey Agency Directors
FROM: Director
Survey and Certification Group
SUBJECT: F tag 155-- Advance Directives- Advance Copy

Memorandum Summary

- **Revisions:** Revisions have been made to Surveyor Guidance at F tag 155 in Appendix PP of the SOM, to include resident's rights to:
 - Establish Advance Directives; and
 - Accept or decline treatments.
- **Advance Copy Interpretive Guidelines:** Advance copy of surveyor guidance revision is included in this memorandum.
- **Power Points:** Power Point Training material with speaker notes for Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Regional Offices (ROs) and State Survey Agencies (SAs) to be used to train surveyors on this revision to F tag 155 in the SOM are provided.

The CMS made changes to surveyor guidance for Advance Directives in Appendix PP of the SOM to provide clarification to nursing home surveyors when determining compliance with the regulatory requirements for Advance Directives. The regulatory language remains unchanged.

These revisions should be implemented no later than November 30, 2012 and we are providing an advance copy of the revised guidance with all new language presented in red and italics.

This training packet is to be used to assure that all surveyors who survey nursing homes are trained in the revised guidance by the implementation date. These materials will be presented and discussed on a routine teleconference with ROs. We encourage training to be conducted in person with group discussion to optimize learning. We also encourage joint learning sessions that include both surveyors and providers. However, if this is not feasible to meet the needs of your surveyors, it is acceptable to use other methods. This guide may also be used to communicate with provider groups and other stakeholders.

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For questions on this memorandum, please contact Susan Joslin at 410-786-3516 or via email at Susan.Joslin@cms.hhs.gov.

Effective Date: No later than November 30, 2012. The State Agency should disseminate this information within 30 days of the date of this memorandum.

Training: The training materials should be distributed immediately to all SA training coordinators.

/s/
Thomas E. Hamilton

Attachments

cc: Survey and Certification Regional Office Management