



Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

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PM-19-05
VM-19-05

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MEMORANDUM FOR ALL HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED CARE PROVIDERS

FROM: Jessica Bax, Director
Division of Senior and Disability Services

SUBJECT: Level of Care (LOC) Transformation Project – Update

This memorandum is to provide all Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) providers with an update regarding the progress of the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) toward revising the criteria used to determine Nursing Facility LOC ([PM/VM-18-22](#)). Thank you to participating partners who have taken an interest and invested in this project by taking the time to provide valuable feedback.

As anticipated, the feedback from experienced stakeholders has brought invaluable insight to the process. Concerns regarding the potential negative impact of the new criteria is balanced by stakeholder appreciation for efforts to update the criteria and move closer to the project goal—ensuring the right services are provided to the right individuals at the right time in the right setting.

Upon review of stakeholder feedback, significant changes are needed in some areas of the algorithm to ensure the final product achieves the desired outcome. In an effort to maximize accuracy, attention in the weeks ahead will focus on specific situations in which unique or extraordinary circumstances are not accurately captured in the proposed algorithm. During this process, the details of participant cases are critical to guiding changes needed in the algorithm. For continuing stakeholder involvement, please:

- Continue to provide feedback on the draft algorithm. Provide details regarding individuals or conditions not appropriately measured or captured using the proposed algorithm;
- Submit data and feedback using the “Send Feedback” link on the LOC Transformation website: www.health.mo.gov/LOCTransformation;
- Monitor DSDS E-News for project timeline updates which currently are scheduled through March 31, 2019; and
- Review the website (see above) for updates, frequently asked questions and other news relevant to the LOC Transformation project.

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DHSS will release a second draft algorithm after compiling all stakeholder feedback. The second draft algorithm will reflect appropriate adjustments in the areas currently of concern. It is vital all stakeholders continue to provide feedback on the current draft to effectively inform the changes needed for the second draft.

Upon release of the second draft, the comment period will be extended and DHSS will request stakeholders to provide feedback. Additional details regarding the release of the second draft algorithm will be forthcoming.

Any questions regarding this memorandum should be directed to the Bureau of Long Term Services and Supports via e-mail at LOCTransformation@health.mo.gov or by phone at (573)526-8557.

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CC: Distribution Lists 3 & 4