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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** RHCF Members

**FROM:** Patrick Cucinelli, Senior Financial Policy Analyst

**DATE:** March 30, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Update on MDS Roster Submissions Process

**ROUTE TO:** Administrator, CFO

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ABSTRACT: NYAHS identifies concern with MDS roster submission process.

### Introduction

With the extension of the MDS roster submission deadline to Friday, April 3, 2009, NYAHS has had an opportunity to obtain member feedback on the process and to review certain issues with the Department of Health (DOH). Overall, DOH has been responsive to any issues raised, with at least one significant concern identified. Detailed guidance related to the submission process is available in NYAHS memo [Doc ID# n00003206](#).

### Issue Identified

There is one concern identified at this time, which should prompt providers to carefully review their validation reports received post submission. There have been some instances in which there is a discrepancy between the submitted scores and the validation report, affecting a small percentage of residents in the submitted population.

The general pattern appears to be one in which isolated resident scores are down coded as a result of the MDS section T rehabilitation information being rejected, although we are aware of at least one instance in which a resident score of clinically complex with no rehabilitation was down coded, and a couple of instances in which there was up coding.

At this time DOH does not have an explanation as to the cause and believes that this is only impacting a small number of facilities. Their strategy is to deal with the problem on a case by case basis. Facilities that identify this or any problem with their submission should notify DOH through the Resident Assessment Unit at 518-473-8910 or [PRIMail@health.state.ny.us](mailto:PRIMail@health.state.ny.us).

Because only a handful of MDS scores in a batch may be affected by this problem, NYAHSA recommends that facilities perform a detailed review of their validation reports, focusing on rehabilitation residents in particular.

NYAHSA also cautions that DOH is indicating that a facility has only a seven-day window from the date of original submission to submit corrections regardless of the April 3<sup>rd</sup> extension date. Therefore, facilities that submitted early last week, and have not already done so should make sure to carefully review their validation reports as soon as possible.

NYAHSA is asking members to keep us informed regarding any significant problems encountered and to please contact us with any questions at [pcucinelli@nyahsa.org](mailto:pcucinelli@nyahsa.org) or call 518-449-2707 ext. 145; or Jennifer Pettis at [jpettis@nyahsa.org](mailto:jpettis@nyahsa.org), ext. 146.