



**Center for Clinical Standards and Quality/Survey & Certification Group**

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**Ref: S&C: 16-14-NH**

**DATE:** March 25, 2016

**TO:** State Survey Agency Directors

**FROM:** Director  
Survey and Certification Group

**SUBJECT:** Release of 2015 *Nursing Home Data Compendium*

**Memorandum Summary**

- The 11th edition of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) *Nursing Home Data Compendium* contains figures and tables presenting data on all Medicare- and Medicaid-certified nursing homes in the United States as well as the residents in these nursing homes. A series of graphs and maps highlights some of the most interesting data, while detailed data are available in accompanying tables. The data compendium is divided into three sections. Section 1 presents information on nursing home characteristics; Section 2 focuses on nursing home survey results; and Section 3 presents information on the demographic, functional and clinical characteristics of nursing home residents.
- The data compendium presents five years of nursing home survey outcomes for the more than 15,000 nursing homes participating in Medicaid and Medicare, and four years of data on the more than 1.4 million residents who reside in nursing homes each day.
- To access the compendium: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/CertificationandCompliance/NHs.html>

**Background**

CMS first published the *Nursing Home Data Compendium* in 2000; the 2015 edition represents the 11<sup>th</sup> version of this volume. To compile the *Nursing Home Data Compendium*, CMS uses a variety of data – primarily clinical assessment data reported by nursing homes on the Minimum Data Set, and the results from onsite inspections of nursing homes contained in the CMS database, CASPER.

Data published in this volume suggest that the decline in the number of nursing homes participating in Medicare and Medicaid, first observed in the 1990s, has slowed. The number of nursing homes participating in Medicare and Medicaid actually increased very slightly from 2012 to 2014. Data also show that the percentage of surveys cited on standard nursing home

surveys at scope and severity “D” or “E” reach 83.8% of all deficiencies in 2014, an unprecedented proportion.

The *Data Compendium* also presents four annual “snapshots” of the residents of these nursing homes. More than 15% of the population of nursing homes is under 65 years of age, while more than two-thirds of the residents are women. Interestingly, more than 10% of nursing home residents are reported to have no ADL or cognitive impairment.

Data reported here suggest that in important ways, the care of nursing home residents has improved. The reported prevalence of pressure ulcers declined by 10% between 2011 and 2014, to 5.9%. At the same time, the reported use of physical restraints has become rare. However more than one in five nursing home residents still receives a daily dose of antipsychotic medications.

**Effective Date:** Immediately. This information should be communicated with all survey and certification staff, their managers and the State/Regional Office training coordinators within 30 days of this memorandum. The contents of this letter supports activities or actions to improve resident safety and increase quality and reliability of care for better outcomes.

/s/

Thomas E. Hamilton

cc: Survey and Certification Regional Office Management