

THE QUARTERLY CONNECTION

Quarterly Report from Pharma-Care, Inc., Health Care Consultation Specialists Second Quarter 2012

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State Survey Results of LTC Facilities: Recorded Trends

Our review of the last quarter State Surveys identifies the following areas as having frequently cited deficiencies:

F281: Professional Standards

- Signing for treatments that were no longer active.
- Signing out medication BEFORE it was administered.
- Charting blanks on the MAR/TAR.
- Nitro Dur patch not removed in the pm, so when med pass administration was done the next morning, the patch was still on the resident.

F332 - Med Pass

- Ophthalmic suspension not shaken prior to administration.
- Blood pressure medication given, even when bp was below set parameters.
- Multivitamin given when multivitamin with mineral was ordered.
- Inappropriate number of tablets given.
- Medication given outside of the accepted time frame.

Attention Facility Administrators and Medical Directors

Please keep in mind the following important reminders about DEA registration and CDS Certificates:

Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Registration (Federal level)

- Renewed every two years upon anniversary, building-specific.
- DEA registration application forms are accessible on the DEA website at www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov.

Controlled Dangerous Substance (CDS) Certificate (State level)

- Renewal due by October 31st of **each** year.
- The NJ Division of Consumer Affairs offers licensees the opportunity to renew licensure via a secure website at www.MyLicense@dca.lps.state.nj.us - or - <https://newjersey.mylicense.com/>.
- If you do not have a MyLicense code, contact the Division of Consumer Affairs at: 888-656-6225 or 973-424-8150.
- According to Drug Control, the renewal for a facility's CDS is a section on the renewal mailed to the medical director's office address for his/her personal CDS. The renewal notice offers the medical director the option to renew "alternate sites" in addition to renewing his/her personal CDS. *Note: Your facility is considered one of the alternate sites. If the renewal for the alternate site is not done along with your personal renewal, there could be a delay in your facility receiving a new certificate. Also, the fee for the alternate site must be paid at renewal time to ensure proper processing.*
- When your facility receives the new certificate, it must be signed by the medical director and fax or email a copy to your providing pharmacy.

Attention Phenobarbital Users

Manufacturers of phenobarbital recently changed their labeling measurements to read in "grains" instead of milligrams and provider pharmacies are making their own decisions whether to change their labels as well, opening up the possibility for much confusion. Will your provider be labeling the product as 15mg or 16.2 mg or 1/4 grain?

Discontinued milligram measures	Current milligram measures	Conversions to grains
15mg	16.2mg	1/4 grain
30mg	32.4mg	1/2 grain
60mg	64.8mg	1 grain
100mg	97.2mg	1 1/2 grain

NOTE: If your pharmacy provider translates dosage from grains to milligrams using the 16.2mg conversion, it does not indicate a change in dosing!

SAVE THE DATE

*NJ Long-Term Care Leaders Coalition
Annual Conference*

October 4, 2012 (Thursday)

Crowne Plaza, Monroe, NJ

Physicians, medical directors, nurses, pharmacists,
social workers, dietitians earn five credits (pending).

The NJLTCLC is comprised of:
NJ Geriatrics Society NJ Medical Directors
NJ Directors of Nursing Administration/LTC
NJ American College of Healthcare Administrators



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EPIC Corner

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During the past quarter we were pleased to note a marked decrease in the number of **EPIC Delay Notifications** sent to facilities requesting an EPIC review. (The Delay Notification is sent to a facility that has sent their forms via the Pharma-Care fax line instead of EPIC's dedicated fax line.) A Delay Notification slows down the process of getting a resident reviewed by EPIC. Good job in remembering to use EPIC's fax!



Use of the **EPIC Review Control Form** is essential in maintaining a steady flow between your facility and the EPIC department. This form enables the sender to see which resident's physician order sheets were sent to EPIC and when. When filled in, the Review Control Form enables you to see which resident's reviews have been completed and returned to you. If more than 72 hours have passed since a request has been made, please contact EPIC at the number above.



Occasionally a facility sends only a **cover sheet** without the accompanying **Physician Order Sheets**. The cover sheet alone does not allow a review to be completed. In these instances, EPIC will send a request asking for the Physician Order Sheets to be sent along with the review request.



Use a new **EPIC Request Form** for each resident. Sending multiple residents on one form or transmission is not recommended. EPIC Request Forms are available online at www.pharmacareinc.com, they may be requested from your Pharma-Care consultant pharmacist, or call the EPIC department.

In the News

Non-fatal occupational injuries among healthcare workers are too high and nursing homes are the first places that OSHA plans to scrutinize, according to data released November 9 by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The incidence rate for healthcare support workers increased 6% to 283 cases per 10,000 full-time workers, almost 2 1/2 times the average rate for all private and public sector industries. The rate among nursing aides, orderlies and attendants rose even higher, 7%, to 489 per 10,000 workers.

OSHA has called this situation "unacceptable," and announced that the agency will soon launch a National Emphasis Program on nursing home and residential care facilities.

The program will increase inspections of facilities and focus on back injuries from patient handling or lifting; exposure to bloodborne pathogens and other infectious diseases; workplace violence; and slips, trips and falls.

HC Pro - November 10th, 2011

January through April is high season for norovirus, the microbial that affects one in fifteen Americans every year causing sudden vomiting, diarrhea, and stomach cramps for 24 to 48 hours. People are contagious from the moment they feel ill to at least three days - and possibly two weeks after they recover according to the CDC. Norovirus is estimated to cause about 800 deaths every year, usually as a result of dehydration in the very young or elderly.

An antiviral medicine is in early development by LigoCyte Pharmaceuticals testing a nasal spray vaccine in human volunteers.

USA Today- February 28, 2012



Pharma-Care, Inc. holiday tradition includes collecting donations from staff for distribution at local food banks. Managers Patty Cafone, Jean Abdou, Patty Brosh, and Karen Federman show off some of "the goods" at December's quarterly meeting.

Welcome to Our New Clients
Eagleview Health and Rehabilitation
Specialty Surgical Center of North Brunswick



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