

CARE Program Update

Spring, 2007

NOTICE...

Anytime an assessor checks the appropriate MI or MR criteria in the PASRR column it must also show a Level II is needed at the bottom of that column. It should match the certificate which should show "indicated a need for further evaluation and referring for a Level II."

The customer can NOT be discharged from the hospital to a nursing facility until the Level II is completed and the Level II determination is issued stating NF placement is appropriate.

The nursing facility can NOT admit anyone whose CARE certificate indicates a need for a Level II without the KDOA letter of determination.

The only time a NF could admit without the actual hard copy letter is if the hospital knows the Level II has been done and has received a verbal authorization that NF placement is appropriate, which will always be followed up with the determination letter. The NF should call the KDOA Level II Manager to confirm prior to accepting the individual.

Please refer to pages 2, 6, 19, & 20 in the Policies and Procedures section of the CARE Assessor Training Manual.

REVISED CARE POLICY AND PROCEDURES:

The CARE Program has made 2 policy changes that became effective February 16, 2007. The policy changes are in regard to the 30 day admissions to nursing facilities (NF) and a hospice policy.

- 1) NFs will no longer be required to send the Provisional Fax and doctor's signed order to the AAA. The NF will still be required to keep their copy of PASRR in the clinical record along with the doctor's certification of a less-than 30-day stay, but will now be sending a copy of that paperwork to the SRS worker for their files. The NFs will still need to order a full CARE when it looks like the individual will not be discharged from the facility within the 30 day time frame. For emergency admissions, the NF is still required to contact the AAA within one working day and request a full CARE assessment. The NF assessor shall complete the first two sections of the CARE assessment and fax the partial assessment with a copy of the KDOA emergency fax memo to the AAA within one working day. A copy of the emergency fax sheet is attached.
- 2) Individuals with appropriately documented terminal illness diagnoses will no longer be required to have a CARE Level I assessment for admission to an NF. The assessor must submit the documentation of this condition to the AAA Care Coordinator and they will send it to the Level II manager at KDOA for processing and generation of a categorical determination, which shall be maintained in the customer's clinical record with the supporting documentation.

What Does Dementia have to do with activities?

Dementia causes cognitive impairment, usually memory loss but can also cause problems in other domains such as language or judgment, evidenced by not being able to fix meals, bathe, or do other daily tasks without a struggle. Persons with dementia are at risk for many physical and psychological effects compounded by loneliness, helplessness and boredom if meaningful activity and companionship are not available. More and more individuals are being diagnosed with dementia. While there are strategies and drugs to help treat dementia, there is no cure. The approach to caring for someone with dementia has shifted to person-centered care. This approach emphasizes the experience of the individual, such as life history, personality, health, preferences and how they deal with change in their social environment. Activities should reflect the natural rhythms of life and provide opportunities for companionship. There are tools that can help deliver activities more effectively, including the Pool Activity Level (PAL) Instrument, Dementia Care Mapping and Well-being Profiling. This information is from an article in Care Management Matters, November 2006. <http://www.relres.org/pdf/dementiaactivities.pdf>

HELPFUL REMINDERS

- ✓ ***Please remember that a CARE assessment is required for persons who are considering Nursing Facility placement and have been in Assisted Living.***
- ✓ ***CARE Assessor Training is for 6 CEUs; PSA Update Trainings are for 3 CEUs.***
- ✓ ***Please note that if an individual refuses to have a CARE done but is wanting to go to a Nursing Facility, they need to be informed that their refusal to participate in the assessment will dramatically impact whether or not they can be admitted to the NF and whether or not the cost of their stay in the NF will be covered by Medicaid.***

CARE LEVEL I – PASRR WEB BASED TRAINING

See PASRR at a computer near you...The KDOA is pleased to announce that the CARE Level I - Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) assessment training is now available on the web. We have posted this training, through a partnership with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), on the KS Train website. The TrainingFinder Real-time Affiliate Integrated Network, (TRAIN) is the nation's most comprehensive learning resource for professionals who protect the public's health & safety. To learn more about who should take the PASRR training please go to: www.aging.state.ks.us On the left hand side select the link that says "KDOA Program Information" and then select the first program listed which is the CARE program. In there is the Web-based Training Announcement, plus other helpful information about the CARE program.

HOW DO I TAKE THIS COURSE?

Participants will go to: <http://ks.train.org> and will first need to create an account on the left hand side of the screen beneath the "login" button and click on "create account." You must complete those fields with a red asterisk but once this is done the system keeps the information and you'll only need to go back to this screen to update your information. Be sure to write down your Login Name and Password and keep it some place secure. Once you've created your account you will return to the Log-in. Once logged on, you will click on the "Course Search" tab, then click, "By Subject" or "By Course Provider" and type in "KDOA." This and any future trainings the Kansas Department on Aging offers will come up, then select the CARE PASRR training.

DATES TO WATCH FOR

The Governor's Conference on Aging (May 2 and May 3, 2007)

The Kansas Department on Aging is pleased to announce the program for the 2005 Governor's Conference on Aging Services. This year's theme is "PEARLS of Aging." This conference will cover a wide variety of topics designed especially for seniors and for professionals who work with seniors. The conference goals include:

- *Promoting Choices for Seniors*
- *Encouraging Healthy Lifestyles*
- *Accessing Current Information for Professionals*
- *Recognizing the Pearls of Aging*
- *Learning throughout Your Life*
- *Stringing Pearls of Wisdom Across the Generations*

The conference will offer a set amount of Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for nurses, social workers and nursing home administrators. CEU fees are \$25.00. The conference registration is now available on-line at: www.agingkansas.org

Dear Abby CARE

I am a Level I CARE assessor. Most of the assessments I do are in the home of the individual or at some other community residence (relatives, assisted living or group home). When individuals are contemplating nursing facility entry, or when someone in the family is thinking about this and has not told the customer, how on earth am I supposed to assess this customer and get any medical records or history or physical, or guardianship papers? Most of the customers I visit with are 85 years plus, and sometimes accuracy and documentation is sketchy. How do I assess this fairly and completely? I can not spend all day on **one** Level I CARE Assessment.

Ticked Off

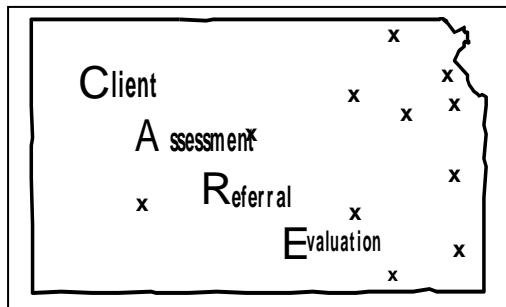
Dear T.O.

I can understand your frustration, as I know other assessors will also. I read between the lines of your letter that you really don't want to be the first one to break the news that nursing facility admission is being considered.

The best procedure might be: 1) Call the customer and the family member most responsible for the customer, and make sure that he/she is present when you do the assessment. 2) Tell the family member that you need for the person being assessed to know why you are coming. 3) Ask the relative or responsible person to have physical and historical information on their loved one when you arrive. 4) Ask the family member probing questions regarding the status of the customer and whether a guardian has been appointed. 5) If a guardian is identified, but can not be present during the assessment, ask the guardian or closest responsible person to have a copy of the Guardianship Papers for you when you arrive to do the CARE Level I assessment. These five steps might help you complete your CARE Level I Assessment in a more accurate and timely manner.

CARE Staff Directory

Valerie Merrow	CARE Program Senior Manager 785-296-0895
Cornelia Jeffery	CARE Level I Manager / Trainer 785-291-3359
Dwane Kratochvil	CARE Level II Manger 785-296-3516
Kathy Ellis	Level II Manager back-up 785-296-0387
Galen Rhoades	CARE Program Support Specialist 785-291-3360
Kansas Department on Aging	785-296-4986 or 1-800-432-3535



Kansas Department on Aging
CARE Program
New England Building
503 S. Kansas Ave.
Topeka, Kansas 66603-3404