



## In-Depth

February 8, 2012

CONNECT



*A weekly broadcast of fiscal, policy and regulatory news & analysis as it affects providers of senior housing, care and services.*

### Top Stories

#### HUD Issues Protections for Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity

A reminder of last week's posting in this publication, as this is important:

U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Shaun Donovan announced new regulations Monday, January 30th intended to ensure that HUD's core housing programs are open to all eligible persons, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

[READ MORE](#)

#### Cuts to Medicare Reimbursements for Bad Debt Being Considered by Congress

Medicare reimbursements for bad debt would be cut under a proposed provision in the [Temporary Payroll Tax Cut Continuation Act of 2011](#) (H.R. 3630), legislation currently being worked on by Congress.

[READ MORE](#)

#### This Week In Olympia - Feb. 6, 2012 Legislative Update Posted Online

[Read the issue](#) published on the Aging Services of Washington website.

#### House Repeals CLASS Act

LeadingAge and a host of other advocacy organizations are working diligently to avoid repeal by the United State Senate.

#### February 1, 2012: Regulatory, Legislative and Fiscal News & Analysis

Missed an issue of *In-Depth*? Want to review a piece of news or regulation? Stay current with all of the regulatory, legislative and fiscal news & analysis from Aging Services of Washington: [Feb. 1, 2012 Issue](#).

For assistance, contact [Julie Martin](#).

## State News

### MDS RAI Manual and Item Sets Updated for April 1, 2012

CMS has posted a fourth set of updates to the RAI User's manual that **will be effective April 1, 2012.**

Additionally, the MDS 3.0 item sets have been updated and will also be implemented **effective April 1, 2012.** (Be sure your vendor has or will be programming your software for the updated item sets)

### FREE: Care Transitions National Coordinating Center Learning Sessions

A new series has been announced that focuses on Community Organizing.

Sign up for the Learning Session list serve to receive automatic information about this [series](#).

### For The Person At Your Nursing Home Responsible for Medicaid Billing...

The Medicaid Program left the Department of Social and Health Services and merged with Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) on July 1, 2011. As a result the Medicaid Program moved to HCA's web server at the end of January.

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## Federal News

### February REAC Question of the Month

For the answer, and a list of previous Q & As, read [here](#).

### 2012 Income Limits

HUD has published the [FY 2012](#) Median Family Income estimates, Section 8 Income Limits, and other HUD Income Limits.

These were initially posted to the HUD User website on December 1, 2011.

### "Getting Paid for Hospitalist Care - Ins & Outs of Documentation & Coding"

Complimentary webinar available. Tuesday March 6, 2012 1:00-2:00 p.m. ET  
<http://www.nettrainme.com/26F/0/2/p6RPLUc/p7383HYHi/p0e>

Today more healthcare facilities are using hospitalists to improve patient outcomes and reduce length of stay. But coding, billing and ultimately getting reimbursed for their services is complicated and confusing for even the most veteran of coders.

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Your feedback is important to us.

Should you have questions, comments or would like assistance with any of the issues discussed in this email, please contact Julie Martin, Director of Senior Living & Community Services at [jmartin@agingwa.org](mailto:jmartin@agingwa.org)