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Executive Deputy Commissioner

Date: November 1, 2020

DAL: DHCBS 20-12

Subject: 2019 LHCSA Statistical Report and
2019 ALP LHCSA Statistical Report

Dear Administrator:

The 2019 Licensed Home Care Services Agency (LHCSA) Statistical Report and the 2019 Assisted Living Program (ALP) LHCSA Statistical Report will be made available for downloading on November 1, 2020. Reports must be submitted by **December 31, 2020**.

LHCSA Registration Process

Section 3605-b, of the Public Health Law (PHL) has been amended to require annual registration of all licensed home care services agencies with the Department of Health. As such, all LHCSAs, including those affiliated with an ALP, are required to be registered with the Department beginning January 1, 2019 and annually thereafter. The registration status of each LHCSA will be publicly posted on the New York State Department of Health website at <https://health.data.ny.gov/Health/Licensed-Home-Care-Services-Agency-Registration-St/t96r-z8r7>

LHCSAs that were licensed during the current year, 2020, will be automatically registered for and may provide services and bill during 2020. In addition, they may register for 2021 using the **LHCSA Registration Short Form**, a HERDS survey on the Health Commerce System. All other LHCSAs must register for 2021 by successfully submitting a **complete** 2019 LHCSA Statistical Report and/or 2019 ALP LHCSA Statistical Report. Failure to complete and submit the statistical report by the stipulated deadline will result in the following penalties:

- A \$500 fine will be assessed for each month, or part of a month, that the organization is not registered.
- Agencies that are not registered will not be allowed to operate until they become registered.
- Agencies that fail to register timely for two years, not necessarily consecutive, may have their licenses revoked.

ALP LHCSAs

All ALP LHCSAs must submit the 2019 ALP LHCSA Statistical Report. An ALP LHCSA serving patients in the community must also fill out and submit all sections of the 2019 LHCSA Statistical Report to report data for these community patients. However, an ALP LHCSA that does not serve patients in the community must only complete and submit the 2019 ALP LHCSA Statistical Report. For those ALP LHCSAs submitting both reports, the submission date of the

first successfully submitted report will be considered the submission date for the agency for registration purposes.

Report Platform

The 2019 LHCSA Statistical Report and the 2019 ALP LHCSA Statistical Report will use the NYSDOH developed Universal Data Collection System (UDCS) platform.

- Please review and follow the directions that will be provided when the 2019 Statistical Reports become available on November 1, 2020.
- Only those assigned the Health Commerce System (HCS) Administrator Role will be allowed to submit the report. It is imperative that your agency's HCS Administrator Role assignments be accurate and up to date. The LHCSA Administrators from the 2018 Statistical Report are currently loaded on the Healthcare Financial Data Gateway. New Administrators will be added manually. If you are unable to access the report on the Healthcare Financial Data Gateway, please send an email to HCStatRpts@health.ny.gov to ensure that permissions to access the UDCS platform are in place.
- The UDCS application and the LHCSA Statistical Report forms must be downloaded from the HCS and installed on a user's computer. There have been changes to the software therefore users will need to download the revised software. Users designated by the agency can then enter the required data.

Revisions to the Report

The 2019 LHCSA Statistical Report will be very similar to the 2018 LHCSA Statistical Report. A question has been added to the LSR1 Agency form so that LHCSAs providing companion care services can report this line of business.

The 2019 ALP LHCSA Statistical Report will be the same as last year's report.

Please continually monitor the Health Commerce System. Information will be provided through the HCS including directions for downloading and installing the UDCS application and the LHCSA Statistical Report forms, suggestions for using the application in different technical environments and organizational structures, entering data into the forms, and submitting the completed report. **Please read these documents carefully. The 2019 LHCSA Statistical Report is extensive and the successful registration of your LHCSA depends upon your submission of an acceptable LHCSA Statistical Report.**

Thank you in advance for submitting your 2019 LHCSA Statistical report on time. Please send any questions, comments, and concerns to HCStatRpts@health.ny.gov.

Sincerely,



Carol A. Rodat
Director
Division of Home and Community Based Services

Attachment

2019 LHCSA Statistical Report

Changes from last year

A question enabling agencies to report if they are providing companion care has been added.

List of all Validation Edits

LSR1/LSR10 – The answer to the question “Did this Agency Serve patients during the report year?” on LSR1, must match the answer to the question “Did this LHCSA provide patient care services during the report year?” on LSR 10.

LSR2 – The Total of Discharges in the Length of Stay section must match the total of discharges in the “Discharge to” column in the Referrals and Discharge Section

LSR 2 – The unduplicated patient count on LSR2 must match the total of unduplicated patients reported on LSR7. This total is displayed on LSR2

LSR2 – The number of total cases listed on LSR2 must match the total number of cases referred on the “Referred From” column in the Referrals and Discharge Section

LSR3 & LSR4 – If hours or visits are entered on LSR3/4 Revenue Form, then there must be an amount in the “Gross Revenue” column. Conversely, if an amount is entered in the “Gross Revenue” column, then there must be an amount entered in hours or visits.

LSR6 – An edit has been added to limit the number of staff and W2s to a certain amount or lower – to avoid errors of large entries. The upper limits are 17,000 for the number of HHAs, 17,000 for number of PCAs, and 25,000 for the number of W2s.

LSR 7 – If there is an amount listed under “Cases” then there must be an amount listed under “Hours” or “Visits” to correspond. Conversely, if there is an amount listed under “Hours” or “Visits”, then there must be an amount listed under “Cases”.

LSR7 – If there are amounts listed under “Cases” (it is totaled at the bottom of the form) – there must be an amount in the “Unduplicated Patient Count” field. Conversely, if there is an amount in the “Unduplicated Patient Count” field, then there must be an amount entered under “Cases”.

New – LSR7 – The amount entered in “New Admissions” field must be less than or equal to the amount entered in the “Unduplicated Patient Count” field.

List of all Required Fields

LSR1 – Rows 1-10 Contact Information

LSR10 – Rows 12-14 Registration Attestation

Licensed Home Care Services Agency Statistical Report Overview

Licensed Home Care Services Agencies (LHCSAs) offer home care services to clients who pay privately or have private insurance coverage. These agencies may also contract to provide services to Medicare/Medicaid beneficiaries whose cases are managed by another provider or entity, such as providing home health aide services to a certified home health agency patient or providing a licensed practical nurse for a Medicaid prior-approved private duty nursing shift. The NYS Department of Health is responsible for oversight of these agencies. There are currently about 1487 Licensed Home Care Services Agencies; we estimate that over 100 of these are not operational.

Licensed Home Care Services Agencies are required to submit an annual statistical report. Historical submission rates (pre-2018) were around 65%. In 2017 the Public Health Law 3605-b law (attached) was amended to require that Licensed Home Care Services Agencies be registered annually; unregistered Licensed Home Care Services Agencies are forbidden to provide services or bill for services, are required to pay fees for late registration and risk revocation of their licenses for multiple instances of late or non-registration. Licensed Home Care Services Agency registration is accomplished by the Licensed Home Care Services Agency submitting a complete statistical report and indicating their desire to register on the report.

The Licensed Home Care Services Agency Statistical Report submission rate has increased to almost 90% since this change was instituted. This represents an increase in the amount of data that is available for analysis of this sector of the health care industry and it has fostered communication with providers that were previously "dark". In addition, it has provided a tool for closing non-operational Licensed Home Care Services Agencies.

The data collected on the Licensed Home Care Services Agency Statistical Report includes general patient statistics, costs and revenue by service (nursing, Home Health Aide, etc.), staffing, the numbers of patients served and the services rendered by county, workforce, and registration information. Licensed Home Care Services Agencies associated with Assisted Living Programs (ALPs) in an Adult Care Facility (ACF) submit a different set of data due since they are reimbursed at a daily rate, not by unit of service.

Due to the close tie between the Licensed Home Care Services Agency Statistical Report and the registration process, there is a set of Licensed Home Care Services Agencies that currently cannot submit a Statistical Report and register because they did not register, and they owe fees. There are two sets of letters informing these agencies of their need to pay the fees they owe that are awaiting approval for release. These are Cease and Desist letters and Late Registration letters. It is important that these letters be approved as soon as possible in order to provide these Licensed Home Care Services Agencies as much time as possible to pay their fees and register for the coming year.

The accompanying material includes the Dear Administrator Letter (DAL) announcing the release of the report, the language of Section 3605-b authorizing and defining the registration process, and a copy of the new Licensed Home Care Services Agency Registration Short Form which will enable appropriate Licensed Home Care Services Agencies to register without submitting a full statistical report.