



## Medicare & CMS/NGS Workgroup

Meeting Minutes & Agenda

Date: 10/30/2024

**Committee Members:**

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|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Stark, Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> Rachel Eastwood, Vice Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> Katie Troumbly, Board Liaison |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brianna Lindell       | <input type="checkbox"/> Stephanie Andersen          | <input type="checkbox"/> Jill Arvidson                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paula Berger          | <input type="checkbox"/> Lisa Hanowski               | <input type="checkbox"/> Jerri Hiniker                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jessica Kirchoff      | <input type="checkbox"/> Kayla Wohlers- absent       |  |

**Others Present:**

**Staff Present:**

Agenda Item	Discussion	Motion and Vote Follow-Up or Action Item	Responsibility	Deadline
1. Call to Order			Jen	
2. Advocacy & MHCA Updates	-State level-prepping for annual legislative session. Will be looking for short term funding vs. long term. -Fed level-waiting on the final rule and election results. -Brianna's last day with the organization will be 11-15-24.	•	Brianna	•
3. <a href="#">CY 25 HH Proposed Rule</a>	As above	•		•
4. Bill of Rights update / Livanta update	The team relays they have made the updates to their documents and initiated for all new admissions. TTY # is all that has changed.	•		•
5. MN Health Records Act (May 2024 - verbal consent for disclosure)	Member question: - MN Health Records Act - legislation from May 2024: Verbal consent - need a form for patient to sign off on	•		•

	<p>verbal disclosure of info to any family/friends/caregivers. What are agencies doing now?</p> <p>-some agencies have this process documented in policy. Others report deference to their compliance team when this is identified for specific patients.</p>			
<b>6. Information Blocking Rule</b>	<p>Member question:</p> <p>- Information blocking rule - Cares ACT (June 2023 - OIG posted penalties): Is this interpreted as requesting that ALL info be released to clients (including all visit notes!) OR can not block access if requested!</p> <p>-Most agencies reported providing medical records to patient/ representative as requested. If entire chart is requested, that is provided. Agency legal representation would need to be consulted prior to denying access or blocking release of certain documents.</p>	•		•
<b>7. HH Order Document</b>	<p>Group discussion regarding the creation of a gridsheet to further define who is able to complete a face to face and sign the POC. The group agreed there are many nuances and the grid is difficult to demonstrate those intricacies. Rachel agreed to work on creating a flow chart that may define this better. Will wait to present the previously agreed tool to add a flowchart as an addendum/ second page.</p>	•		•
<b>8. Telehealth F2F after 12/31/24</b>	<p>-reminder that all face to face telehealth that was allowed during the pandemic and then extended will be coming to an end on 12-31-2024. Brianna will follow up with national to ask whether there is the possibility of any outstanding legislation that</p>	•		•

	may make this telehealth opportunity permanent.			
<b>9. Open Discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-CareCompare was refreshed recently for home health.</li> <li>-HHAExchange has been acquired by SanData. Agencies continue to struggle with interfaces and having to complete manual tracking.</li> <li>-Most agencies have already transitioned to all patient oasis data collection, the new requirement for 2025.</li> <li>-Special focus group CMS project areas to be targeted will be published soon.</li> </ul> <p>Survey discussions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Jill's team had a complaint investigation.</li> <li>-Jess team had a condition level complaint investigation with focus on vulnerable adult issues.</li> <li>-Rachel spoke to an extended survey with focus on bed rail safety.</li> </ul> <p>Expectation is that agencies are measuring gaps and obtaining copies of monitoring from ALF's when providing care there.</p>	•		•
<b>10. Wrap-Up</b>	Thank you to Brianna for her years of service to the organization and to this group. We hope to see you again soon. Good luck on the new adventure.			
<b>11. Adjournment</b>	1:30 PM			
<b>Next Meeting Date &amp; Location: December 18, 2024 via Zoom</b>				