

For Information

DATE: May 4, 2010

REPORT TITLE: **RESIDENT ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENT-MINIMUM DATA SET FOR
LONG TERM CARE HOMES (RAI-MDS)**

FROM: Janette Smith, Commissioner of Health Services

OBJECTIVE

This report will provide an update on the Resident Assessment Instrument-Minimum Data Set (RAI-MDS) process in relation to resident care planning and the funding methodology for the five Regionally operated long-term care centres: Davis Centre, Malton Village, Peel Manor, Sheridan Villa, and Tall Pines.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- RAI-MDS is an assessment tool used in long-term care homes to examine the health status of individuals.
- The Resource Utilization Groups (RUGs) funding methodology allocates Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care funds based on the provision of rehabilitation and nursing services according to individual residents' needs.
- As Peel Long Term Care Homes advance further in the use of RAI MDS, the homes are undertaking a shift in approach and in development of care plans for residents.
- The goal of the RAI-MDS process is to improve resident care which leads to improving the quality of life for long term care home residents.

DISCUSSION**1. Background**

RAI-MDS is an assessment tool used in long-term care homes to examine the health status of individuals. The information gathered allows for the development of the care plan in order to enhance resident care through restorative care, rehabilitation and health promotion. In 2009 the RAI-MDS implementation project was rolled out to the five Region of Peel homes.

Through provincial mandate and approved by Regional Council in January 2009 each Home has completed the implementation of the system. A RAI specialist works in each Home to educate staff, coordinate and ensure the accuracy of the data collection, produce monthly reports and submit data to the Canadian Institute Health Information. The data collected is analyzed by the Institute and provided to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) and Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs). It is used to assess quality indicators such as restraints, falls, and medication usage to monitor outcomes and benchmark each home's results.

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2. Funding Methods

Funding was provided to implement the project and has been approved by the MOHLTC for sustainability of the process on an ongoing basis. The MOHLTC also provided homes with training, education and support for the successful implementation of the process.

The Resource Utilization Groups (RUGs) is a case mix grouping methodology that is calculated using data from the RAI-MDS. This is the basis for new provincial funding methodology which replaces the previous Alberta Resident Classification System. From this data, governments worldwide are able to determine how to allocate long-term care funding. The RUGs funding methodology allocates MOHLTC funds based on the provision of rehabilitation and nursing services according to individual residents' needs. The RAI specialist currently leads the Restorative and Rehabilitation teams to ensure consistency with this approach. This funding is one part of the overall resource structure and specifically streams funding into the Nursing and Personal Care envelope.

Peel Long Term Care Homes will enter into the RUGs funding methodology in 2011. Until then the old level of care funding and 2008 classification results will be applied to Nursing and Personal Care envelope.

3. Future Directions

There is an increased expectation to care for residents with more complex care needs in long term care. The RAI-MDS program has the ability to link the various components of the health care system including acute care, mental health, community and now long term care. This linkage will allow for a common language to be used across the system ensuring that people receive the required level of care in the right place.

As Peel Long Term Care Homes advance further in the use of RAI-MDS, the homes are undertaking a shift in approach and in the development of care plans for residents, to improve resident abilities. The addition of the RAI specialist helps to ensure registered staff complete documentation accurately and within stringent timelines set by the Canadian Institute Health Information. Information entered into specially designed software will automatically populate the RAI-MDS database, which will reduce duplication of documentation and better facilitate the tracking and auditing of information. However, the time for staff to complete required RAI-MDS assessments is still of concern.

The completed resident assessments under the new RAI-MDS program provide quality indicators that will be used to improve care. Furthermore, these indicators are useful in evaluating compliance with the MOHLTC standards, accreditation reviews, and the deployment of staff. The information from the assessments provides data for benchmarking, policy development and strategic planning within the Long Term Care Division.

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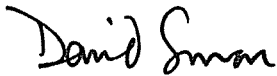
CONCLUSION

The goal of RAI-MDS is to improve resident care and quality of life for long term care home residents. The information produced through it will be used at each long term care home, the LHINs and MOHLTC to plan programs and services. Peel LTC Homes will use it to support the goal of providing optimum resident outcomes.



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Approved for Submission:



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