CMS cleans up guidelines on laundry and infection control

New clarifications to the laundry regulations for nursing facilities will update the guidelines to include the roles of the latest cleaning agents and cleaning technologies in infection prevention.

The revised guidelines, released last week by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), fall within F tag 441. The revisions add notes on bleach-based and antimicrobial cleaning agents, water temperatures, and laundry policies and procedures.

Contact your MedAssure Sales Executive for a copy of this guideline.

Joint Commission Expands Performance Measurement Requirements for General Medical/Surgical Hospitals

The Joint Commission announces that it will expand performance measurement requirements for accredited general medical/surgical hospitals from four to six core measure sets. The additional requirements, which are part of The Joint Commission’s ORYX® performance measurement initiative to stimulate and guide quality improvement efforts, will take effect Jan. 1, 2014.

Four of the six measure sets will be mandatory for all general medical/surgical hospitals that serve specific patient populations addressed by the measure sets and related measures. The measure sets address acute myocardial infarction (AMI), heart failure, pneumonia and the Surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP). These core measure sets are common to several federally legislated programs and selected most frequently by hospitals.

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PPE Use in Healthcare Settings - OSHA Training

Guidance for the selection and use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in healthcare settings for an important step for worker safety and patient protection.

OSHA issues regulations for workplace health and safety. These regulations require use of PPE in healthcare settings to protect healthcare personnel from exposure to bloodborne pathogens and Mycobacterium tuberculosis. However, under OSHA’s General Duty Clause PPE is required for any potential infectious disease exposure. Employers must provide their employees with appropriate PPE and ensure that PPE is disposed or, if reusable, that it is properly cleaned or laundered, repaired and stored after use.

Contact your MedAssure Sales Executive for a copy of this OHSA Training Tool.