

**To:** Long Term Care Facilities  
**From:** Phyllis Brighton, Colorado MDS 3.0 Help Desk  
**Date:** October 31, 2011  
**Re:** MDS 3.0 Newsletter

 **MDS 3.0 Training for Long Term Care and Swing Bed Facilities \* FREE \***

The MDS/RAI Trainings for the calendar year of 2011 have been completed. The tentative schedule for calendar year 2012 will be:

Denver – January and July  
Grand Junction – February and August  
Loveland – March and September  
Pueblo – April and October

Watch the Long Term Care Portal for further information as it becomes available.

 **F286 –**

“A facility must maintain all resident assessments completed within the previous 15 months in the resident’s active record.”

**Interpretive Guidelines:**

“...Facilities may maintain MDS data electronically regardless of whether the entire clinical record is maintained electronically and regardless of whether the facility has an electronic signature process in place.

Facilities that maintain their MDS Data electronically and do not utilize an electronic signature process must ensure that hard copies of the MDS assessment signature pages are maintained for every MDS assessment conducted in the resident’s active clinical record for 15 months. (This includes enough information to identify the resident and type and date of assessment linked with the particular assessment’s signature pages.

The information, regardless of form of storage (i.e., hard copy or electronic), must be kept in a centralized location and must be readily and easily accessible. This information must be available to all professional staff members (including consultants) who need to review the information in order to provide care to the resident.”\* (\*Appendix PP – Federal Regulations for Long Term Care – CMS – page 126)

The State of Colorado recognizes electronic signatures. The “centralized location” that “must be readily and easily accessible” is at the discretion of the facility.

 **Change of Therapy Other Medicare Required Assessment (COT-OMRA)-**

“Complete when the intensity of therapy, which includes the total reimbursable therapy minutes (RTM), and other therapy qualifiers such as number of therapy days and disciplines providing therapy, changes to such a degree that the beneficiary would classify into a different RUUG-IV category.....The requirement to complete a COT OMRA is reevaluated with additional 7-day COT observation periods ending on the 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup> days after the most recent Medicare payment assessment ARD”\*

\* CMS’s RAI Version 3.0 Manual October 2011 Page 2-41

Contact Phyllis Brighton with your questions and findings: [Phyllis.Brighton@state.co.us](mailto:Phyllis.Brighton@state.co.us) or 303-692-2894

