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Revisions to Surveyor Guidance on Quality of Care

ABSTRACT: CMS issues changes to Quality of Care (F309) and other survey areas.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has issued a *Survey and Certification Letter (S&C-09-22)* outlining revised guidance for F309, Quality of Care, along with a new investigative protocol and new pain management guidelines. The new guidance becomes effective on **March 31, 2009**. Several other changes involving the removal of the weight loss protocol, the deletion of paper copy storage of the MDS for facilities with electronic records and the modification of the survey process for demand bills is also included in *S&C-09-22*. The letter including the revised guidance, investigative protocol, and information on compliance determinations and training material can be accessed from the following link:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/downloads/SCletter09-22.pdf>

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