



NDLTCA Newsletter

May 26, 2026

All Members - *All Members*
Assisted Living - *AL*
Basic Care and Adult Residential - *BC*
Care at Home - *CH*
Home Health - *HH*
Nursing Facilities - *NF*



Education

Registration Now Open: Summer Administrator's Conference | July 21–24, 2026

All Members

Registration is now live for the 2026 Summer Administrator's Conference, taking place July 21–24 at Chase on the Lake in Walker, Minnesota.

This year's conference will feature timely education, networking opportunities, and engaging discussions on leadership, workforce challenges, reimbursement updates, legislative issues, survey preparedness, and the future of long term care.

Sessions will include presentations from AHCA, CMS (tentatively scheduled), Eide Bailly, Kara Jorvig, Gina Mancini, Rep. Jon Nelson, and more.

Attendees can also enjoy special events including PAC Golf and Painting on Wednesday, July 22, and Cocktails & Conversations with Sponsors on Thursday, July 23.

View the full schedule and register today on the NDLTCA Summer Administrator's Conference webpage, <https://ndltca.org/events/administrators-conference-2/>.

RAC-CT® Certification Virtual Workshop Hosted by North Dakota Long Term Care Association

NF

August 11–13, 2026

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Daily

Master Teacher: Robin Hillier

Enhance your knowledge of clinical assessment and care planning, MDS completion, RAI/MDS regulations, and PDPM management by attending the AAPACN Resident Assessment Coordinator–Certified (RAC-CT®) Certification Workshop.

The RAC-CT credential is the nationally recognized gold standard in resident assessment for long-term care professionals. Earning this certification demonstrates expertise in the skilled nursing facility prospective payment system and the MDS 3.0 assessment process.

The RAC-CT certification program includes 10 educational courses designed for post-acute care professionals with at least six months of experience with the MDS/RAI process. Participants must successfully complete the associated certification exams with a score of 80% or higher to earn the credential. Exams remain available for one year following the workshop, with three attempts permitted per course. Recertification is required every two years.

Please note: This workshop is intended for individuals who are not yet RAC-CT certified.

Registration includes:

- Three days of live virtual instruction from a Master Teacher
- Access to digital workshop materials
- Access to all 10 certification exams

Participants are encouraged to download and save all PDF materials for future reference.

Materials may also be printed at the participant's expense; however, updates and revisions are made regularly throughout the year.

[Click Here to Register!](#)

Office hours - Navigating Consent for Residents Seeking Companionship

AL, BC, NF

These one-hour sessions, held every three weeks, provide a safe and supportive space for long-term care professionals to bring forward real-life scenarios, concerns, and questions related to resident consent and companionship. Guided by trained facilitators who are **Skills2Care® certified** and **creators of the C.A.R.E.™ Checklist**, participants will explore best practices and gain practical strategies for navigating complex situations with compassion, respect, and regulatory alignment.

May 27, 2026 2:00 PM CT

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 810 1524 2958

Passcode: 013233

Care at Home

1915(i) May Newsletter

CH, BC

[1915\(i\) May Newsletter: North Dakota Therap Conference](#)

Home care agencies in New Mexico, Texas push back against 'arbitrary' VA rate changes

CH

MCKNIGHTS May 22, 2026

Providers [sounded the alarm](#) about the rate changes last December when the VA released the 2026 VA Schedule for Authorized Community Care. The adjustment, which went into effect Jan.

1 of this year, lowers reimbursement by as much as 43% for home health aide and homemaker services... [Read more...](#)

Regulatory

CMS' Proposed Expansion of Nursing Home Quality Reporting Requirements Raises Industry Concerns

NF

[Skilled Nursing News](#) (5/18, Siddiqi) reports that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services proposed expanding the Skilled Nursing Facility Quality Reporting Program to include all payer types, not just Medicare residents. Industry leaders are expressing concerns that the move would "create substantial administrative, staffing and financial burdens for nursing homes." Jesse McGill from the American Association of Post-Acute Care Nursing (AAPACN) expressed concerns that this will impose significant administrative and financial burdens on nursing homes. McGill noted that CMS's cost estimate of \$88 million annually "is a very low estimate."

Preparing for Survey: Key Resources on Past Noncompliance

NF

Past Noncompliance is achieved when a facility can demonstrate to surveyors that a deficient practice existed but was identified and corrected before the survey began. [Read more.](#)

CMS Proposes Nationwide CJR Expansion

All Members

CMS has proposed a new mandatory bundled payment model, the Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacement Expanded (CJR-X) Model, in the FY 2027 Hospital Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) Proposed Rule. [Read more.](#)

Surveyor's Alleged Misinterpretation Of Unclear Or Non-Existent Nursing Home Standard Has National Implications

NF

MCKNIGHTS-May 24, 2026

A "nursing home that says it's the victim of a surveyor's misinterpretation of a **non-existent temperature standard for coffee** service has formally appealed its **\$1.8 million penalty** in federal court." The Potomac Falls Health & Rehab Center case and its "outcome potentially has national implications, observers feel, because it addresses the question: Can a surveyor's interpretation of interpretive guidance serve as a basis for regulation?" The case is also "seen as an outlier since the Virginia provider decided to endure a decade-long process rather than settle with federal regulators, who win more than 90% of their appealed decisions before they would ever go to federal court."

[Read more.](#)

CMS Moves to Rein In Misused Medicaid Dollars and Reward Quality Care

All Members

[Press Release-May 20, 2026](#)

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) proposed today a sweeping crackdown on state Medicaid payment practices that have driven payment rates well above Medicare levels, leading to excessive federal costs. The Medicaid Managed Care State Directed Payments (SDP) and Medicaid Fee-for-Service (FFS) Targeted Practitioner Payments Proposed Rule would set clear caps and better align Medicaid payments with Medicare standards. If finalized, the proposed rule would generate an estimated \$775 billion in total savings over 10 years, including \$510 billion in federal savings. Our goal: to refocus Medicaid dollars on individuals and families instead of inefficient payment schemes. [Read more.](#)

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