



DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Office of Health Care Quality

Spring Grove Center, Bland Bryant Building

55 Wade Avenue, Catonsville, Maryland 21228-4663

Larry Hogan, Governor - Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor - Dennis R. Schrader, Secretary

To: Ambulatory Surgical Centers, Community Mental Health Centers, Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facilities, End-Stage Renal Disease Facilities, Federally Qualified Health Centers, Home Health Agencies, Hospices, Hospitals, Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities, Long-Term Care Facilities, Organ Procurement Organizations, Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly, Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities, Clinics, Rehabilitation Agencies, and Public Health Agencies as Providers of Outpatient Physical Therapy and Speech-Language Pathology Services, and Transplant Centers

From: Patricia Tomsco Nay, MD, CMD *Patricia Tomsco Nay, MD*
Executive Director, Office of Health Care Quality

Re: Emergency Preparedness Requirements

Date: August 4, 2017

The "Medicare and Medicaid Programs: Emergency Preparedness Requirements for Medicare and Medicaid Participating Providers and Suppliers" establishes national emergency preparedness requirements for participating providers and certified suppliers to plan adequately for both natural and man-made disasters, and coordinate with Federal, state, regional and local emergency preparedness systems. These requirements went into effect on November 16, 2016. Health care providers and suppliers affected by this rule must comply and fully implement it by **November 15, 2017**.

Because the individual regulations for each specific provider and supplier share a majority of standard provisions, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has developed Appendix Z to provide consistent interpretive guidance and survey procedures located in a single document. CMS finalized and issued Appendix Z on June 6, 2017.

Compliance with the Emergency Preparedness requirements will be determined in conjunction with the existing survey process for health and safety compliance surveys or Life Safety Code (LSC) surveys for each provider and supplier type. Surveyors will cite non-compliance with these requirements beginning **November 16, 2017**.

Additional resources related to the Emergency Preparedness requirements include:

1. Appendix Z: https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/downloads/som107ap_z_emergprep.pdf
2. Frequently Asked Questions: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/SurveyCertEmergPrep/Downloads/All-Hazards-FAQs.pdf>
3. Survey and Certification – Emergency Preparedness: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/SurveyCertEmergPrep/index.html>
4. Maryland Department of Health – Office of Preparedness and Response: <https://preparedness.health.maryland.gov/Pages/Home.aspx>

Please direct any questions regarding this transmittal to Margie Heald, Deputy Director of Federal Programs, Margie.heald@maryland.gov or 410-402-8101.

cc: Sherry Adams