The purpose of this memorandum is to:

- Provide statewide guidance to LTSS providers about PASRR in light of the COVID-19 Emergency.

On March 23, 2020, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) received approval of its 1135 Waiver request from Medicaid. This approval provides authority for the DHHS to suspend Pre-Admission Screening Resident Review (PASRR) Level 1 and Level 2 Assessments.


On April 21, 2020, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released REVISED COVID-19 Emergency Declaration Blanket Waiver for Health Care Providers, which includes guidance relating to PASRRs.

These CMS blanket waivers are in effect, with a retroactive effective date of March 1, 2020 through the end of the National Emergency Declaration.
What is included in the updated CMS 1135 Blanket Waiver relative to PASRR and Nursing Facilities?

- Page 9 of the REVISED COVID-19 Emergency Declaration Blanket Waiver for Health Care Providers contains guidance on PASRR. This CMS blanket waiver allows nursing homes to admit new residents who have not received a Level 1 screening or Level 2 Preadmission Screening.
- Additionally, nursing facility staff may perform assessments post-admission. Nursing facility staff should promptly, on or before the 30th day of admission, refer newly admitted patients diagnosed with a mental illness (MI) or intellectual disability (ID) home to the State PASRR program for Level 2 Resident Review.

Is the guidance in GM 20-12 COVID-19 Emergency PASRR Level 1 and Level 2 and Medicaid Long Term Supports and Services being revised? Yes.

- Level 1 screenings and Level 2 assessments are waived temporarily for nursing home residents with a MI and/or ID.
- All new admissions to a nursing home may be treated like exempted hospital discharges.
- New preadmission Level 1 and Level 2 screens are not required for residents being transferred between nursing facilities (NF), the current PASRR Level 1 and Level 2 if applicable, will follow them. Nursing facility staff should submit a request for a resident review if significant change occurs as soon as resources become available and as soon as visitors are permitted to enter long term care facilities.
- DHHS will release details related to interstate PASSR in future guidance.
- Details of the 1135 waiver request may be found at this link: https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/ombp/medicaid/documents/nh1135request031820.pdf
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