



GREATER NEW YORK HEALTH CARE FACILITIES ASSOCIATION

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Memo 23-26

To: Administrator, MDS Coordinator, DNS, Medical Director, Nursing Staff, Social Workers, Rehab Staff, QA Committee

**From: Mary Gracey-White RN, Director of Regulatory Compliance and
Arlette A Drigpaul, MSN RN Infection Preventionist/Education Coordinator**

Date: October 4, 2023

Re: October 1, 2023, MDS Changes

As facilities have now transitioned to the new MDS 3.0 v1.18.11 effective on October 1, 2023, members have expressed some challenges. The changes require more staff time and quicker action, particularly with regards to

- The transition to the GG Section (Functional Abilities and Goals).
- Sections A, B, and D which asks social determinants of health questions (race, ethnicity, language, transportation, health literacy, and social isolation),
- Section N (medications) where CMS is looking at not just whether the resident is taking a medication but whether there is an indication of use for that medication, and
- Sections A, B, and D and the transfer of health information SNF QRP measures where CMS asks questions about discharge, if and how health information was transferred to the resident or responsible party as well as the subsequent party (where they will be discharged to)

If you have not already done so, we recommend:

- Review your intake documentation and forms to ensure that they capture all the information you need to support the new MDS, including **CNA in-service and documentation guidance**.
- Have all three pieces necessary to support Section GG documentation – data collection, assessment, and coding,
- Ensure that nurses have received in-services with regards to transferring of health information throughout the care continuum (example, explaining to the resident or responsible party what medications the resident is discharged with and the indication for use),
- Ensure that task assignment is clear, for example, who will collect data for social determinants of health, when will the data be collected, etc.,
- Ensure that data collection for all sections is completed before the Assessment Reference Date

The GNYHCFA Team along with our colleagues from the **CHARTS Group**, have developed some tools (attached) which you can review with your interdisciplinary team as guidance documents. In addition, we will be hosting an **in-person seminar on October 19th** at the Marriott in Uniondale, where one of the key topics will be the MDS process presented by Nelia Adaci, RNC, BSN, RAC-MT, RAC-MTA, DNS-MT, CDONA, IPCO.