



AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES
DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES, AGING AND INDEPENDENT LIVING

Division of Licensing and Protection
HC2 South, 280 State Drive
Waterbury VT 05671-2060
<http://www.dail.vermont.gov>
Survey and Certification Voice/TTY (802) 241-0480
Survey and Certification Fax (802) 241-0343
Survey and Certification Reporting Line:(888) 700-5330
To Report Adult Abuse: (800) 564-1612

August 9, 2024

Ms. Lyne Limoges, Administrator
Orleans /Essex VNA & Hospice
46 Lakemont Road
Newport, VT 05855

Provider ID #: 471504

Dear Ms. Limoges:

Enclosed is a copy of your acceptable plans of correction for the survey conducted on **June 19, 2024**.

Follow up may occur to verify that substantial compliance has been achieved and maintained.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Suzanne Leavitt".

Suzanne Leavitt, RN, MS
State Survey Agency Director
Assistant Division Director

Enclosure

PRINTED: 07/02/2024

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

FORM APPROVED

OMB NO. 0938-0391

| STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES AND PLAN OF CORRECTIONS | | (X1) PROVIDER/SUPPLIER/CLIA IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 471504 | (X2) MULTIPLE CONSTRUCTION A. BUILDING B. WING | (X3) DATE SURVEY COMPLETED 06/19/2024 |
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| NAME OF PROVIDER OR SUPPLIER Orleans /Essex VNA & Hospice | | | STREET ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE 46 Lakemont Road , Newport, Vermont, 05855 | |
| (X4) ID PREFIX TAG | SUMMARY STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES (EACH DEFICIENCY MUST BE PRECEDED BY FULL REGULATORY OR LSC IDENTIFYING INFORMATION) | ID PREFIX TAG | PROVIDER'S PLAN OF CORRECTION (EACH CORRECTIVE ACTION SHOULD BE CROSS-REFERENCED TO THE APPROPRIATE DEFICIENCY) | (X5) COMPLETION DATE |
| E0000 | Initial Comments During an unannounced on-site recertification survey from 6-17-2024 through 6-19-2024, The Division of Licensing and Protection conducted a review of the Agency's Emergency Preparedness Program. The following deficiencies were identified. | E0000 | | |
| E0006 | Plan Based on All Hazards Risk Assessment CFR(s): 418.113(a)(1)-(2) §403.748(a)(1)-(2), §416.54(a)(1)-(2), §418.113(a)(1)-(2), §441.184(a)(1)-(2), §460.84(a)(1)-(2), §482.15(a)(1)-(2), §483.73(a)(1)-(2), §483.475(a)(1)-(2), §484.102(a)(1)-(2), §485.68(a)(1)-(2), §485.542(a)(1)-(2), §485.625(a)(1)-(2), §485.727(a)(1)-(2), §485.920(a)(1)-(2), §486.360(a)(1)-(2), §491.12(a)(1)-(2), §494.62(a)(1)-(2) [(a) Emergency Plan. The [facility] must develop and maintain an emergency preparedness plan that must be reviewed, and updated at least every 2 years. The plan must do the following: (1) Be based on and include a documented, facility-based and community-based risk assessment, utilizing an all-hazards approach. (2) Include strategies for addressing emergency events identified by the risk assessment. * [For Hospices at §418.113(a):] Emergency Plan. The Hospice must develop and maintain an emergency preparedness plan that must be reviewed, and updated at least every 2 years. The plan must do the following: (1) Be based on and include a documented, facility-based and community-based risk assessment, utilizing an all-hazards approach. | E0006 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP) was updated by 7/12/2024. It will be reviewed by our Board of Directors at their next meeting in August 2024. OEVNA&H staff, contracted personnel and volunteers will be provided with a copy of the updated EPP. OEVNA&H reinstated contact with the local emergency preparedness offices on 6/25/2024 and will coordinate with them updating the Hazards Risk Analysis within 30 days. The EPP and its components (including hazard analysis, staff education, any contracts) will be reviewed annually and updated every two (2) years. The updated EPP will include that following an activation and termination of an emergency, 10% of the staff affected by the emergency will be surveyed. Upon return of the surveys, the Executive Director, Clinical Director and HR Director as well as any other designated personnel will meet within 5-7 business days to discuss the emergency, OEVNA&H response to the emergency and results of the surveys to provide an analysis of the emergency. The analysis requirements are noted in the updated EPP. The results will be summarized and maintained in the EPP Incident Binder, and a copy will be provided to the Clinical Director for maintaining the copy of the analysis for QI purposes. The OEVNA&H Board of Directors, as part of their QI review, will receive emergency incident analysis results. | |

Any deficiency statement ending with an asterisk (*) denotes a deficiency which the institution may be excused from correcting providing it is determined that other safeguards provide sufficient protection to the patients. (See reverse for further instructions.) Except for nursing homes, the findings stated above are disclosable 90 days following the date of survey whether or not a plan of correction is provided. For nursing homes, the above findings and plans of correction are disclosable 14 days following the date these documents are made available to the facility. If deficiencies are cited, an approved plan of correction is requisite to continued program participation.

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| LABORATORY DIRECTOR'S OR PROVIDER/SUPPLIER REPRESENTATIVE'S SIGNATURE  | TITLE Executive Director | (X6) DATE 7/12/2024 |
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| E0006 | <p>Continued from page 1</p> <p>(2) Include strategies for addressing emergency events identified by the risk assessment, including the management of the consequences of power failures, natural disasters, and other emergencies that would affect the hospice's ability to provide care.</p> <p>*[For LTC facilities at §483.73(a):] Emergency Plan. The LTC facility must develop and maintain an emergency preparedness plan that must be reviewed, and updated at least annually. The plan must do the following:</p> <p>(1) Be based on and include a documented, facility-based and community-based risk assessment, utilizing an all-hazards approach, including missing residents.</p> <p>(2) Include strategies for addressing emergency events identified by the risk assessment.</p> <p>*[For ICF/IIDs at §483.475(a):] Emergency Plan. The ICF/IID must develop and maintain an emergency preparedness plan that must be reviewed, and updated at least every 2 years. The plan must do the following:</p> <p>(1) Be based on and include a documented, facility-based and community-based risk assessment, utilizing an all-hazards approach, including missing clients.</p> <p>(2) Include strategies for addressing emergency events identified by the risk assessment.</p> <p>This STANDARD is NOT MET as evidenced by:</p> <p>Based on review of Orleans/Essex Visiting Nurse Hospice Agency's Emergency Preparedness Program, the Agency failed to review and update their All Hazards Risk Assessment as required every two years.</p> <p>Findings include:</p> <p>Based on record review and confirmed by interview, the Agency's All Hazards Risk Analysis has not been updated since 2017. Per document review on 6-18-2024, the Agency's Emergency Preparedness Plan is dated as reviewed in 2023. However, the All Hazards Risk Analysis had not been reviewed or updated since 2017. Per interview on 6-19-2024, the Executive Director confirmed the Risk Analysis had not been updated since 2017, 6 years prior to the current Emergency Preparedness Plan.</p> | E0006 | <p>Tag E0006 POC accepted on 8/8/24 by M. McIntosh/S. Leavitt</p> <p>Not applicable</p> | |

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| E0006 E0039 | <p>EP Testing Requirements</p> <p>CFR(s): 418.113(d)(2)</p> <p>§416.54(d)(2), §418.113(d)(2), §441.184(d)(2), §460.84(d)(2), §482.15(d)(2), §483.73(d)(2), §483.475(d)(2), §484.102(a)(2), §485.68(d)(2), §485.542(d)(2), §485.625(d)(2), §485.727(d)(2), §485.920(d)(2), §491.12(d)(2), §494.62(d)(2).</p> <p>*[For ASCs at §416.54, CORFs at §485.68, REHs at §485.542, OPO, "Organizations" under §485.727, CMHCs at §485.920, RHCs/FQHCs at §491.12, and ESRD Facilities at §494.62]:</p> <p>(2) Testing. The [facility] must conduct exercises to test the emergency plan annually. The [facility] must do all of the following:</p> <p>(i) Participate in a full-scale exercise that is community-based every 2 years; or</p> <p>(A) When a community-based exercise is not accessible, conduct a facility-based functional exercise every 2 years; or</p> <p>(B) If the [facility] experiences an actual natural or man-made emergency that requires activation of the emergency plan, the [facility] is exempt from engaging in its next required community-based or individual, facility-based functional exercise following the onset of the actual event.</p> <p>(ii) Conduct an additional exercise at least every 2 years, opposite the year the full-scale or functional exercise under paragraph (d)(2)(i) of this section is conducted, that may include, but is not limited to the following:</p> <p>(A) A second full-scale exercise that is community-based or individual, facility-based functional exercise; or</p> <p>(B) A mock disaster drill; or</p> <p>(C) A tabletop exercise or workshop that is led by a facilitator and includes a group discussion using a narrated, clinically-relevant emergency scenario, and a set of problem statements, directed messages, or prepared questions designed to challenge an emergency plan.</p> | E0006 E0039 | Not applicable | |

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| E0039 | <p>Continued from page 3</p> <p>(iii) Analyze the [facility's] response to and maintain documentation of all drills, tabletop exercises, and emergency events, and revise the [facility's] emergency plan, as needed.</p> <p>*[For Hospices at 418.113(d):]</p> <p>(2) Testing for hospices that provide care in the patient's home. The hospice must conduct exercises to test the emergency plan at least annually. The hospice must do the following:</p> <p>(i) Participate in a full-scale exercise that is community based every 2 years; or</p> <p>(A) When a community based exercise is not accessible, conduct an individual facility based functional exercise every 2 years; or</p> <p>(B) If the hospice experiences a natural or man-made emergency that requires activation of the emergency plan, the hospital is exempt from engaging in its next required full scale community-based exercise or individual facility-based functional exercise following the onset of the emergency event.</p> <p>(ii) Conduct an additional exercise every 2 years, opposite the year the full-scale or functional exercise under paragraph (d)(2)(i) of this section is conducted, that may include, but is not limited to the following:</p> <p>(A) A second full-scale exercise that is community-based or a facility based functional exercise; or</p> <p>(B) A mock disaster drill; or</p> <p>(C) A tabletop exercise or workshop that is led by a facilitator and includes a group discussion using a narrated, clinically-relevant emergency scenario, and a set of problem statements, directed messages, or prepared questions designed to challenge an emergency plan.</p> <p>(3) Testing for hospices that provide inpatient care directly. The hospice must conduct exercises to test the emergency plan twice per year. The hospice must do the following:</p> <p>(i) Participate in an annual full-scale exercise that is community-based; or</p> | E0039 | | |

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| E0039 | Continued from page 4 (A) When a community-based exercise is not accessible, conduct an annual individual facility-based functional exercise; or (B) If the hospice experiences a natural or man-made emergency that requires activation of the emergency plan, the hospice is exempt from engaging in its next required full-scale community based or facility-based functional exercise following the onset of the emergency event. (ii) Conduct an additional annual exercise that may include, but is not limited to the following: (A) A second full-scale exercise that is community-based or a facility based functional exercise; or (B) A mock disaster drill; or (C) A tabletop exercise or workshop led by a facilitator that includes a group discussion using a narrated, clinically-relevant emergency scenario, and a set of problem statements, directed messages, or prepared questions designed to challenge an emergency plan. (iii) Analyze the hospice's response to and maintain documentation of all drills, tabletop exercises, and emergency events and revise the hospice's emergency plan, as needed. *[For PRFTs at §441.184(d), Hospitals at §482.15(d), CAHs at §485.625(d).] (2) Testing. The [PRTF, Hospital, CAH] must conduct exercises to test the emergency plan twice per year. The [PRTF, Hospital, CAH] must do the following: (i) Participate in an annual full-scale exercise that is community-based; or (A) When a community-based exercise is not accessible, conduct an annual individual, facility-based functional exercise; or (B) If the [PRTF, Hospital, CAH] experiences an actual natural or man-made emergency that requires activation of the emergency plan, the [facility] is exempt from engaging in its next required full-scale community based or individual, facility-based functional exercise following the onset of the emergency event. | E0039 | Not Applicable | |

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| E0039 | <p>Continued from page 5</p> <p>(ii) Conduct an [additional] annual exercise or and that may include, but is not limited to the following:</p> <p>(A) A second full-scale exercise that is community-based or individual, a facility-based functional exercise; or</p> <p>(B) A mock disaster drill; or</p> <p>(C) A tabletop exercise or workshop that is led by a facilitator and includes a group discussion, using a narrated, clinically-relevant emergency scenario, and a set of problem statements, directed messages, or prepared questions designed to challenge an emergency plan.</p> <p>(iii) Analyze the [facility's] response to and maintain documentation of all drills, tabletop exercises, and emergency events and revise the [facility's] emergency plan, as needed.</p> <p>*[For PACE at §460.84(d):]</p> <p>(2) Testing. The PACE organization must conduct exercises to test the emergency plan at least annually. The PACE organization must do the following:</p> <p>(i) Participate in an annual full-scale exercise that is community-based; or</p> <p>(A) When a community-based exercise is not accessible, conduct an annual individual, facility-based functional exercise; or</p> <p>(B) If the PACE experiences an actual natural or man-made emergency that requires activation of the emergency plan, the PACE is exempt from engaging in its next required full-scale community based or individual, facility-based functional exercise following the onset of the emergency event.</p> <p>(ii) Conduct an additional exercise every 2 years opposite the year the full-scale or functional exercise under paragraph (d)(2)(i) of this section is conducted that may include, but is not limited to the following:</p> <p>(A) A second full-scale exercise that is community-based or individual, a facility based functional exercise; or</p> <p>(B) A mock disaster drill; or</p> | E0039 | Not applicable | |

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| E0039 | <p>Continued from page 6</p> <p>(C) A tabletop exercise or workshop that is led by a facilitator and includes a group discussion, using a narrated, clinically-relevant emergency scenario, and a set of problem statements, directed messages, or prepared questions designed to challenge an emergency plan.</p> <p>(iii) Analyze the PACE's response to and maintain documentation of all drills, tabletop exercises, and emergency events and revise the PACE's emergency plan, as needed.</p> <p>*[For LTC Facilities at §483.73(d):]</p> <p>(2) The [LTC facility] must conduct exercises to test the emergency plan at least twice per year, including unannounced staff drills using the emergency procedures. The [LTC facility, ICF/IID] must do the following:</p> <p>(i) Participate in an annual full-scale exercise that is community-based; or</p> <p>(A) When a community-based exercise is not accessible, conduct an annual individual, facility-based functional exercise.</p> <p>(B) If the [LTC facility] facility experiences an actual natural or man-made emergency that requires activation of the emergency plan, the LTC facility is exempt from engaging its next required a full-scale community-based or individual, facility-based functional exercise following the onset of the emergency event.</p> <p>(ii) Conduct an additional annual exercise that may include, but is not limited to the following:</p> <p>(A) A second full-scale exercise that is community-based or an individual, facility based functional exercise; or</p> <p>(B) A mock disaster drill; or</p> <p>(C) A tabletop exercise or workshop that is led by a facilitator Includes a group discussion, using a narrated, clinically-relevant emergency scenario, and a set of problem statements, directed messages, or prepared questions designed to challenge an emergency plan.</p> <p>(iii) Analyze the [LTC facility] facility's response to and maintain documentation of all drills, tabletop</p> | E0039 | Not applicable | |

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| E0039 | <p>Continued from page 7 exercises, and emergency events, and revise the [LTC facility] facility's emergency plan, as needed.</p> <p>*[For ICF/IIDs at §483.475(d)]:</p> <p>(2) Testing. The ICF/IID must conduct exercises to test the emergency plan at least twice per year. The ICF/IID must do the following:</p> <p>(i) Participate in an annual full-scale exercise that is community-based; or</p> <p>(A) When a community-based exercise is not accessible, conduct an annual individual, facility-based functional exercise; or,</p> <p>(B) If the ICF/IID experiences an actual natural or man-made emergency that requires activation of the emergency plan, the ICF/IID is exempt from engaging in its next required full-scale community-based or individual, facility-based functional exercise following the onset of the emergency event.</p> <p>(ii) Conduct an additional annual exercise that may include, but is not limited to the following:</p> <p>(A) A second full-scale exercise that is community-based or an individual, facility-based functional exercise; or</p> <p>(B) A mock disaster drill; or</p> <p>(C) A tabletop exercise or workshop that is led by a facilitator and includes a group discussion, using a narrated, clinically-relevant emergency scenario, and a set of problem statements, directed messages, or prepared questions designed to challenge an emergency plan.</p> <p>(iii) Analyze the ICF/IID's response to and maintain documentation of all drills, tabletop exercises, and emergency events, and revise the ICF/IID's emergency plan, as needed.</p> <p>*[For HHAs at §484.102]</p> <p>(d)(2) Testing. The HHA must conduct exercises to test the emergency plan at</p> <p>least annually. The HHA must do the following:</p> <p>(i) Participate in a full-scale exercise that is</p> | E0039 | Not applicable | |

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| E0039 | <p>Continued from page 8 community-based; or</p> <p>(A) When a community-based exercise is not accessible, conduct an annual individual, facility-based functional exercise every 2 years; or.</p> <p>(B) If the HHA experiences an actual natural or man-made emergency that requires activation of the emergency plan, the HHA is exempt from engaging in its next required full-scale community-based or individual, facility based functional exercise following the onset of the emergency event.</p> <p>(ii) Conduct an additional exercise every 2 years, opposite the year the full-scale or functional exercise under paragraph (d)(2)(i) of this section is conducted, that may include, but is not limited to the following:</p> <p>(A) A second full-scale exercise that is community-based or an individual, facility-based functional exercise; or</p> <p>(B) A mock disaster drill; or</p> <p>(C) A tabletop exercise or workshop that is led by a facilitator and includes a group discussion, using a narrated, clinically-relevant emergency scenario, and a set of problem statements, directed messages, or prepared questions designed to challenge an emergency plan.</p> <p>(iii) Analyze the HHA's response to and maintain documentation of all drills, tabletop exercises, and emergency events, and revise the HHA's emergency plan, as needed.</p> <p>*[For OPOs at §486.360]</p> <p>(d)(2) Testing. The OPO must conduct exercises to test the emergency plan. The OPO must do the following:</p> <p>(i) Conduct a paper-based, tabletop exercise or workshop at least annually. A tabletop exercise is led by a facilitator and includes a group discussion, using a narrated, clinically relevant emergency scenario, and a set of problem statements, directed messages, or prepared questions designed to challenge an emergency plan. If the OPO experiences an actual natural or man-made emergency that requires activation of the emergency plan, the OPO is exempt from engaging in its next required testing exercise following the onset of the emergency event.</p> | E0039 | Not applicable | |

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| E0039 | <p>Continued from page 9</p> <p>(ii) Analyze the OPO's response to and maintain documentation of all tabletop exercises, and emergency events, and revise the [RNHCI's and OPO's] emergency plan, as needed.</p> <p>*[RNCHIs at §403.748]:</p> <p>(d)(2) Testing. The RNHCI must conduct exercises to test the emergency plan. The RNHCI must do the following:</p> <p>(i) Conduct a paper-based, tabletop exercise at least annually. A tabletop exercise is a group discussion led by a facilitator, using a narrated, clinically-relevant emergency scenario, and a set of problem statements, directed messages, or prepared questions designed to challenge an emergency plan.</p> <p>(ii) Analyze the RNHCI's response to and maintain documentation of all tabletop exercises, and emergency events, and revise the RNHCI's emergency plan, as needed.</p> <p>This STANDARD is NOT MET as evidenced by:</p> <p>Based on document review and confirmed by interview, the Agency failed to conduct a full scale exercise in the past two years as required by regulation.</p> <p>Findings Include:</p> <p>Per review of Agency incident reports, the Agency experienced 6 emergency situations in 2023 and 2024 that required a deviation from normal operations. The Agency experienced Interruption of their Electronic Medical Records in 2023 and 2024, a road closure in 2023, an active shooting in the community in 2023, flooding in 2023, and a suspicious package in the community in 2023. The Director of Emergency Preparedness confirmed that a survey was sent to each staff person after each incident on how the emergency impacted their work, but confirmed that the surveys were not compiled into data. Per interview on 6-19-2024, The Executive Director confirmed that although she reviewed the surveys, no systematic written analysis of any of the emergency situations was conducted after the emergency concluded.</p> | E0039 | <p>Not applicable</p> <p>E0039</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OEVNA&H reinstated contact with the local emergency preparedness offices on 6/25/2024 and will coordinate with them updating the Hazards Risk Analysis within 30 days. The EPP and its components (including hazard analysis, staff education, any contracts) will be reviewed annually and updated every two (2) years. • The updated EPP will include that following an activation and termination of an emergency, 10% of the staff affected by the emergency will be surveyed. Upon return of the surveys, the Executive Director, Clinical Director and HR Director as well as any other designated personnel will meet within 5-7 business days to discuss the emergency, OEVNA&H response to the emergency and results of the surveys to provide an analysis of the emergency. The analysis requirements are noted in the updated EPP. The results will be summarized and maintained in the EPP Incident Binder, and a copy will be provided to the Clinical Director for maintaining the copy of the analysis for QI purposes. The OEVNA&H Board of Directors, as part of their QI review, will receive emergency incident analysis results. | |
| L0000 | <p>INITIAL COMMENTS</p> <p>An unannounced on-site recertification survey was conducted by the Division of Licensing and Protection on 6/17/24-6/19/24 to determine compliance with 42 CFR</p> | L0000 | | |

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

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| STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES AND PLAN OF CORRECTIONS | | (X1) PROVIDER/SUPPLIER/CLIA IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 471504 | | (X2) MULTIPLE CONSTRUCTION A. BUILDING B. WING | | (X3) DATE SURVEY COMPLETED 06/19/2024 | |
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| L0000 | Continued from page 10 Part 418 - Part 418-Hospice Care. The following regulatory violations were identified: | L0000 | Tag E0039 POC accepted on 8/8/24 by M. McIntosh/S. Leavitt | | | | |
| L0543 | PLAN OF CARE CFR(s): 418.56(b) All hospice care and services furnished to patients and their families must follow an individualized written plan of care established by the hospice interdisciplinary group in collaboration with the attending physician (if any), the patient or representative, and the primary caregiver in accordance with the patient's needs if any of them so desire. This STANDARD is NOT MET as evidenced by: Based on interview and record review, the hospice failed to ensure care and services were provided according to the plan of care for one applicable patient (Patient #2). Findings include: Per record review Patient #2 was admitted to hospice in February of 2024 with late-stage uterine cancer. A physician's order from the patient's Initial plan of care from 2/21/24, read, "HCA (Home Care Aide): 1x wk. x 1 wk.; 2x/wk. x 13 weeks". Further review of the medical record revealed there was no documentation that showed evidence the service was provided to the patient at any time while S/He was receiving hospice services. Per interview on 6/19/24 at 2:14 PM with the Clinical Manager, S/He confirmed that this service was not provided per the patient's plan of care and that the physician's orders were not followed. | L0543 | L0543 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Intake will begin assigning a visit for all disciplines ordered on the Start of Care (SOC) referral.Education to be provided to all clinicians regarding the importance of documentation, not only of what services are performed but also for those services that are refused or rescheduled.Members of the Clinical Management Team will review and verify SOC's and Recertifications have Visit Frequency Orders entered in a timely manner to avoid a delay or lapse in services. Tag L0543 POC accepted on 8/8/24 by M. McIntosh/S. Leavitt | | | | |
| L0556 | COORDINATION OF SERVICES CFR(s): 418.56(e)(3) [The hospice must develop and maintain a system of communication and integration, in accordance with the hospice's own policies and procedures, to-] (3) Ensure that the care and services provided are based on all assessments of the patient and family needs. This STANDARD is NOT MET as evidenced by: Based on observation, family interview and record review, the Hospice staff failed to effectively evaluate all of a patient's physical needs to ensure safety and adaptability was considered and applied as | L0556 | L0556 <ul style="list-style-type: none">A member of the Rehabilitation Team will complete a home safety evaluation for all new admissions. Education will also be provided for patient and caregiver safety with regards to repositioning the patient and transfers. Re-evaluations will be scheduled, as needed, for any changes in status that may impact the safety of the patient and/or their caregiver.All clinicians will be encouraged to request interdepartmental assessments/reassessments for patient and caregiver safety and/or patient comfort should they notice something in the home while they are there. | | | | |

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| L0556 | <p>Continued from page 11 needed within the patient's home. (Patient #1) Findings include:</p> <p>Patient #1 was admitted to Hospice on 6/7/24. The patient experiences dyspnea (shortness of breath) with minimal exertion along with functional limitations with mobility. During a home visit by the surveyor on 6/17/24 at 2:30 PM observations were made of the patient's home environment. The bathroom used by Hospice aides for bathing Patient #1 was noted to have a bath bench sitting in the bathtub. The tub bench legs had been adjusted to an elevated height of greater than 18 inches, making the stepover from floor over the tub sidewall to the bench cumbersome and unsafe. The caregiver identified a bathroom transfer bench that was presently stored in another room, relating to the surveyor that the bench was difficult to manage. There were no grab bars in the tub or bathroom. At the time of survey, a referral for either Physical or Occupational therapy had not been created to assess Patient #1's bathroom and determine needed safety features and process of transfer. Per interview on the morning of 6/18/24, the admitting Hospice nurse confirmed there was a failure to ensure Patient #1's safety during ambulation and bathing to assess and monitor appropriate equipment and management of transfers during the provision of bathing.</p> | L0556 | Tag L0556 POC accepted on 8/8/24 by M. McIntosh/S. Leavitt | | | | |