



Iowa Department of Human Services

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INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1660-MC

DATE: April 14, 2016

TO: Iowa Medicaid Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF), Intermediate Care Facilities (NF), Nursing Facilities-Mental III (NF/MI) and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs)

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Minimum Data Set (MDS) 3.0 Section “Q” Referral Process

EFFECTIVE: April 1, 2016

The MDS 3.0 is the NF resident assessment instrument used by all Medicaid certified NFs. The MDS 3.0 Section “Q” identifies NF residents who wish to learn about available community supports and services and the possibility of returning to the community.

The IA Health Link managed care program began on April 1, 2016. This letter provides updated instructions on the process for Section “Q” referrals to the local contact agencies (LCAs). The process will be as follows:

After completion of the MDS 3.0, the NF discharge planner should call the IME Medical Services Unit at 1-800-383-1173 or locally in Des Moines at 256-4623 between 8 am and 4:30 pm Monday through Friday and ask to speak to a reviewer about a Section “Q” referral.

The IME reviewer will gather the necessary information from the facility. The IME reviewer will then determine if the member is assigned to an MCO. If the member is enrolled in an MCO, the member’s contact information will be forwarded to the MCO’s care coordination team. The MCO care coordination team will respond to the individual’s request for information and provide additional outreach to further assess the member’s needs related to transition into the community.

If the member is with Medicaid Fee-for-Service (FFS) and is not enrolled with an MCO or is not Medicaid eligible, the member’s contact information will be forwarded to a Money Follows the Person (MFP) transition specialist who will perform additional outreach to further assess the member’s needs related to transition to the community.

Within the Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) there is a similar process to follow whenever an individual has 1) been approved by PASRR for a short-term period of approval NF care, with a goal of placement in a lower level of care, or 2) self-disclosed through a process other than via the MDS 3.0 Section “Q”, that they wish to seek transition to a lower level of care. In these cases, the NF will be expected to make appropriate referrals following the guidance offered within the PASRR Summary of Findings and PASRR training.

If you have any questions regarding the MDS 3.0 Section “Q” referral process, please contact Sally Oudekerk, Program Manager, at soudeke@dhs.state.ia.us.

If you have any questions regarding the PASRR program or process, please contact Lila Starr, PASRR Program Manager, at lstarr@dhs.state.ia.us, or Ascend Management Innovations, at iowapasrr@ascendami.com.