DATE:   February 17, 2017
TO:    State Survey Agency Directors
FROM:  Director
Survey and Certification Group
SUBJECT:  Revision to State Operations Manual (SOM) Appendix PP

Memorandum Summary

• Revised Regulations: On September 28, 2016, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released revised requirements for participation under the Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Reform of Requirements for Long-Term Care Facilities rule. Many of the regulations were re-designated and have new numbers.

• Revisions to SOM Appendix PP: CMS has revised regulation text into the SOM Appendix PP to correct identified technical errors and correct the numerical order of tags. The revised version was released on February 10, 2017. The regulation text is effective November 28, 2016; the Interpretive Guidance has not been updated. Interpretive Guidance will be revised at a later date.

Background

Consolidated Medicare and Medicaid requirements for participation for Long Term Care (LTC) facilities (42 CFR part 483, subpart B) were first published in the Federal Register on February 2, 1989 (54 FR 5316). Revisions to these requirements were released on September 28, 2016 and became effective as of November 28, 2016.

Appendix PP

CMS previously released a version of Appendix PP that incorporated the new regulations into the SOM. This most recent version of Appendix PP issued on February 10, 2017 has made technical corrections where regulatory text needed to be addressed and certain subsections of the regulation had to have the numerical order corrected. CMS will be issuing a subsequent version of Appendix PP with updated Interpretive Guidance and a re-ordering of F-Tags at a future date. Only Phase 1 regulatory text is effective in this version of Appendix PP. We have included Phase 2 and Phase 3 language, but have distinguished these provisions within Appendix PP and have listed their effective dates.
The below tags were affected by this change:
Reference numbers in regulatory text: F203, F205, and F455 through F469
Regulation text: F221, F223-F225, F246, F247, F252, F309, F319, F320, F329, F333

These changes will also be made in ASPEN in an upcoming release.

The link below is to the version of Appendix PP that was re-released on March 8, 2017. The above listed Tags reflect minor technical updates available below.

We have also posted a CMS web page where additional information about implementation of the final rule at https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/GuidanceforLawsAndRegulations/Nursing-Homes.html

Contact: For any questions, please contact CMS at NHSurveyDevelopment@cms.hhs.gov.

Effective Date: Immediately. This information should be communicated with all survey and certification staff, their managers and the State/Regional Office training coordinators immediately.

/s/
David R. Wright

cc: Survey and Certification Regional Office Management