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MEMORANDUM

TO: RHCF Members

FROM: Elliott Frost, Senior Policy Analyst

DATE: August 25, 2008

SUBJECT: **CMS Guidance on Quality of Life Requirements**

ROUTE TO: Administrator, Director of Nursing, Director of Social Work

ABSTRACT: CMS issues draft guidance on quality of life F tags.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has issued a draft of proposed changes to language in the *Interpretive Guidance for Surveyors*. The new language does not alter regulation but modifies or supplements existing guidance to surveyors that assists the surveyor in making compliance decisions. The changes are being proposed in response to discussions held at the *National Symposium on Culture Change and Environmental Requirements*, co-sponsored by CMS and the Pioneer Network in April 2008. The focus of the symposium was person-centered living environments. Ten F tags are covered in the revised guidance.

AAHSA has asked state associations to forward any member input on the revised guidance by Monday September 15, 2008 so that any comments or recommendations can be shared with CMS. Please review the attachments and send comments to efrost@nyahsa.org prior to September 15, 2008.

If you have questions or comments, please contact me at 518-449-2707, ext. 140 or via e-mail at efrost@nyahsa.org.

Attachments