

Long-Term Care Survey Alert

Resources: Check Out New CMS-Sponsored Repository Of Clinical Standards And Guidelines

Heads up: If CMS posts it, you can bet the agency expects you to use it.

If you have questions about anything from advance directives to fire ants to wound care, a new CMS-sponsored site provides evidence-based answers.

The **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services** recently launched a Web site, "Sharing Innovations in Quality (SIQ) Repository of Clinical Standards and Guidelines," that summarizes information about various current clinical standards that providers can use in the nursing home setting.

The Web site lists and links users to guidelines developed by federal and state health agencies, as well as leading national clinical organizations.

Available guidelines posted on the Web site target these clinical issues and long-term care concerns:

Arthritis

Heart disease

Ostomy

Advance directives

Hydration

Pain

Constipation

Infection

Pressure ulcer

Diabetes

Medication management

Safety

End-of-life

Mental health

Urinary

Fire ants

Nutrition

Wound care

CMS says it plans to post guidelines available for the following areas:

Dialysis

Substance abuse

Respiratory care

Rehabilitation

Swallowing

Read about the Web site at www.cms.hhs.gov/medicaid/survey-cert/siqhome.asp.