

Nursing Home News

Kansas Nursing Home Quality Initiative

November 26 - December 2, 2007 is National Influenza Vaccination Week

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has declared the week after Thanksgiving, November 26 to December 2, as National Influenza Vaccination Week. This event is designed to highlight the importance of continuing influenza (flu) vaccination, as well as foster greater use of flu vaccine through the months of November, December and beyond. CDC is recommending that people take this opportunity to be vaccinated and is hopeful that flu vaccine providers will use this time to enhance flu vaccine availability by scheduling additional clinics; extending clinic hours; and enabling a larger role for mass vaccination at places such as retail locations. For more information visit <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/>.

An Immunization Toolkit is available that offers specific information and education for nursing home providers, staff, beneficiaries and families on the benefits of immunization. These benefits include decreased resident hospitalization and vulnerability to pneumonia, as well as decreased staff illness. The toolkit also offers nursing homes comprehensive and timely information related to immunization, in addition to, sample guidelines and tools needed to run an effective and sustainable resident and staff immunization program. This toolkit is available on www.medqic.org or by [Clicking here](#).

Advancing Excellence Hits New Heights

As of October 31, 2007 Kansas has 215 facilities signed on to participate in the AE Campaign! That is 61.4 percent of the nursing homes in Kansas. To register for the campaign go to www.nhqualitycampaign.org and click on the blue *Nursing Home Registration* tab at the top right corner of the homepage.

Resources are available by visiting the *KS AE* tab on the Kansas Culture Change Coalition website (www.kansasculturechangecoalition.org) or by [Clicking here](#). Please use the *Implementation Guides* available for each of the eight goals to help your home on its journey to improvement. Questions can be directed to any member of the Local Area Network for Excellence (LANE) by clicking on the blue *Find LANE Participants In Your Area* tab on the lower left column of the homepage. Resources are also available via the campaign website at www.nhqualitycampaign.org.

New to the campaign is the opportunity for nursing home employees to sign up as a part of the campaign. Encourage the employees in your building to sign up and show their support for the goals your home has selected. This is a great way to get employees on board with changes in policy, procedures or strategies your home has implemented to improve quality in the goals they have selected. Hooray for advancing nursing home excellence!

E-BULLETIN ROUTING SLIP

Use this list to distribute NH *News* to staff who may find the information useful. Multiple persons may receive this via email--please designate someone at your facility to print and route.

When you are finished reading, check the appropriate title and pass to the next person on the list. If you don't have time to read the newsletter right now, leave the box blank to ensure it comes back to you.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrator | <input type="checkbox"/> Activities Director |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Director of Nursing | <input type="checkbox"/> MDS Coordinator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assistant Director of Nursing | <input type="checkbox"/> Therapy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nurse Manager(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Break Room |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social Service Director | |

Archived Issues...

If you've missed a previous edition of nursing home news, deleted it because of heavy email traffic, it was spammed or maybe you just need to refer back to a previous issue, never fear, they are always available on the KFMC website.

[Click here!](#)



Kansas
Foundation
for Medical Care, Inc.

***All links are active. Clicking on them will take internet-ready readers directly to the website mentioned.**

FREE Dementia Education, yes FREE!

The Wayne State University Institute of Gerontology, in partnership with Hospice of Michigan and Lutheran Social Services of Michigan, has developed a series of training modules on managing difficult behaviors in persons with dementia.

The training modules consist of Microsoft Powerpoint slide shows for presentation and Microsoft Word documents for printing. Those interested in obtaining the Managing Difficult Behaviors training modules may fill out and submit an application form via the website to request copies. They will be sent free of charge via email to educators. There are six modules in the series:

- Putting the Person First in Dementia Care
- The Environment
- Enhancing the Bathing Experience
- Assisting a Person with Dementia with Activities of Daily Living
- Mealtimes and the Person with Dementia
- Meeting the Challenges of Catastrophic Reactions

For more information about the Managing Difficult Behaviors training modules, please visit:

http://www.ioq.wayne.edu/training_difficultbehaviors.php or [Click here](#).

The Electronic Dementia Guide for Excellence (**EDGE**) program also has great resources for dementia including free interventions and activities for dementia residents. The primary goal of the **EDGE** project is to develop and disseminate a computerized system of information to promote quality of care for residents with dementia in nursing facilities.

EDGE is created for practical use in the long term care setting and is very user-friendly. The program is meant to be a starting point to help all facility staff in how to assess the ongoing needs of their residents in order to improve the quality of life for residents with dementia. For more about this program or to start using tools and activities please [Click here](#).

FREE Healthy Skin

No, we aren't offering facials, but we have discovered a great new periodical called *Healthy Skin!* The easy to read guide, authored by clinicians and industry experts, is formatted in a user-friendly magazine layout. It is full of suggestions and resources that will help your home improve patient care in accordance with the new Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidelines. *Healthy Skin* is free of charge, includes easy to follow decision trees and quality assurance systems/forms that cover the following:

- Guidelines for Wound Photography
- Prevention of Skin Tears – In-Service Outline
- Bates-Jensen Wound Assessment Tool
- PUSH Tool 3.0
- Quick Guide to Lab Values
- Foley Catheter Selection Guide

The magazine also offers continuing education opportunities on Understanding Skin Tears: the “Whys” and “Hows.” To find this resource, please visit www.medline.com and click the *Healthy Skin* magazine cover in the bottom right-hand corner.



Happy Thanksgiving!



For more information, please contact a member of the KFMC Nursing Home Team:

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