

## **2005 Nursing Home Action Plan**

The purpose of this report is to set forth our action plan for continued improvement in the survey and certification program and in the overall quality of care in nursing homes.

This plan includes four coordinated sets of actions:

- Consumer Awareness & Assistance
  - Survey & Enforcement Processes
  - Quality Improvement Strategies
  - Comprehensive Approaches to Quality through Partnerships
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- In the past five years CMS and states have made progress in holding nursing homes accountable for meeting health and safety standards and improving care.
  - CMS and states have made considerable progress in improving the nation's survey and certification program to ensure that basic standards are met.
  - Further, CMS has built improved infrastructure for the survey and certification system, such as a new complaint tracking and management information system, to identify and track needed improvements in the quality of care.
  - The themes outlined in this action plan will guide CMS efforts to continue progress in improving the nursing home survey and certification program.