

DOH Makes Changes to *Nursing Home Incident Reporting Manual*

The DOH *Nursing Home Incident Reporting Manual* has been replaced with an updated version dated 6/14/12. While DOH had shared some of the changes it was considering with LeadingAge NY some months ago, the update was posted without alerting either LeadingAge NY or the provider community. The changes to the reporting expectations are significant, especially in relation to the reporting of abuse. Previously, the nursing home was expected to determine “intent” as criteria for reporting. Under the new guidance, the “intent” criteria has been eliminated and a nursing home is required to report “inappropriate physical contact resulting in bodily injury or likely to harm a resident.” This change will no doubt increase the number of incidents that a nursing home would report.

Clarification was also made to the “neglect” area in terms of defining when a violation of the care plan should be reported. A number of changes were made to the examples provided in the manual. LeadingAge NY has also asked DOH to address what consequences, if any, a nursing home would face if it had been in compliance with the earlier reporting manual, but as they had not been made aware of the new guidance, had not reported incidents that they are now required to report under the revised guidance. DOH then sent a notification to all administrators through the HCS on 9/13/12. The revised manual can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

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