Decision Making in Dementia: Understanding What Matters Most at All Stages of Health

Dementia is a progressive and life-limiting disease associated with complex and challenging needs. It can be difficult for healthcare professionals to speak with patients and residents who carry a primary diagnosis of dementia about their health care goals. Join Ana Tuya Fulton, MD, FACP and Rachel Roach, NP for more information about how to:

- Describe the concept of dementia as a terminal illness.
- Define advance care planning for all stages of dementia.
- Explain decision making support particularly for caregivers of patients with dementia.
- Describe how to use quality of life and evidence to inform decision making.

CME, CEU and CPE education credits available

Sign up for this free event here.

MDS 3.0 Training Videos on Sections M and GG Now Available

"Recorded at the 2016 State RAI Coordinator Training, this Section M presentation by Elizabeth Ayello, PhD, focuses on staging pressure ulcers correctly and accurately coding pressure ulcers and other skin conditions on the MDS 3.0. The video contains interactive polling and quiz questions. As you reach questions throughout the training, you will be prompted to enter your response, just as participants were during the live training session. Be sure to study the image on screen carefully before proceeding to the interaction, as the question will involve correctly identifying the wound type. Once you submit your answer, you will be able to view the correct answer before continuing the presentation."

Training Video Access Here

CMS Announcement for State Survey

“The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has completed the
FY 2015 MDS Focused Surveys and is providing an overview of the results.

The FY 2015 MDS Focused Survey Summary outlines the background for the MDS Focused Surveys, the types of deficiencies and errors identified on these surveys, and provides technical resources for providers to help improve accuracy and help providers maintain compliance to enhance the safety and quality of care nursing home residents receive.” Read the full report here

“A four-part video series on Section GG has been posted to the CMS YouTube Channel and its playlist can be found here. It consists of:

- Part 1: GG0130 Self-Care
- Part 2: GG0130 Sections A-C
- Part 3: GG0170 Mobility Sections B-C
- Part 4: GG0170 Mobility Sections D-S”

Medicaid Payment Article from McKnight's Senior Living
Most states allow Medicaid funds to go into assisted living facilities. SNF companies view Medicaid as a “reliable payment source” and acknowledge that there is less and less of a patients/customer pool. Read more here

CDC’s Updated Flu Toolkit Offers Suggestions for Increasing Rates
Within this comprehensive toolkit are a number of resources intended to help long-term care facility, agency, or corporation owners and administrators provide access to influenza vaccination for their workforce and to help any employer of workers in long-term care understand the importance of influenza vaccination for their employees. Read more here.

Antibiotic Stewardship
‘Change is coming in the prescribing and use of antibiotics. Critical data has demonstrated how the overuse of antibiotics is as detrimental to the population as lack of use. Along with the dangers of UTI and Clostridium difficile infections in hospitals, there are a growing number of patients becoming infected with drug-resistant bacteria. The CDC continues to educate medical providers and the public about the concerning antibiotic resistance and necessity to limit use. The limited use may become a mandate as early as September 2016.’ – William Vaghan, BSN, RN. Read more about it here.

Minimum Data Sets (MDS)
Section GG is coming October 1, 2016. The IMPACT Act is the driving force behind the implementation of Section GG. As part of the IMPACT Act, the SNF Quality Reporting Program was initiated. Watch the training video here.
CMS Feedback Please
CMS is urging providers to give feedback on QMs. Read more about it here.
Comments can be made here.

Habilitation Therapy
Habilitation Therapy is an approach to dementia care that focuses on emotionally connecting with the person. Habilitation is a milieu therapy that is broken into six domains. Each domain contributes to the emotional state of the individual. Find more information on our website. Read more about it here.

Your feedback is important to us! Please share with us any topics or information you would like to see highlighted in the W.I.N.K.

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