

Questions and Answers from the Nursing Home Public Meeting

1. Will you be sending out the power point from this call?
 - Response: Yes. We will post them on our website and send out a link when it is published via Gov Delivery.
2. County homes are already subject to independent audits as a part of the county wide audit. Would county homes need to get an additional independent audit?
 - Response: No. We will be ensuring if an entity already has an audit, that only the additional incremental information would be required.
3. What is the timing for providing the audit? Will there be more guidance on the internal control assessment?
 - Response: We would expect audits to be returned to DHS sometime next year when they are complete. We will have timelines and more specific details shared as soon as we can. In particular, we have been working with a group of providers and auditors to work through details, and I will make sure we address the internal control assessment.
4. Will you be releasing raw data for patient days and HIPPS codes?
 - Response: Can you provide additional information by what you are referring to for raw data?
 - Follow up: Total patient days (all NH providers) for each HIPPS code for benchmarking purposes.
 - Follow up response: I will take that back.
5. How will the Medicaid portion of the audit be calculated? If the only reason we are getting the audit is for Medicaid purposes, will 100% be covered?
 - Response: We are working through the specifics of how this will be calculated, and it will likely be a proportional share. However, we are aware there could be a disproportionate impact on providers with low MA utilization.
 - Follow up: Sorry I do not understand your answer. Can you please clarify? What does it depend on? Can you give an example? Thanks.
 - Follow up response: If the facility has 80% MA days, the state will likely pay 80% of the costs associated with the MA requirements. Does this help?
6. When will an updated Methods of Implementation be published?
 - Response: We are working on edits now and hope to have the methods published as soon as we can.
7. So the expectation is to have all 334 Nursing Homes financial statements audited by a CPA in 5 months? With staffing issues at CPA firms has DHS reviewed this with them to see if they even have this capacity?
 - Response: Already a third of homes have financial statements audited. Another third or so, are owned by a small number of businesses. So the number of audits required is far less than 334. We have been working with CPA firms in addition to DHS contracted CPAs.
8. Have you posted the interim rates in Forward Health?
 - Response: Not yet.

9. How much or how are you going to determine what amount will be reimbursed for the independent audit?
 - Response: We are working on how the amounts will be reimbursed. We are likely to reimburse a proportional share of the cost.
10. Does the audit of the State Veterans Homes by the State Legislative Audit Bureau meet the independent audit requirement?
 - Response: Yes.
11. Do out of state related party facilities need to be included in the audit?
 - Response: It will depend on the entity which the audit requirements attach to.
 - Follow up: Sorry, my second question about out of state facilities.
 - Follow up response: If the proper entity to be audited is out of state, they will be required to submit an MA audit for WI. Does this help?
12. Has the due date for the cost been moved back to 5/31 rather than 4/30?
 - Response: No.
13. Is there an excel spreadsheet available with the interim rates, similar to what we received last year.
 - Response: Yes, we will be updating the MCO spreadsheet for interim rates, and that will be made available in a spreadsheet format.
14. If NH providers are going to be reimbursed for the independent audit. How will this show up in the rate? will there be a maximum amount that a provider can be reimbursed?
 - Response: It will be reimbursed separately from the rate.
15. Is there a date we can expect the interim rates to be uploaded into the forward health portal?
 - Response: We will be sending a GOV Delivery out when they are uploaded. I believe we are ready or will be within a few days to get that process started.
16. Is it possible to improve the M&S portal to submit multiple items at once instead of one at a time?
 - Response: Do you mean to submit for more than one facility/event type?
 - Note: M&S further explained the use of zip files for this process in the webinar
17. I don't believe our overall county audit can be expedited for completion by 5/31, but do think the required supplemental schedules can be completed. Will this be acceptable if auditor provides an opinion on these supplemental schedules separately?
 - Response: That would only meet parts of the requirements, as we do need separate income statements as shown during the presentation. We are happy to work through a timeline that works given this is likely a very small part of the County's overall audit process.