Question: What is the purpose of PASRR?

Answer: The Preadmission Screening and Resident Review process (PASRR) is a federal requirement mandated by the Social Security Act, and codified in Title 42, Subpart C, Sections 483.100 through 483.138, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 409.985, Florida Statutes and Rule 59G-1.040, Florida Administrative Code. The purpose of PASRR is to ensure that individuals who are being considered for placement in a Medicaid-certified nursing facility are:

- Evaluated for serious mental illness, intellectual disability or a related condition(s), or both.
- Offered the most appropriate setting for their long-term care needs, including the determination of whether nursing facility level of services are considered appropriate.
- Able to receive the services they need in those settings, which may include specialized services or specialized rehabilitative services.

Question: When does a Level I PASRR screen need to be completed?

Answer: A Level I PASRR screen must be completed prior to an individual's admission to a Medicaid-certified nursing facility, regardless of payor source (e.g., Medicare, private pay, commercial insurance).

Question: Where can I find the Level I PASRR screen form and instructions?

Answer: The Level I PASRR screen form with instructions for completion can be found on the Agency for Health Care Administration’s website at:

http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/PASRR/index.shtml

Question: Where can I find the Level II PASRR form and instructions?

Answer: There is no Level II PASRR form. A state contracted vendor for the state authorities for serious mental illness and intellectual disability(s) or a related condition(s) performs the Level II PASRR evaluation(s) when a Level I PASRR screen indicates that a serious mental illness, intellectual disability(s) or related condition(s) may be present with an individual.

Providers in the community, such as hospital and nursing facility staff are not responsible for completion of the Level II PASRR requirements. Nursing facilities are sent the Level II PASRR determination and are required to keep the PASRR documentation in the patient’s record.

Question: Who can perform a Level I PASRR Screen?

Answer: The following are designated as Level I screeners:

- **For children ages 0-20 years** – The Agency for Health Care Administration or its delegate. The Agency for Health Care Administration delegates this responsibility to the
Florida Department of Health, Children’s Multidisciplinary Assessment Team (also known as CMAT).

- **For adults ages 21 years and older** – The Florida Department of Elder Affairs’ Comprehensive Assessment and Review for Long-Term Care Services (also known as CARES) program. The Florida Department of Elder Affairs delegates this responsibility to hospital or nursing facility staff credentialed as a physician, physician assistants, registered nurses, mental health counselors, psychologists, or those who hold a Master’s degree in social work. Delegates must comply with all relevant provisions of Rule 59G-1.040, Florida Administrative Code, and complete the Level I PASRR screen fully and accurately.

**Question:** Are Hospice Care Centers required to complete a PASRR screen on applicants to their facility before admission?

**Answer:** The PASRR process applies to the certification type of a facility. Specifically, the PASRR requirement is only for admission to a Medicaid-certified nursing facility. A facility that is certified as any other type of facility is not required to complete the PASRR process.

**Question:** Can a nursing facility admit an individual as long as the Level I PASRR screen has been done? Do we have to wait for the completion of the Level II PASRR?

**Answer:** Individuals should not be admitted to a Medicaid-certified nursing facility, and the facility cannot bill Medicaid for services rendered until the PASRR process has been fully completed. This includes completion of the Level I PASRR screen and, if applicable, the Level II PASRR evaluation and determination.

Under the following circumstances, an individual may be admitted prior to the completion of the Level II PASRR, as specified in Rule 59G-1.040 (Rule), Florida Administrative Code:

- Provisional admissions listed in the Rule
- Hospital discharge exemption

Medicaid-certified nursing facilities must follow all applicable laws regarding the timeframes to obtain a completed Level II PASRR.

**Question:** If a patient is in the hospital for an acute illness or injury, e.g., pneumonia or joint surgery, and then needs to be admitted to a Medicaid-certified nursing facility for short-term rehabilitation anticipated to be less than 30 days related to their acute illness or injury, is the hospital required to complete a Level I PASRR screen prior to the transfer of the individual to the nursing facility?

**Answer:** Yes. A Level I PASRR screen must be completed for all applicants to a Medicaid-certified nursing facility regardless of payor source.

An individual who is admitted to a Medicaid-certified nursing facility under the hospital discharge exemption admission who stays longer than 30 days must have the Level II PASRR evaluation and determination completed before the 40th day of stay. The nursing facility must notify the Comprehensive Assessment and Review for Long-Term Care (also known as CARES) program representative for adults, or the Children’s Multidisciplinary Assessment Team (also known as CMAT) for children, by the 25th day of stay, that a Level II PASRR evaluation will be required.
The Level I PASRR screen does not need to be completed when:

- An individual is returning to the Medicaid-certified nursing facility after being in a hospital for 90 days or less.
- A Medicaid-certified facility resident is transferred to another Medicaid-certified nursing facility.
- An individual is requesting admission to a non-Medicaid-certified nursing facility.

Question: Is a Level I PASRR screen only required to be done once, prior to admission?

Answer: Only one Level I PASRR screen must be completed prior to all new admissions to a Medicaid-certified nursing facility.

When a resident is transferred from one Medicaid-certified nursing facility to another Medicaid-certified nursing facility, the transferring facility is responsible for providing the Level I PASRR screen and any other applicable PASRR documentation to the receiving facility.

Nursing facilities are required to maintain copies of all PASRR documentation in the resident’s file for the duration of the individual’s stay in the facility, and for a period of five years after the resident has been discharged or has been transferred to another facility.

Question: How often is the PASRR updated for residents who are staying at the facility for longer periods of time?

Answer: A resident review must be completed when a resident who has or is newly suspected of having a serious mental illness (SMI), intellectual disability or related condition (ID), or both, has experienced a significant change in his or her mental or physical condition.

The resident review is also required if a resident who has or is newly suspected of having a SMI, ID, or both, is transferred to a hospital for care and the stay lasts longer than 90 consecutive days, prior to returning to the Medicaid-certified nursing facility.

Nursing facilities must use the Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) Resident Review (RR) – Evaluation Request Form, AHCA MedServ Form 004 Part A1, March 2017 (incorporated by reference in Rule 59G-1.040, F.A.C.), to request a resident review.

Question: If a new admission is received into our skilled nursing facility and it is discovered that the individual did not arrive with the appropriate documentation, such as without a Level I PASRR screen, an improperly completed PASRR Level I screen, or did not receive a Level II PASRR evaluation, when appropriate, is the course of action by the nursing facility to go ahead and proceed with either completing a Level I PASRR or requesting a Level II PASRR, if needed?

Answer: Medicaid-certified nursing facilities must ensure that the PASRR process, Level I PASRR screen and Level II PASRR evaluation and determination, as applicable, has been completed correctly prior to admission of an individual.

If an individual is admitted to a Medicaid-certified nursing facility with incorrect or incomplete PASRR documentation, the facility may contact their local Comprehensive Assessment and Review for Long-Term Care (also known as CARES) program representative for adults 21 years
of age and older, or the Children’s Multidisciplinary Assessment Team (also known as CMAT) for children under the age of 21 years for assistance.

Medicaid funds will not be available for the time period an individual is receiving nursing facility services, and the PASRR screening and evaluation processes, as applicable, has not been completed.

**Question:** Is the designated Level I screener from hospitals required to fax the PASRR forms to the Agency for Health Care Administration for every patient going to a skilled nursing facility even if they do not meet the requirements for a Level II PASRR?

**Answer:** Delegated hospital Level I PASRR screeners must forward the completed Level I PASRR screen and any required documentation to a Comprehensive Assessment and Review for Long-Term Care (also known as CARES) program representative for adults, age 21 years and older. The PASRR documents, inclusive of the Level I PASRR screen, must be completed within two days of the request for Medicaid-certified nursing services. The CARES representative must facilitate a Level II PASRR, as applicable within those same two days.

No hospital staff member may complete a Level I PASRR screen for children under the age of 21 years. The local Children’s Multidisciplinary Assessment Team (also known as CMAT) must be contacted for the PASRR process to be performed for children.

**Question:** Is dementia no longer an exclusion?

**Answer:** A diagnosis of dementia is not an exclusion to the PASRR process.

An individual diagnosed with dementia as a primary diagnosis, including Alzheimer’s disease or a related neurocognitive disorder, or a non-primary diagnosis of dementia without a diagnosis of a major mental disorder, is not considered to have a major mental disorder under the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (3rd Edition, Revised 1987). The Level I PASRR screen must be completed prior to admission to a Medicaid-certified nursing facility for individuals with a dementia diagnosis, and a Level II PASRR must be requested for individuals suspected of serious mental illness or an intellectual disability or related condition with a non-primary, comorbidity of dementia, prior to admission.

**Question:** Is it acceptable if the date on the Level I PASRR screen form and the date on the Level II PASRR referral are months apart?

**Answer:** The Level I PASRR screen is to be completed within two days of the request for admission into a Medicaid-certified nursing facility.

The Level II PASRR evaluation and determination must be completed, within seven days of receiving the request, with limited exceptions, prior to admission. All documentation, in accordance with Rule 59G-1.040, Florida Administrative Code, as applicable, must accompany the Level II PASRR request.

A resident review must be completed when a nursing facility resident who has or is newly suspected of having a serious mental illness, intellectual disability or related condition or both, experiences a significant change. The evaluation and determination of the resident review may be months apart from the initial Level I PASRR screen or Level II PASRR that was completed prior to admission.
Nursing facilities must use the Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) Resident Review (RR) – Evaluation Request Form, AHCA MedServ Form 004 Part A1, March 2017 (incorporated by reference in Rule 59G-1.040, F.A.C.), to request a resident review.

As previously noted, the nursing facility may not admit, and cannot bill Medicaid, for nursing facility services before the PASRR process is completed.

Nursing facilities must ensure they obtain the appropriate PASRR documentation upon admission, and that the PASRR process is maintained while an individual is a resident.

**Question:** What if the individual has both a serious mental illness and an intellectual disability or a related condition?

**Answer:** If the individual being admitted to a Medicaid-certified nursing facility is found to have a suspicion or diagnosis of serious mental illness (SMI) and an intellectual disability or related condition (ID), as concluded on the completion of the Level I PASRR screen, the Comprehensive Assessment and Review for Long-term Services (also known as CARES) program representative for adults or the Children’s Multidisciplinary Assessment Team (also known as CMAT) for children, in accordance to the individual’s age, will submit a request for a Level II PASRR evaluation to the state contracted vendor for the evaluation of SMI and ID.

The state contracted vendor will provide the Level II PASRR determination concerning the diagnosis(s) to the individual or their legal representative, as applicable, the admitting or retaining nursing facility, the individual attending physician, the discharging hospital, if applicable, and the appropriate Level I screener in accordance with Rule 59G-1.040 Florida Administrative Code.

**Question:** Can the AHCA 5000-3008 form waive the requirement to have a completed Level I PASRR screen if it comes from a physician’s office?

**Answer:** No. Completion of the Medical Certification for Medicaid Long-term Care Services and Patient Transfer Form, AHCA Form 5000-3008, June 2016, incorporated by reference in Rule 59G-1.045, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), cannot replace, serve as a substitute, or eliminate the need to complete the Level I PASRR screen.

The Level I PASRR screen, AHCA MedServ form 004 Part A, March 2017 (incorporated by reference in Rule 59G-1.040, F.A.C.) along with the PASRR Resident Review - Evaluation Request Form, AHCA MedServ Form 004 Part A1, March 2017 (incorporated by reference in Rule 59G-1.040 F.A.C.) can be found at:

http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/PASRR/index.shtml