

# The Academy Weekly

## News & Information for LTC Providers



The Academy of Senior Health Sciences, Inc.

[www.seniorhealthsciences.org](http://www.seniorhealthsciences.org)

Week of 30 April 2023

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## Ohio News

### End of PHE means end of most waivers

The public health emergency (PHE) for COVID-19 will end on Thursday, May 11. The end of the PHE signals the end of most of the waivers that were implemented under the authority granted because of the PHE. This includes the end of the 3-day hospital stay waiver, PASRR waiver, reporting requirements, and emergency preparedness. Furthermore, CMS will be changing the employee vaccination requirement. Please see [QSO-13-23-ALL](#) by [clicking here](#) for additional detailed information include other waivers and flexibilities. A more expansive list of resources regarding the end of the PHE is available from [CMS](#) by [clicking here](#) and from [IPRO](#) by [clicking here](#). We recommend reviewing this information in preparation for the end of the PHE. ([Back to top.](#))

### April tax revenues remain solid

The Office of Budget and Management released [preliminary revenue estimates for April](#). While overall tax revenues were slightly lower than expected for the month, OBM noted that a significant part of the underage was because some income tax was processed in May instead of April. Ohio continues to be in solid financial shape heading into the last two months of the fiscal year. ([Back to top.](#))

## ODA issues RFP to expand PACE

The Ohio Department of Aging (ODA) recently announced the publication of a request for proposal (RFP) to expand the Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) to several new locations across Ohio, including Franklin, Hamilton, Montgomery, Lorain, Lucas, and Summit counties. Additionally, the department is seeking proposals to expand PACE to serve a rural area in Ohio. Interested parties may obtain instructions on how to access the procurement portal and access the request for proposal through OhioBuys: [Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly \(PACE\) Expansion \(SRC0000007632\) - Lot : 1 / Round : 1: Ohio Buys](#).

PACE is an innovative care model that helps people ages 55 and older who meet a nursing facility-based level of care receive the services and support they need to remain in their homes instead of a nursing facility. The program provides participants with:

- The full spectrum of care covered by Medicare and Medicaid, including preventive, acute, and long-term care.
- An interdisciplinary team – including physicians, nurses, physical and occupational therapists, dietitians, recreation therapists, and more – to provide comprehensive and coordinated care.
- Access to a PACE Center, where individuals can receive medical care, meet with their care team, participate in social activities, and receive other PACE services.
- Services such as transportation to the PACE site, adult day primary care, physical and occupational therapy, laboratory and x-ray services, prescription drugs, home care, hospital care, and more.

\$50 million of funding for the expansion of PACE was included in H.B. 45. ([Back to top.](#))



### CMS and CDC update NH COVID testing recommendations

CMS and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have updated their COVID testing requirements/recommendations effective May 11 with the end of the PHE. CMS is rescinding [QSO-20-38-NH](#), which is the interim final rule that had the testing requirements for nursing homes. "Effective 05/11/2023, this memo is no longer in effect. Testing for COVID-19 should be conducted by following accepted national standards, such as [CDC recommendations](#). Noncompliance related to COVID-19 testing will be cited at F-tag 880. More information on the requirements regarding the identification of infections and communicable diseases can be found in [Appendix PP](#) of the State Operations Manual, F880 (42 CFR §483.80(a)(1) and §483.80(a)(2)(i))." The CDC recommendations were updated yesterday and include an appendix to help providers determine local metrics that could be used to help the provider in determining if more source control is necessary. The currently used community transmission metric will no longer be available after May 11. ([Back to top.](#))

### May 15 deadline for QRP reporting

CMS is reminding provider that the deadline for submitting QRP data is 11:59 PM on May 15, 2023: "The submission deadline for the Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF), Long-Term Care Hospital (LTCH), and Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Programs is approaching.

- IRF Patient Assessment Instrument (IRF-PAI) assessment data and data submitted to Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) for October 1 – December 31 (Q4) of calendar year (CY) 2022 are due with this submission deadline.
- LTCH Continuity Assessment Record and Evaluation (CARE) Data Set (LCDS) assessment data and data submitted to Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) for October 1 – December 31 (Q4) of calendar year (CY) 2022 are due with this submission deadline.
- Minimum Data Set (MDS) assessment data and data submitted to Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) for

October 1 – December 31 (Q4) of calendar year (CY) 2022 are due with this submission deadline.

**All data must be submitted no later than 11:59 p.m. on May 15, 2023.**

The list of measures required for this deadline can be found on the CMS QRP websites:

- [IRF Quality Reporting Data Submission Deadlines](#)
- [LTCH Quality Reporting Data Submission Deadlines](#)
- [SNF Quality Reporting Program Data Submission Deadlines](#)

As a reminder, it is recommended that providers run applicable Internet Quality Improvement and Evaluation System (iQIES)/NHSN analysis reports prior to each quarterly reporting deadline, to ensure that all required data has been submitted. Swingtech sends informational messages to IRFs, LTCHs, and SNFs that are not meeting Annual Payment Update (APU) thresholds on a quarterly basis ahead of each submission deadline. If you need to add or change the email addresses to which these messages are sent, please email [QRPHelp@swingtech.com](mailto:QRPHelp@swingtech.com) and be sure to include your facility name and CMS Certification Number (CCN) along with any requested email updates." ([Back to top.](#))

## **MLN Connects Newsletter**

### News

- [FAQs on CMS Waivers, Flexibilities, and the End of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency](#)
- [Guidance for the Expiration of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency](#)
- [COVID-19 Over-the-Counter Tests](#)
- [Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program: Public Health Emergency Flexibilities Continue through December 31](#)
- [Transplant Eco-System: Role of Data in CMS Oversight of The Organ Procurement Organizations](#)
- [Expanded Home Health Value-Based Purchasing Model: April Newsletter & Performance Reports](#)
- [Religious Nonmedical Health Care Institution Benefit & COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule 2024 Preliminary Gapfill Rates: Submit Comments by June 26](#)
- [Mental Health: Recommend Medicare Preventive Services](#)

### Claims, Pricers, & Codes

- [COVID-19: Reporting CR Modifier & DR Condition Code After Public Health Emergency Update](#)
- [Claim Status Category & Claim Status Codes](#)

### Events

- [Medicare Shared Savings Program: Navigating the Application Webinar — May 8](#)
- [HCPCS Public Meeting — May 30 – June 1](#)

### MLN Matters® Articles

- [New Fiscal Intermediary Shared System Edit to Validate Attending Provider NPI — Revised](#)

### Publications

- [Electronic Cell-Signaling Treatment](#)

[To view MLN Connects online, click here.](#)

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#### **ODDS AND ENDS**

##### ***SNF provider preview reports available***

The Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Provider Preview Reports have been updated and are now available. These reports contain provider performance scores for quality measures, which will be published on [Care Compare](#) and [Provider Data Catalog \(PDC\)](#) during the **July 2023** refresh.

The data contained within the Preview Reports are based on quality assessment data submitted by SNFs from **Quarter 4,**

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#### **NOTABLE DATES OR EVENTS**

[PHE ends](#)  
**11 May 2023**

[MDS RAI 1.18.11](#)  
**Effective 1**  
**October 2023**

[Click here for QIO](#)  
[Complex Care.](#)

**2021 through Quarter 3, 2022.** Additionally, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage among Healthcare Personnel (HCP) measure reflects data from **Quarter 3, 2022.** The data for the claims-based measures will display data from **Quarter 3, 2019 through Quarter 4, 2019 and Quarter 3, 2020 through Quarter 2, 2021** for this refresh, and for the SNF Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) measure, from **Quarter 4, 2020 through Quarter 3, 2021.**

Providers have until **May 15, 2023** to review their performance data. Only updates/corrections to the underlying assessment data before the final data submission deadline will be reflected in the publicly reported data on Care Compare. If a provider updates assessment data after the final data submission deadline, the updated data will only be reflected in the Facility-Level Quality Measure (QM) report and Patient-Level QM report. Updates submitted after the final data submission deadline will not be reflected in the Provider Preview Reports or on the Care Compare website. However, providers can request Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) review of their data during the preview period if they believe the quality measure scores that are displayed within their Preview Reports are inaccurate.

[Click here for CMS QSEP Portal](#)

[Click here to view CGS Part A training events](#)

[Click here to view CGS Part B training events](#)

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