



## September 2010 Newsletter

### **Advance Copy - Description of Temporary Changes to Appendix P**

There are numerous changes to the State Operations Manual (SOM) related to the traditional survey process for long term care facilities as a result of the MDS 3.0 implementation which will take place on October 1, 2010. Changes in this document cover Quality Measure/Quality Indicator reports, temporary revisions to traditional survey process tasks 1-5C, permanent revisions to Appendix P related to RAPs versus CAAs, and more.

[Read the entire CMS document](#)

### **Providers Revamp Dining to Please the Palette: Choices & Flexibility Lead to Better Outcomes**

When Cindy Dahl began her career as a nutritionist, it probably never occurred to her that she would one day be a judge in a culinary competition—a la “Top Chef”—tasting five-star-worthy dishes like Chilean sea bass with nested linguine and salmon in red chili sauce with garlic-piped potatoes. But for the past two years, Dahl, who heads up quality nutritional services for Plum Healthcare in San Diego, has done just that as part of the company’s Top Plum Chef competition, inspired by the popular television show.



[Read the 10 page feature from Provider Magazine](#)

### **Tracing Salmonella: Find Out Who Eats What, Where**



Investigators from the Food and Drug Administration are carrying out tests at two large egg producers in Iowa. They think the two enterprises, Wright County Eggs and Hillandale Farms of Iowa, supplied eggs that carried salmonella bacteria and made thousands of people sick this summer. More than 500 million eggs from those farms have now been recalled, and investigators are piecing together how the outbreak spread...Millions of Americans are opening their refrigerators, pulling out a carton of eggs and looking for information that will indicate whether theirs are safe to eat. On the cartons, they might find a code like 225 P 1979. But just what does that code mean?

[Listen/Read the story from NPR News](#)

[Visit the FDA website for up to date information](#)



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### **VIVE - Video on Interviewing Vulnerable Elders - from CMS**

The MDS 3.0 brings many changes including the need to properly interview residents to obtain information and hear their “voice”. Five sections of the MDS require interviewing. This Video on Interviewing Vulnerable Elders (VIVE) demonstrates the best practice approaches for the interview process. The video was funded by the Picker Institute and produced by the UCLA/JH Borun Center.

[Order CMS Product No. 11479-CD](#)

### **Bringing CLASS to Long-Term Care Through the Affordable Care Act**



In an enormously important yet widely unrecognized development, passage of President Obama’s health care reform legislation included major provisions centered on long-term care, including the Community Living Assistance Services and Supports program (the CLASS Act)... The CLASS Act introduces a publicly administered social insurance program for long-term care.

[Read the whole report from the National Academy on an Aging Society](#)

### **National Healthcare Foodservice Workers Week™**

The week of October 4-10, 2010, is recognized as National Healthcare Foodservice Workers Week™. Beginning in 1985, the U.S. Congress declared that the first week of each October would be a national time to recognize the integral role that foodservice staff has in helping the employees and patients of healthcare facilities stay well-nourished and healthy. Today the importance of excellent nutrition has been established and documented, but it is even more critical to those individuals in healthcare facilities. This week is an excellent opportunity to recognize and thank those dedicated individuals who provide food and nutrition services in healthcare.



[More information](#)