



**Center for Clinical Standards and Quality/Survey & Certification Group**

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**Admin Info: 14-19-ALL**

**DATE:** March 14, 2014

**TO:** State Survey Agency Directors

**FROM:** Director  
Survey and Certification Group

**SUBJECT:** FY2014 State Performance Standards System (SPSS) Guidance

**Memorandum Summary**

- **SPSS Framework-** The three Dimensions of Frequency, Quality, and Enforcement continue to serve as our organizing framework for the SPSS by which we can organize and measure the value associated with the survey process overall.

Attached are the following documents that comprise the final FY2014 SPSS Guidance:

- Attachment 1 – FY 2014 SPSS Guidance
- Attachment 2 – SPSS Dimensions Overview for FY 2014
- Attachment 3 – FY 2014 Frequency Measures-Discussion of Data
- Attachment 4 – Q1 Worksheet
- Attachment 5 – Q1 Random Sample Procedure document
- Attachment 6 – Q7 ACTS Report procedures for FY 2014
- Attachment 7 – Q8 Worksheet
- Attachment 8 – Q9 Worksheet
- Attachment 9 – E2 Procedures document
- Attachment 10 – FY 2014 Summary Score Sheet
- Attachment 11- Rounding Issues
- Attachment 12 - Acronyms

The three-dimensional structure in the FY 2014 Guidance (frequency, quality and enforcement) provides a framework by which we can organize and measure the value associated with the survey process overall. In addition, these three dimensions structure our efforts to standardize, promote consistency and automate (as much as possible) the data that are used in the State performance evaluation process.

The following revisions have been made to the FY 2014 SPSS:

- F1 Off-Hour Surveys for Nursing Homes was modified to reflect the need for a health survey team of typical size and composition to enter the facility together.
- E3 Processing of termination cases for Non-Nursing Home providers' method of evaluation was modified.
- E4 Special Focus Facilities (SFFs) - SFFs' method of evaluation was modified.
- Incorporated numerous wording changes and or clarifications based upon received comments

I appreciate your efforts to continuously improve the Medicare survey and certification program, in light of all resource and budget challenges that we have encountered in recent years and staffing challenges that states are facing now.

**Effective Date:** This memo and associated attachments are in effect for FY 2014. Please ensure that all appropriate staff is fully informed within 30 days of the date of this memorandum.

/s/

Thomas E. Hamilton

Attachments

cc: Survey and Certification Regional Office Management