

## Long-Term Care Survey Alert

### **SURVEY & CLINICAL NEWS: If you get an error warning involving MDS item W1 and your NPI, CMS has instructions for you.**

In a recent Q&A posted at [www.qtso.com/mdsfaq.html#-399qtso.com](http://www.qtso.com/mdsfaq.html#-399qtso.com), a nursing home provider notes that the facility is entering its NPI into item W1 in the data entry software but is receiving a warning message -399: Inconsistent NPI: The NPI number submitted in W1 is not consistent with the NPI number submitted in the header record. The provider asks why this is happening.

**Answer:** To avoid the error in the future, contact your vendor to ensure that the NPI number is being entered into both the header in bytes 577-586 and each body record in bytes 1626-1635 when the assessments are exported.