



# HOME HEALTH

## News To Use

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#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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Leda Faria, Kansas OASIS Education Coordinator (OEC)

Greetings Kansas Home Health Agencies! Please pass the word that all Home Health Agencies in Kansas now need to be licensed effective 07/01/2017. More information is [here](#).

#### Effective 07/01/17:

We will have two levels of classifications of HHA Licensure in Kansas.

- Class A—which is comprised of Skilled Care as well as Supportive Care Services and Attendant Care Services (A+B+C).
- Class B/C--- which is comprised of only Supportive Care Services and Attendant Care Services (HCBS Level I) (B+C).

If any skilled services are required including skilled nursing, home health aide, et al or Certification from Medicare is being sought--- the HHA must apply for a Class A Licensure.

Note: Attendant Care is now known as Personal Care.

Any HHA currently licensed within the State of Kansas **is a Class A** and will be grandfathered into these changes. The forms will be available online at the KDHE website effective 07/01/17.

### Home Health and Star Ratings

In accordance with a recent article from Fazzi 2017,

“Home Health Compare Quality Charts Updated

The Home Health Compare results were updated on **October 24, 2017.**

However, the **Quality of Patient Care** measures were refreshed using the same data collection period as last quarter, January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016.

This newsletter is provided twice per year to assist in communication and education to the Kansas Home Health Agency Provider Community.



Please send any questions, comments, or topic suggestions:

Email:

**nelleda.faria@ks.gov**

The value of some OASIS-based measures may have changed slightly to reflect submission of late or corrected OASIS data. The OASIS data reflects revisions or corrections made by HHAs as of Friday, Aug 25, 2017.1 Individual measures and Star Ratings for some agencies may be different from last quarter, but the national averages have had very slight changes.

Also, previous Home Health Compare updates “displayed data that were 6 months lagged for OASIS and 9 months for claims.” Starting with this refresh, data displayed are 9 months lagged for both OASIS and claims-based measures.2 Refresh updates *were* made to the Preventing Unplanned Hospital Care measures (both claims-based). The **acute care hospitalizations** measure improved this quarter, from 16.7% to 16.4%. The **urgent, unplanned care in the emergency room** measure worsened with an increase of 0.2%. (Collection period January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016.)

Updates were also made for **HHCAHPS** measures and the national averages continue to remain the same. The data collection period for these measures and the Star Ratings is April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2016.

The national average for the **Quality of Patient Care Star Ratings** remained at 3.5 stars, along with the percent of agencies by Star Rating. According to CMS, higher Star Ratings are seen in agencies with more episodes. Sixty-six percent of agencies with more than 500 episodes rate 3.5 stars or higher, while 42% of agencies with less than 500 episodes rate 3.5 stars or higher.“

Retrieved from: Fazzi Associates <info@fazzi.com>

## Upcoming 2018 Changes in Conditions of Participation (CoPs)

### **CMS-3819-F Medicare and Medicaid Program: Conditions of Participation for Home Health**

#### **Agencies Interpretive Guidelines—DRAFT**

- [http://report.nahc.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/3819-F-HomeHealthAgency-CoPs\\_IGs.pdf](http://report.nahc.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/3819-F-HomeHealthAgency-CoPs_IGs.pdf)
- The new Rule takes effect on 01/13/2018 after delay and has major emphasis in two areas:
- Patient Rights as well as Care Coordination
- The expanded patient care coordination requirements makes the licensed clinician responsible for all care services, such as coordinating referrals and assuring that plans of care meet each patient’s needs at all times.
- In addition, there are new infection prevention and control requirements.

## HHA Quote

“it is health that is real wealth and not pieces of gold & silver.”

---- Mahatma Gandhi [http://www.quotationspage.com/quotes/Mahatma\\_Gandhi/](http://www.quotationspage.com/quotes/Mahatma_Gandhi/)

## KDHE Home Health Website Updates:

Check out the updated Home Health Agency area and resources on the KDHE Website: [http://www.kdheks.gov/bhfr/state\\_ach\\_licensure\\_forms.html](http://www.kdheks.gov/bhfr/state_ach_licensure_forms.html)

### HOME HEALTH AGENCIES



## QUESTION CORNER

**Question:** I would like to apply for my Home Health Agency (HHA) licensure. What do I need to do?

**Answer:** Go to [http://www.kdheks.gov/bhfr/state\\_ach\\_licensure\\_forms.html](http://www.kdheks.gov/bhfr/state_ach_licensure_forms.html) first to download the application, submission requirements and instructions documents. Then reach out to Lois.Wilkins@ks.gov who handles the application submissions. You will send a packet after completion to her.

*For additional information and analysis on the new Home Health CoP's--- some recommended*

- <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/01/13/2017-00283/medicare-and-medicaid-programs-conditions-of-participation-for-home-health-agencies>
- [http://www.nahc.org/NAHCReport/nr170109\\_3/](http://www.nahc.org/NAHCReport/nr170109_3/)
- <http://www.modernhealthcare.com/article/20170109/NEWS/170109913>
- <http://homehealthcarenews.com/2017/01/cms-issues-final-rule-to-modernize-home-health-conditions-of-participation/>

