

Yearly Quality Assurance Audit Calendar for Skilled Nursing Facilities

This outline aims to ensure quality assurance for survey pathways and group approaches for easier implementation. This outline supplements the standard QAPI agenda, highlighting the quality assurance focus review for the month to validate sustained compliance is maintained. Adjust the calendar for logical timing, such as conducting Infection Control before Flu Season. Including Facility Assessment and 802 reviews provides a bundle approach for QAPI response and validating sustained compliance.

First Quarter

January

Emphasizes comprehensive assessments, QAPI program review, and care transition processes.

- Review Facility Assessment
- CMS-20058 QAPI and QAA
- CMS-20131 Resident Assessment
- CMS-20132 Discharge

February

Centers on protecting resident rights by identifying abuse, neglect, and restraint use violations.

- CMS-20059 Abuse
- CMS-20130 Neglect
- CMS-20077 Physical Restraints

March

Focuses on supporting the psychosocial and behavioral expression needs of residents and compliance to support person-centered approaches.

- Review 802
- Consider how data from is being incorporated MDS SDOH (Section R)
- CMS-20067 Behavioral-Emotional
- CMS-20133 Dementia Care

Added Tip

- *Ensure Staff Influenza rates uploaded into NHSN for QM reporting*
- *Review and note order date for vaccinations for next year's Flu Season*
- *Review PBJ Documents ahead of submission*
- *Review CMS published Draft Provider Report and submit corrections for accuracy before published onto Care Compare website*

Second Quarter

April

Assesses environmental safety, kitchen sanitation, and dining services for health code and safety compliance.

- Review Facility Assessment
- Review Emergency Preparedness Plan
- CMS-20061 Environment
- CMS-20055 Kitchen
- CMS-20053 Dining

May

Targets safe medication administration, unnecessary drug use, and proper medication storage practices.

- CMS-20056 Medication Administration
- CMS-20082 Unnecessary Medications
- CMS-20089 Medication Storage

June

Reviews nutritional services, hydration support, and feeding protocols to prevent malnutrition and dehydration.

- Review 802
- CMS-20075 Nutrition
- CMS-20092 Hydration
- CMS-20093 Tube Feeding

Added Tip

- *Review Pharmacy Contract – if contract allows for Mock Survey services, connect with Pharmacy on scheduling Mock Survey (including Med Pass observation if included) ahead of Standard Survey Window opening.*
- *Review PBJ Documents ahead of submission*
- *Review CMS published Draft Provider Report and submit corrections for accuracy before published onto Care Compare website*

Third Quarter

July

Examines pressure injury prevention and interventions, along with mobility and range of motion practices.

- Review Facility Assessment
- Review 802
- CMS-20078 Pressure Ulcers
- CMS-20120 Positioning, Mobility, ROM

August

Focuses on infection prevention and accident hazard protocols to reduce harm and promote resident safety.

- Review PPE Supply Inventory and ordering process.
- Review Fire Safety policies and logs
- CMS-20054 Infection Prevention, Control & Immunization
- CMS-20127 Accidents

September

Reviews end-of-life and hospice care services to ensure dignity and respect for residents during transitions.

- Review 802
- CMS-20073 Hospice and End-of-Life Care
- CMS-20074 Death

Added Tip

- *Conduct Equipment Review for functionality, repairs, and appropriateness to ensure resident's highest practicable level of functionality.*
- *Review Wound Supply agreement – invite vendor in to conduct training with staff on wound protocols and the use of products the facility keeps in inventory.*
- *Review PBJ Documents ahead of submission*
- *Review CMS published Draft Provider Report and submit corrections for accuracy before published onto Care Compare website*

October

Evaluates staffing sufficiency and competence, as well as support for residents with ADL assistance needs.

- Review Facility Assessment
- Review Staff Training compliance
- Spot check Employee Personnel Files
- CMS-20062 Sufficient and Competent Staff
- CMS-20066 Activities of Daily Living

November

Addresses proper catheter use, prevention of UTIs, and support for incontinence care planning.

- Review 802
- CMS-20068 Urinary Catheter or UTI
- CMS-20125 Bladder and Bowel Incontinence

December

Ensures proper delivery of resident rights notifications, PASARR evaluations, and arbitration agreement compliance.

- CMS-20052 Beneficiary Notice
- CMS-20090 PASARR
- CMS-20140 Arbitration

Added Tip

- *Review Vendor agreement – invite Medical Supply company in to conducting on audit on incontinence product sizing for residents and conduct training on those incontinence products on inventory at the facility.*
- *Review PBJ Documents ahead of submission*
- *Review CMS published Draft Provider Report and submit corrections for accuracy before published onto Care Compare website*