



MDS 3.0

If you haven't heard, MDS 3.0 is scheduled for implementation October 2010. The Statewide MDS Training Committee is working on training for next year. But what about now?

The Statewide Committee is strongly recommending that all MDS Coordinators who have not attended a Statewide Training Program sign up for the class either in July or October of this year. Although the new MDS is coming, the transition between the 2.0 and the 3.0 will be much smoother if the coordinators have a good baseline understanding of the RAI Process and the current MDS.

The training for MDS 3.0 cannot reasonably begin until we actually have the Final Version of 3.0 and the accompanying RAI Manual. Any attempts of training before that would be futile. Once we have the necessary material there will be training state wide in multiple locations and dates to ensure everyone has an opportunity to attend. The training will go much smoother if the audience has the baseline knowledge of 2.0 so that the training can cover the changes brought about by 3.0.

The RAI Process begins with the MDS which leads into all aspects of resident-centered care within your nursing home. The MDS Coordinator is pivotal to ensuring appropriate, quality care is provided to residents and accurate information is provided for the quality measures and indicators, and the billing process. When there is frequent or high turnover in this position, the result can lead to disastrous consequences.

SO..... what can you do to invest in your MDS Coordinator and your nursing home?

You can provide:

- ✓ **Standardized training:** MDS/RAI Process One Step at a Time is co-sponsored by many different organizations representing long term care in the state. The 2-day workshop is only \$245 which can easily be recovered in more accurate coding. For further information go to:
<http://web.mhanet.com/asp/Education/Seminars.asp>
- ✓ **Independent Study:** At <http://www.nursinghomehelp.org> under educational opportunities there is an Independent Study called Item-By-Item that your MDS Coordinator can study at their own pace. CMS also has an on-line training at <http://www.mdstraining.org/upfront/u1.asp>
- ✓ **On-going training:** Each region of the state has an MDS Coordinator Support Group. These meetings will help the coordinator stay current on any changes in the coding of the MDS. For dates and locations in your region go to:
<http://www.nursinghomehelp.org/supgr.html>
- ✓ **On-site assistance:** The Quality Improvement Program for Missouri (QIPMO) can offer free on-site assistance to your MDS Coordinator. To reach the nurse in your area contact: Jessica Mueller at muellerjes@missouri.edu or (573) 882-0241.