The Private Duty Source
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FEATURE ARTICLE

Updated Recommended Operational Protocols for COVID-19 and Home Care

The Recommended Operational Protocols for COVID-19 and home care have been updated. This is a continuation of the collaborative efforts from several of the leading providers in the home health and home care industries in an effort to help guide providers in their response to the COVID-19 crisis in a way that protects the vulnerable patients and clients, as well as the fearless direct care workers. Here is a summary of the changes:

1. In the “Agency Screening of Clients” section, a new question was added about travel to reflect recent state orders that require individuals who travel to certain “hot spots” to quarantine following their return.
2. In the “Direct Care Worker Action Steps” section, the item addressing when a direct care worker should stay home if sick (no COVID-19 diagnosis) now reflects the CDC’s updated guidance that Healthcare Personnel may return to work after they have been fever-free (without fever reducing medication) for 24 hours (previously the wait was 72 hours).

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What the Corporate Transparency Act Could Mean for You

The U.S. Congress recently passed the Corporate Transparency Act (“CTA”) as part of the 2021 National Defense Authorization Act. The CTA requires certain business entities (including privately held business entities and certain non-profits) to report their direct and indirect human beneficial ownership information to the U.S. Department of Treasury.

The CTA is intended to combat the use of “shell” companies in the commission of money laundering, financial fraud and other domestic and international illicit activity and corrupt practices. However, the reach of the CTA is much broader, and includes incorporators, organizers, financial institutions and others dealing with many U.S. business entities, including with regard to existing business entities formed prior to the CTA’s enactment.

Under the CTA, reporting companies[1] must provide the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network of the Department of the Treasury (“FinCEN”) a report identifying each applicant (i.e., incorporator or organizer) and each human beneficial owner who, directly or indirectly, through any contract, arrangement, understanding, relationship, or otherwise:

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CMS Issues Guidance on Additional Support for Medicaid HCBS

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued additional guidance to states with regards to the HCBS 10 percent federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP), which was included as part of the American Rescue Plan. As a reminder, this is a temporary increase to the FMAP for certain qualifying Medicaid expenditures for home and community-based services (HCBS) and is meant to supplement and not supplant existing state funds. CMS guidance is directing states to use the funds to enhance, expand,
or strengthen activities within home and community-based services under the Medicaid program.

While the original communications regarding the temporary FMAP increased left out mention of Private Duty Nursing Services (PDN), NAHC was pleased to see that CMS took our initial comments to heart and made it a point to explicitly include PDN as an eligible service.

With the issuance of this guidance, it now falls on the states to create their plans for the temporary FMAP increase and we encourage everyone to work with your applicable state associations to ensure the plans are inclusive of the needs of the private duty home care community.

Private Duty Home Care at NAHC Monthly Update: Interactive Forum with the Experts

- Thursday, June 3, 2021 ; 3:00-4:00pm Eastern
- REGISTER
- Free for NAHC members, but registration is required

Join Private Duty Home Care at NAHC for an engaging discussion focused on all things private duty home care.

In a twist on our usual monthly webinar format, we will host an open forum-style event via Zoom. Three distinct topic areas will be discussed including an advocacy update, an expert legal review of the Corporate Transparency Act, and a look at an innovative program from the Home Care and Hospice Association of Utah, supporting caregivers.

Each topic area will be presented in 10-12 minutes leaving time for audience Q&A and discussion.

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LeadingAge, Bayada Urge Congress to Invest in Aging Services Infrastructure

Leaders across the senior care sector have banded together and are urging Congress to back legislation that will increase access to care services. And help is long overdue, they argue.

For decades, aging services have been underfunded in the U.S., according to Katie Smith Sloan, president and CEO of the Washington, D.C.-based LeadingAge, the association of nonprofit providers of home health and other aging services. Sloan addressed the topic on Wednesday during a media briefing.

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Home-Based Care Providers with PPP Loans Can’t Bank on Forgiveness

Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans from the Small Business Administration (SBA) were a godsend for a lot of home care agencies in 2020, allowing them to keep their heads above water during financial downturns and reward employees for conducting hazardous work.

But now agencies must prepare for the aftermath of PPP in the form of loan-forgiveness applications, financial audits and billing reviews.

READ THE REST @ Home Health Care News
RESOURCES

The Human Experience 2020: Vision for the Future of Health Care - The Beryl Institute

Littler Operational Guidelines for the Home Care Industry Amid COVID 19 - Littler Mendelson, P.C.

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