



Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
Informational Bulletin 16-4
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Issue: Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) Process for Nursing Home Placement

This communication is to inform hospitals of a new process in regards to Office of Behavioral Health (OBH)-PASRR Level II evaluations for nursing home placement for Medicaid recipients and to remind hospitals of existing OBH-PASRR processes.

All persons seeking admission to a Medicaid certified nursing home are still required to complete a Preadmission Screen (PAS/Level 1) prior to admission and send it to the Office of Aging and Adult Services (OAAS). Those identified as suspected of having a mental illness are referred by OAAS to OBH-PASRR for a Level II determination.

Beginning Dec. 1, 2015, OBH-PASRR began referring all Medicaid recipients with an affiliated Managed Care Plan for an independent evaluation to their respective Managed Care Plan if a face-to-face evaluation was deemed necessary to determine the recipient's need for nursing home admission and services.

- Managed Care Plans will be reaching out to hospitals for records and to schedule face-to-face evaluations. In order to expedite the discharge planning process, **hospitals are strongly encouraged to assist the Healthy Louisiana independent evaluation providers with obtaining necessary information to ensure individuals are evaluated within a timely manner.**
- Managed Care Plans submit the evaluation to OBH-PASRR for a final determination.

While Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services' regulations allow an average of **7-9 working days** to complete the entire PASRR process, we recognize that a timely discharge is in the individuals' best interest.

The following are suggestions to help accelerate the process.

Hospital providers may expedite the process by submitting the following to OAAS when a Level I indicates a suspected mental illness or to OBH during the Level II process:

1. Contact information for the referring entity including name of contact, phone number to contact, fax number to send final determination and location of the nursing home applicant.
2. As indicated, **required Level II information** for individuals identified as having a mental illness submitted to OAAS in conjunction with the PASRR Level I or by faxing them to the OBH-PASRR office via a secure virtual fax system (**1-877-652-4995**). Documents should include the following information:
 - a. A comprehensive history and physical that includes complete medical history; review of all bodily systems; specific evaluations of the person's neurological system in the areas of motor functioning, sensory functioning, gait, deep tendon reflexes, cranial nerves and abnormal reflexes; and in the

case of abnormal findings which are the basis of nursing home placement, additional evaluations conducted by appropriate specialists.

- b. A comprehensive drug history including current or immediate past use of medications that could mask symptoms or mimic mental illness, side effects or allergies.
- c. A psychosocial evaluation.
- d. A comprehensive psychiatric evaluation including a complete psychiatric history; evaluation of intellectual functioning, memory functioning and orientation; description of current attitudes and overt behaviors, affect, suicidal or homicidal ideation, paranoia and degree of reality testing (presence of content of delusions); and hallucinations.
- e. Records that speak to the reason for nursing home placement, including documentation of categoricals (i.e, terminal illness, severe physical illness or any illness where the individual is not likely to benefit from a specialized behavioral health service).
- f. If there is an indication of Dementia within the records, include corroborative testing or other information available to verify the presence of progression of the Dementia (i.e., Dementia work up, Comprehensive Mental Status Exam).

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE GO THE [“PASRR WEBINAR TO HOSPITALS—DECEMBER 4, 2014”](#)

PROVIDERS ARE TO CONTINUE TO CONTACT OBH FOR THE STATUS OF LEVEL II DETERMINATIONS AT:

OBH-PASRR MAIN NUMBER: [225-342-4827](tel:225-342-4827)

OBH-PASRR FAX NUMBER: [1-877-652-4995](tel:1-877-652-4995)