The Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) recognizes the impact that the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is having on nursing facility providers. This alert gives guidance related to the rate setting process and cost reports.

Eliminate sanctions for late cost report: The Agency is eliminating sanctions for late submission of Medicaid cost reports for the duration of the state of emergency declared under Executive Order No. 20-51. If a cost report due between January 1, 2020 and the 60 days after the end of the state of emergency is late, it will not be subject to sanctions.

October 1, 2020 rate setting will not change: No extensions will be available related to Medicaid cost reports and Fair Rental Value (FRV) surveys used for the October 1, 2020 rates. The most current acceptable cost reports and FRV surveys received by the Agency's Bureau of Medicaid Program Finance, Audit Services by the close of the business day on April 30, 2020, will be used for these components:

- Pass-through calculation components of real estate and personal property taxes and property insurance
- Operating, Direct Care, Indirect Care ceilings for exempt providers
- FRV Rate
- Quality Measure for hours of licensed nursing (RN, LPN) and CNA staffing

Cost report audits: The nursing home cost report audit process will continue as scheduled. We recognize it may be a challenge to fulfill data requests related to the audit process at this time. Accordingly, any provider needing an extension to respond to information requests will be granted a temporary extension of 60 days. Please communicate with the auditor about extension requests and your ability to meet the deadlines.
We appreciate the critical service you provide to some of the state’s most vulnerable individuals; we will get through this period together. Please be aware that federal and state guidance related to COVID-19 is updated continuously. The Agency will communicate updates as quickly as possible.

Please contact (850) 412-4104 for questions or additional information.

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