Electronic Visit Verification System for Medicaid In-Home Services

All States must implement electronic visit verification (EVV) for personal care services (PCS) by January 1, 2020, and for home health services (HHSC) by January 1, 2023, as required by the 21st Century Cures Act. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) granted 1-year extensions (to January 1, 2021) for the vast majority of States to meet the EVV requirements for PCS.

Once implemented, EVV could increase the risk that Medicaid beneficiaries' needs are not being met, potentially compromising their health and safety. Our objectives will be to determine whether the State: (1) has implemented an EVV system in accordance with Federal and State requirements, and (2) has developed policies and procedures when using EVV to ensure that Medicaid beneficiaries receive their required in-home services.
NAHC Announces New Committees Members for 2022

The National Association for Home Care & Hospice (NAHC) has chosen the leaders who will serve on the committees that will help improve NAHC governance, finances, public policy, and more. These committees will be vital to the overall strengthening of NAHC as the unifying voice of home care, home health, and hospice.

Beginning in February 2022, NAHC began selecting members on these committees, which are for one year and subject to reappointment from year to year.

Committee participation brings together members from the home care community with different backgrounds, values, viewpoints, and abilities to work collaboratively. These wide-ranging abilities result in a greater knowledge base, that results in better quality decisions. Additionally, group deliberations ensure a thorough consideration of an issue from all angles and alternative points of view prior to arriving at a decision.

New York City proposal caps number of hours home health aides can work

A bill before the New York City Council threatens to make the home care crisis in the Big Apple even worse.

The city council is considering a law that would limit the number of hours home health workers can be on the job each week. The legislation introduced last week by city councilman Christopher Marte and public advocate Jumanne Williams would extend the New York City Fair Workweek Law, which currently covers fast food and retail workers, to home health workers as well.
New Webinar: Key Findings from the 2022 HCP Benchmarking Report

- Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 2:00 PM ET

REGISTER

With the release of the 2022 HCP Benchmarking Report, we have detailed data on how the past year has affected home care agencies, and what it can teach us about operating an agency in the future.

Join Todd Austin, President of Home Care Pulse, as he reviews industry trends, business insights, and actionable data gathered from hundreds of agencies across the nation.

In this webinar, we’ll cover:

- Emerging trends from the past 12 months
- The latest on caregiver turnover and what’s working in recruitment and retention
- How the course of home care is changing, and how agencies need to adjust
- How the past year will shape the next three

OSHA Public Hearing on COVID-19 Health Care Rulemaking

On June 21, 2021, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) published an interim final rule establishing an emergency temporary standard (ETS) to protect healthcare and health care support service workers from occupational exposure to COVID-19 in settings where people with COVID-19 are reasonably expected to be present (86 FR 32376). The ETS took effect immediately but also served as a proposed rule on which OSHA requested comment.
OSHA received comments concerning the ETS during the comment period, which was to end on July 21, 2021, but was extended to August 20, 2021, in response to requests from the public (86 FR 38232). In accordance with 29 USC 655(c)(3), the agency is now preparing to promulgate a final standard.

On March 22, 2022, OSHA announced a limited re-opening of the record and the agency’s intention to hold an informal public hearing to gather certain additional information from healthcare industry stakeholders – Federal Register Notice.

Advice for home care operators: Stay client-centric

I recently met with Michael Mann — a colleague, age-tech healthcare influencer, startup adviser and family caregiver to his dad — who is actively searching for home care services for his father. His experience was less than optimal, and I wanted to share these insights with other home care owners and administrators so that they can grow their agencies while remaining client-centric. (Note: This interview has been slightly edited for clarity and length.)

What made you start the search for home care?

My father is needing assistance. He lives with my mother — his wife — who is fully independent but she has a life of her own to live. But with my dad, when it comes to bathing, washing and other miscellaneous things, she is unable to help him to the extent that he needs.
Why Best Buy Is a Home-Based Care Player Worth Watching

In 2019, when I began covering home-based care, Best Buy was just barely scraping the surface in the space.

Paying $800 million for the senior-focused technology company GreatCall was nothing to scoff at, of course. But it wasn’t directly related. It certainly felt like much more was bubbling underneath the surface.

In the interim, other retailers have been full-speed ahead on the home-based care mission.

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RESOURCES

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Private Duty Home Care at NAHC is a fully integrated service line of the National Association for Home Care & Hospice focused on Leadership, Education, Advocacy, and Innovation exclusively for the private duty home care community.

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