

interChange Provider Important Message

Updated Information for Hospitals and Nursing Homes Regarding the PASRR Process (Revised)

The State of Connecticut, Department of Social Services recently became aware that some hospitals and nursing homes may have seen or heard about guidance that originated with CMS's Center for Clinical Standards and Quality (CCSQ) entitled "COVID-19 Emergency Declaration Blanket Waivers for Health Care Providers," that includes language indicating that CMS has issued a "blanket waiver" for PASRR activities, allowing a suspension of PASRR assessments for new nursing facility residents for 30 days. This guidance comes from Survey and Certification and it is specific to nursing facilities.

The emergency blanket 1135 waiver was issued by Survey and Certification, and only waives 42 CFR 483.20(k), which is a compliance requirement for nursing homes. State agencies are not subject to 42 CFR 483.20(k). All the Survey waiver does is indicate to NFs that they will not be cited by surveyors for non-compliance with federal PASRR requirements if they have admitted people with incomplete PASRR documentation. This would be the likely scenario if a state had submitted and been approved for an 1135 waiver that included PASRR. As we advised in a previous message, Connecticut did **NOT** request the flexibility to suspend PASRR requirements for 30 days in its 1135 Waiver.

Hospitals and Nursing Facilities are advised at this time that they should continue following the requirements in 42 CFR 482.100-.138.

Questions on this should be directed to Kathy Bruni at (860) 424-5177 or kathy.a.bruni@ct.gov.