FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TO: All Licensed Hospitals  
   All Medicaid Certified Nursing Facilities

FROM: Michael Boutte  
      Interim Medicaid Executive Director

RE: Temporary Suspension of Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) Level II

DATE: July 29, 2021

This Healthcare Facility Notice will provide information on the suspension of Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) Level II activities for thirty (30) calendar days after nursing facility admission starting July 30, 2021. This directive is applicable to all licensed hospitals and nursing facilities in Louisiana.

The State of Louisiana, Department of Health (“LDH” or “Department”), is committed to taking critical steps to ensure public health and safety due to the current surge of COVID-19. The State of Louisiana, Department of Health, is DIRECTING that all licensed hospitals and nursing facilities adhere to the following provisions, EFFECTIVE July 30, 2021:

PRE-ADMISSION SCREENING AND RESIDENT REVIEW LEVEL II

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has approved Louisiana’s 1135 Waiver Request in regards to the PASRR requirements. Effective July 30, 2021, and until otherwise directed by LDH, the Level II assessments required under PASRR are waived. All new admissions which would have required a PASRR Level II prior to admission, will be treated like exempted hospital discharges. If continued Nursing Facility (NF) placement is still warranted at the end of the initial authorization period, the NF shall use the existing continued stay review process. At that time, persons admitted under the PASRR waiver who have suspected serious mental illness (SMI) or intellectual disability (ID) will be identified and receive a resident review.

The facility/hospital should still call in a LOCET and complete the PASRR Level I process prior to proceeding with NF placement.
Nursing Facilities shall keep a list of all the individuals who are admitted to their facility for the duration of this PASRR waiver. The list must specify the individuals with suspected SMI or ID.

Also, please note that in accordance with 42 CFR 438.106(b)(4), new PASRR Level I and Level II screens are not required for residents who are being transferred between nursing facilities. If the nursing facility is not sure if a Level I was conducted at the resident’s transferring facility, a Level 1 can be conducted at the admitting facility during the first few days of admission as part of intake and transfers with positive Level I screens requiring a Resident Review.

End of Memo.