

Long-Term Care Survey Alert

Quality Improvement: QI PROJECT RESULTS WONT PLEASE ALL FACILITIES

The results of the pilot project to share new nursing home quality measures with the public are set to hit the streets in the next few weeks and they might not please many nursing home administrators, the head of the **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services** warns.

CMS plans to run full-page newspaper ads in each of the participating states Colorado, Florida, Ohio, Rhode Island, Maryland and Washington when it releases the results.

CMS chief **Tom Scully** has said that "nursing homes are going to go nuts" upon seeing the compiled results from the pilot states. Some administrators may be surprised by where their facilities show up in the rankings, he suggested. But Scully thinks the project will be valuable to consumers in making more informed long-term care choices.

Quality Improvement Organizations formerly referred to as Peer Review Organizations expect heavy demand for their services as facilities turn to them for guidance on meeting the initiatives quality goals, according to **David Schulke**, head of the **American Health Quality Association**.

QIOs will offer some assistance, training and networking resources to facilities wishing to improve the quality of their care and, consequently, the quality of their publicly available data.