



COMMISSIONER
Chris Traylor

March 3, 2010

To: Nursing Facility Administrators

Subject: Information Letter 10-28
Nursing Facility Quality Review Process for 2010

The Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) Quality Assurance and Improvement unit, within the Center for Policy and Innovation, is conducting the annual Nursing Facility Quality Review evaluations of care delivered to persons who reside in nursing facilities. Formerly known as the Long Term Care Quality Review (LTCQR), this is the same process that has been conducted for the past eight years as mandated by the Texas Legislature.

DADS has contracted with Nurse Aide Competency Evaluation Service Plus Foundation, Inc. (NACES) to conduct this year's evaluations of individuals residing in nursing facilities. NACES nurse quality reviewers, who are registered nurses, will need access to the individuals residing in your facility and their clinical records including their charts, medication administration records, incident records and behavior monitoring logs. As contracted agents of DADS, the nurse quality reviewers have DADS authorization to perform interviews and assessments as well as to review and obtain copies of specific clinical documents. NACES nurse reviewers and staff will follow all privacy requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

Nurse reviewers will carry an identification letter that will have their name and contact information. If you need to verify a nurse reviewer is with NACES, please contact:

Kris Winning, MSN, RN, Project Manager, (512) 467-0615 ext. 190

For any other questions about this project, please contact Michael Murray, RN, MBA at (512) 438-3204 or by e-mail at michael.murray.4@dads.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,

[signature on file]

William Campbell, Director
Institutional Services Section
Provider Services