

# Long-Term Care Survey Alert

## Beware Strict F-315 Enforcement Levels

Survey strikes on F-315 are likely to land you with monetary penalties, in part because Level 1 of severity is no longer an option for this F-Tag. Make sure your clinical and administrative staff understand what's at stake:

**Severity Level 4** (immediate jeopardy)

**Fines:** \$3,550 to \$10,000 per day.

**Example:** Complications from an unnecessary catheter or extensive failure in multiple areas of urinary incontinence or catheter management.

**Severity Level 3** (actual harm)

**Fines:** Up to \$3,000 per day.

**Examples:** Failure to provide clinically sound catheter care, development of a symptomatic UTI from an unnecessary catheter, failure to assess and manage urine retention, decline of failure to improve continence status, resident embarrassment and humiliation.

**Severity Level 2** (no actual harm, but has the potential to cause more than minimum harm)

**Example:** Use of an indwelling catheter without medical cause, with no complications.

**Severity Level 1** (no actual harm was done, but with potential for minimal harm)

This level no longer exists under F315.