

Date: June 18, 2020

To: Genesis Rehab Services Business Partners

From: Lou Ann Soika, Chief Strategy and Administrative Officer

Re: COVID-19 Communication – Week of 6/15/2020

COVID-19 DATA REPORTING

There are concerns by some centers that they are receiving notices in CASPER about Civil Monetary Penalties for allegedly not reporting complete information to the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) or for F884 citations issued in error. Click [here](#) to reference the information posted to the AHCA Long Term Care Leader on 6/15/20.

In addition, the following documents have been provided by CMS to assist SNFs with the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) reporting requirements:

- [CMS COVID-19 NHSN Reporting Requirements for Nursing Homes](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

INDUSTRY ADVOCACY

A bill introduced in the House [Outpatient Therapy Modernization and Stabilization Act \(H.R. 7154\)](#), has already received solid bipartisan support. This bill contains several important legislative issues including:

- **A Reprieve From Damaging Medicare Cuts in 2021.** As proposed, the cuts would take the form of payment reductions to codes commonly used by other professions, with physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology projected to receive an estimated 8% cut. The bill would give CMS a one-time one-year exemption from budget neutrality which is important since CMS is citing constraints as the reason for the cuts since they are an offset to the increases around the office/outpatient E/M code.
- **A Permanent Policy Solution on Telehealth for Therapy.** If signed into law, the legislation would permanently allow PTs, OTs, SLPs, and facilities that provide outpatient therapy to bill Medicare for outpatient therapy services furnished via telehealth.
- **Slight Increase in the Fee Schedule Through 2023.** In order to help providers recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, proposed increases beginning in 2021 include a 1% increase in payment, followed by 0.5% increases in 2022 and 2023.

REGULATORY UPDATES

Telehealth Services for Medicare in the SNF and outpatient settings: CMS recently approved the provision and billing of telehealth services for therapists for Medicare patients in the SNF and outpatient settings. The approval is on a temporary basis only for the period of the current Public Health Emergency (PHE), so it may be rescinded once the PHE is over. This measure is to improve access to care for Medicare patients and there are several conditions that impact the use of telehealth in our settings.

- Effective immediately, rehab services for Medicare A patients can be provided via telehealth. These services are billed on the UB-04 under the PDPM methodology and therefore there is no requirement for any change to the Part A claim for the billing of services.
- GRS Regional team members will ensure our team members have been appropriately trained and will also verify that the telehealth planned is appropriate and approved per state practice acts prior to the provision of telehealth services.
- Implementation of telehealth services to patients covered under the Medicare Part B benefit will be forthcoming once we receive a system update from our software vendor.

Please refer to the customer portal for the June 15th GRS Regulatory Update titled “CMS Further Expands Coverage of Telehealth for Therapy Services for COVID-19 Public Health Emergency - Additional Clarification” for full details.

Emergency Management During Pandemic. According to a FEMA release June 10, 2020, *“the unique circumstances presented by a pandemic environment, planning ahead to ensure the resources, facilities and workers needed to provide shelter services and maintain the health and well-being of survivors and workers is critical.”* To support these efforts, FEMA developed guidance to assist state, tribal and territorial governments in planning mass care delivery [The Mass Care/Emergency Assistance Pandemic Planning Considerations guide](#). This guide provides information on sheltering, feeding, evacuation and the federal resource request process. *“The safe and successful delivery of mass care services during a pandemic requires complex planning and coordination...Facilities that previously served as congregate shelters may need to be modified and non-congregate facilities will need to be identified. The ability of local voluntary organization staff and volunteers to support mass care functions may also be strained due to pandemic impacts.”*

GRS WELLNESS RESOURCES

Virtual Wellness Class Schedule: Classes are offered Monday through Friday at 11am and 3pm eastern time. Please see attached for more information.

Vitality Wellness Seminars: GRS has created 11 Vitality Wellness Seminars that anyone can access on demand at <http://site-964540.bcvp0rtal.com/>.



| Day | Time | Class |
|-----------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Monday | 11:00 am Eastern | Meditation and Mindfulness |
| | 3:00 pm Eastern | Weekly Devotional |
| Tuesday | 11:00 pm Eastern | Functional Strength |
| | 3:00 pm Eastern | Flexibility |
| Wednesday | 11:00 am Eastern | Maximize Your Memory |
| | 3:00 pm Eastern | Progressive Muscle Relaxation |
| Thursday | 11:00 am Eastern | Functional Strength |
| | 3:00 pm Eastern | Chair Yoga |
| Friday | 11:00 am Eastern | Seated Tai Chi |
| | 3:00 pm Eastern | Moovin and Groovin |

GRS Live Virtual Wellness Classes for Residents

Classes incorporate the entire mind-body-wellness approach

All class durations are 30 minutes

Location for all classes: [Click Here](#)



Contact your local Genesis Rehab Services therapy team onsite
 Corporate Office: 101 E. State Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348 • genesish rehab.com



Class Descriptions: All class durations are 30 minutes

Functional Strength

Have fun and move through a variety of seated exercises designed to increase muscular strength, range of movement, and activities for daily living.

Maximize your Memory

Interactive brain health classes to support your cognitive wellness!

Meditation and Mindfulness

Enjoy Guided meditation including wellness strategies and a weekly mantra.

Seated Tai Chi

Engage in this gentle exercise while seated. Exercise consists of slow, graceful movements combined with deep breathing.

Weekly Devotional (Spirit)

Engage in weekly discussions on topics such as gratitude and love.

Flexibility

Join us for a class designed to increase relaxation and flexibility.

Progressive Muscle Relaxation

Engage in this mind-body technique that involves slowly tensing and then relaxing each muscle group in the body.

Chair Yoga

Mind and body balance is essential. It can help prevent falls, decrease pain, reduce anxiety and help improve flexibility and strength. Join in as we engage in our mind and body connection!

Movin and Groovin

Join us on Friday afternoons for a dance class to get you movin and groovin!

