

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
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FACT SHEET

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Demonstration to Improve Care Quality for Nursing Facility Residents

Initiative to Reduce Preventable Hospitalizations

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced a new initiative to help States improve the quality of care for people in nursing homes by providing these individuals the treatment they need without having to unnecessarily go to a hospital. The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (Innovation Center) in collaboration with the Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office will establish a new demonstration focused on reducing preventable inpatient hospitalizations among residents of nursing facilities. This initiative supports the Administration's Partnership for Patients goal of reducing hospital readmission rates by 20% by the end of 2013.

The initiative addresses a widespread and costly problem: nursing facility residents are subject to frequent preventable inpatient hospitalizations. These hospitalizations are expensive, disruptive, disorienting, and often dangerous for frail elders and people with disabilities, and cost the Medicare program billions of dollars each year.

CMS will competitively select and partner with independent organizations that will provide enhanced clinical services to people in approximately 150 nursing homes. Interventions could include using nurse practitioners in nursing facilities, supporting transitions between hospitals and nursing facilities, and implementing best practices to prevent falls, pressure ulcers, urinary tract infections, or other events that lead to poor health outcomes and expensive hospitalizations.

The intervention will be targeted to nursing facilities with high hospitalization rates and a high concentration of residents who are eligible for both the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

More information will be available at <http://www.cms.gov/medicare-medicare-coordination/>.

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