



Nursing Home Weekly: Recap of LeadingAge Updates

April 1, 2022

Meeting with CMS Administrator on Nursing Home Quality Initiative. Katie, Janine and Ruth, along with four leaders of LeadingAge nursing home communities, met with CMS Administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure today to discuss the Nursing Home Quality Initiative. Deke Cateau (AG Rhodes in Atlanta), Danny Williams (Eliza Bryant in Cleveland), Jeff Farber (New Jewish Home in NY), and Sondra Norder (St. Pauls in WI) talked with Administrator Brooks La-Sure, Deputy Administrator Jonathan Blum, and several additional CMS staff. The topics included workforce challenges, quality, and survey concerns. Read more about the meeting [here](#).

2nd Boosters in Nursing Homes. While FDA has approved and CDC has recommended a second booster for certain individuals (read the CDC press release [here](#)), there has been a great deal of confusion as to how this impacts certain nursing home requirements. Most requirements remain unchanged, including the vaccine mandate and requirements around testing and quarantine. Read [here](#) to learn why. Nursing homes should continue to educate residents and staff on the importance of COVID-19 vaccination and offer or assist in accessing vaccination, including booster doses, as needed.

New NHSN Data Forms. NHSN has released new forms for tracking and reporting resident and staff COVID-19 vaccinations. These “event-level” forms are available in the NHSN module and will eventually replace the downloadable Excel spreadsheet Data Tracking Worksheets. Access the training materials [here](#) to learn how to use the forms, including how to do a one-time export of data from the excel spreadsheets to begin using the new forms. Of note, the new forms allow for specification of religious exemptions under the declination section of reporting. While the new forms are not required, the excel spreadsheets will be retired in May 2022.