

11/04/09 – Long Term Care Meeting (there were 21 members in attendance)

- Handouts – Cindy Meyer provided handouts from the last meeting (refer to 10/01/09 minutes for a listing of those handouts. If any other member would like a copy, contact Cindy at Luther Manor.

- State Survey Trends – those that recently had state survey commented that focus was on:
 - Dignity
 - Dining Room
 - Handwashing
 - Infection Control Surveillance

- Teaching Techniques – members shared some creative ideas about getting mandatory inservices, including infection control and safety by using themes, such as:
 - Wizard of Oz
 - Farm themes
 - Cruises
 - Airplane
 - Under the Big TopSuch a fun way to tackle adult learning.

- Seasonal and H1N1 Influenza Vaccines – some facilities have yet to receive either vaccine and the ones that have indicate a good turnout requiring more vaccines when available. Also members that were able to attend the FOCUS seminar commented that the rates for HCW's still needs to be better, especially among nurses.

- Fit Testing – for information on the N95 respirator training, the website is Linda@fittest.com and apparently the testing kit does not come with supplies. Note: at some facilities each staff member has their own N95 mask and at others only a listing of select staff has their own mask. Cheryl noted this concept was discussed at the train the trainer class I went to as well.

- Staff Staying Home When Sick – there was a discussion on the following:
 - Use common sense while doing the assessment of the staff.
 - An employee presented to the nurse “not feeling well, afebrile, eyes watering and looking as if they did not feel well”, that person was sent home.
 - Another employee presented to the nurse stating “she did not feel well and wanted to go home”, this staff did not appear ill in any visible way and she/he was told to wear a mask and get their assignment.
- Visitors – there was discussion about visitors that come into our facilities and present with symptoms and appear ill. The following ideas were shared:
 - One facility had visitors with respiratory symptoms wear a mask while in the building.
 - Alcohol hand sanitizers are made available at entrances.
 - During a Halloween Costume event at a facility that included children, the ICP made sure each person used the hand gel prior to going into the event.
- Signage – following was discussion about what kind of signs are allowed on resident doors:
 - The majority of members are not using “precautions” and have changed to a sign that directs everyone “to see the nurse” before entering.
 - One facility is folding the information sheet on an isolation room so that the “precautions” is hidden from view of visitors which seemed like a good way around HIPPA and the State.
- Viral Gastroenteritis – Cindy reminded everyone about the webcast on 11/09/09 from 1pm to 2pm on this topic and Norovirus. She went on to comment that she would be updating her policy after the webcast and is willing to share with members.
- Uninsured Employees – some Occupational Health Departments are preparing for prophylaxis.

- Infection Control Policies and Procedures – just a reminder that if you write your policies specific for your facility and do what your policies say, you should be fine . . . this is was the message from the Federal Surveyor that presented on long term care.

Respectfully submitted,

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