



The Orange Peel

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Special Interest Articles

Provider Revalidations

855A Changes

Culture Change

This issue brought to you by:



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CMS Provider Revalidations

Did you receive a Request for Revalidation Yet?

In late October CMS held a National Provider Conference Call regarding their Provider Revalidation Plan. CMS has undertaken to revalidate information for every provider and/or supplier across the country. During the conference call the representatives from CMS discussed plans for the revalidation and tips on what to expect. The last widespread revalidation conducted by CMS was in 2001.

Recently, CMS sent out 89,000 Requests for Revalidation to providers across the nation. This first batch of notices was sent to currently enrolled providers who had not been entered in the PECOS System.

The plan is for CMS to mail out another 1.45 million letters requesting revalidations starting in January, 2012. **Be on the look-out for a colored envelope** addressed to your

special payment or practice address, as on file with CMS.

If you are unsure if a request was received, you can visit the CMS website at www.cms.gov. CMS will be posting a list of notices sent by business name and NPI and will endeavor to update the list every two to four weeks.

Upon receipt of a Request for Revalidation, providers who are entered in the PECOS System may revalidate through PECOS. Also, providers who are not in PECOS can still pay the application fees online.

The Revalidations sent out in 2011 require an application fee of \$505.00. Such application fee will change in January, 2012, however, the amount of the fee is not yet available. CMS will post the 2012 application fees on their website when available.

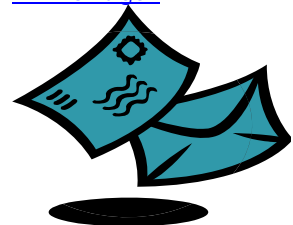
This revalidation process is going to be a huge undertaking for CMS. Extra staff has been added to help streamline this process, and

the PECOS System will be updated to improve accessibility.

Please be aware, CMS does not want providers attempting to revalidate before a request is received.

In the future CMS hopes to move to an all-digital process. Further updates to the PECOS System and website should allow providers to upload documents electronically, and allow bulk uploads for providers of multiple facilities. All of these steps should help speed up the revalidation process.

For further information regarding the Provider Revalidation please visit the CMS website at: www.cms.gov.



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New CMS Form 855A

NOTICED CHANGES TO THE CMS FORM 855?

CMS published new Form 855s in July, 2011. The new forms were briefly discussed by CMS representatives during the National Provider Call hosted by CMS in October, 2011.

There are now five different Form855s for your use:

- Form 855A for Part A Providers.
- Form 855B for Part B Providers.
- Form 855I for Individual Physicians and Non-Physician Practitioners

• Form 855R for Reassignment Individuals;

• Form 855O for all others (i.e., ineligible individuals, DOD, VA, etc.)

Please visit the CMS website to view the forms and for more information: www.cms.gov.



Want to get involved with CAHF's grass roots campaigns? Check out the website at: www.cahf.org

Implementing Culture Change

The Dining Experience is Changing.

At OCAHF's October Meeting, Jennifer Defraime discussed ways to effect culture change through dining. "It is simple to make small, cost-effective changes that will make a big difference in how your residents feel."

Rather than serve meals on the standard heavy-duty serviceable plastic plates and utensils, use ceramic plates and metal flatware. As an alternative to meal trays, use place settings. Be sure to have staff feed the residents requiring assistance at eye-level and not while standing over them.

These small steps create a more home-like environment. Ms. Defraime advises offering residents a choice of meal times and menu items, giving them a better sense of independence and control. Defraime states: "Accommodating their [residents'] preferences is what de-institutionalizes facilities."

Creating a comfortable environment that offers the residents dignity and choice is key to creating a happier place to live. Plan for culture change when considering your budget as well. Offering dignity and respect is an investment in your residents and gives them a feeling of self-worth.

For more information visit Jennifer's website at: www.dietitiansofoc.com.



CALLING ALL FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES!

OCAHF is always looking for new members.

Have a friend or colleague that is interested in joining OCAHF? Know a vendor who could benefit from meeting our group?

Put them in touch with Anita Bunting today!

Her email is:

Ocahboard2@gmail.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

PENCIL THIS IN!

OCAHF and CAHF have some very exciting events coming up that you do not want to miss! Conventions, Conferences, and more are waiting for you!

Be sure to get out your Blackberry, your iPod, your Tablet and mark your calendars for these exciting dates:

**December 6, 2011
DECEMBER OCAHF HOLIDAY LUNCHEON**
Grand Catered Events
Orange, CA**

****Superstars Wanted!**

**February 9, 2011
OCAHF EDUCATIONAL MEETING**
Topics: Admission/Arbitration Agreements, Optimizing Reimbursements and Preventing Re-Hospitalization
**GRAND CATERED EVENTS
Orange, CA**

**March 11-13, 2012
SPRING LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE
Hyatt Regency Sacramento**

**May 10, 2012
19TH ANNUAL CAHF GOLF TOURNAMENT
at Pelican Hill**

**July 22-25, 2012
QCHF INSTITUTE & CAHF SUMMER CONFERENCE,
La Costa Resort & Spa
Carlsbad, CA**

Do you have an event planned you would like to add to our calendar section? For more information on these events please contact

Anita Bunting at ocahfboard2@gmail.com or visit the CAHF website at: www.cahf.org.



Have a super employee you would like to recognize?

Nominate your Superstar today!



More than ten people a year are killed by vending machines. Next time you crave a candy bar, you might want to think twice! [Courtesy of www.funfactz.com]

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"Providers Giving Quality Care".

OCTOBER MEETING RECAP

OCAHF's OCTOBER MEETING WAS A BLAST!

We had a great turn out for our October meeting. Please be sure to mark your calendars for the next OCAHF Christmas Luncheon on December 6th, 2011 at Grand Catered Events in Orange. Be sure to reserve your seats!

CAHF Preferred Providers **COMS Interactive, JSA Search, Inc. and ShiftWise** each gave a brief overview of what their companies offer facilities. Kevin Thon from Agape Healthcare Staffing also spoke about services Agape offers.

Mr. Joe Diaz spoke about the current state of the budget cuts and what the facilities can expect from 2012 (more cuts).

Ms. Jennifer Defraime gave a fascinating discussion on bringing about culture change through dining.

Julie Melendez spoke to the group about wound care litigation. Key hints from her talk were:

- If it isn't documented it didn't happen.
- Be sure to describe the wound in your notes (length, width, depth). This will support your treatment decisions.

- Be sure to use the same reference for measuring wounds each time.
- He who has the higher stack of evidence wins!

Ms. Melendez states: "Wound related litigation is often not about quality of care- it's about relationships." Communication with patients and family members regarding care is key. Litigation can sometimes be avoided by dealing with the problem head on and communicating directly with the patient and family members.



CAHF PREFERRED VENDORS

Thank You to our Preferred Vendors!

OCAHF would like to give a public shout out to the following CAHF Preferred Vendors:

- ❖ COMS Interactive
- ❖ The Garabedian Group
- ❖ JSA Search, Inc.
- ❖ ShiftWise
- ❖ HealthCap

- ❖ Allied Telesis
- ❖ HPSI Purchasing Services
- ❖ Livermore & Associates
- ❖ PartnerShipSelect
- ❖ Senior Crime Stoppers
- ❖ Total Living Choices

OCAHF would also like to thank our QCHF Education Partners:

- ❖ Silverchair Learning Systems
- ❖ Medcom Trainex

For more information on any of the Preferred Vendors or Education Partners listed above, please visit the CAHF website at: www.cahf.org



We're on the Web!
 See us at:
www.cahf.org/blog.html



Human beings lose an average of 40-100 strands of hair a day. No wonder shower and tub drains get stopped up! [Courtesy of www.funfactz.com]