

Long-Term Care Home Service Accountability Agreement (L-SAA) External Communiqué #5

INTRODUCTION

This communiqué is the fifth in a series distributed to Ontario long-term care homes (LTCHs) regarding the development of the long-term care home service accountability agreement (L-SAA).

LONG-TERM CARE HOME ACT (LTCHA) UPDATE

As the L-SAA is being developed within the context of the LTCHA, it has always been the intention that there would be alignment between the date of proclamation of the LTCHA and the start date for the L-SAA. Accordingly, signing of the L-SAA with LTC homes will occur on the date of proclamation. The current service agreements between the LTC home operators and the LHINs will continue to be in force until the date of proclamation of the LTCHA and a letter in regard to this matter will be sent. Further communications and direction regarding this will be coming from the L-SAA Steering Committee once the expected date of proclamation is known.

LONG-TERM CARE HOME ACCOUNTABILITY PLANNING SUBMISSIONS (LAPS)

LAPS were submitted by LTC homes to the LHINs on November 20, 2009 or shortly thereafter. The LHINs are currently reviewing the LAPS in preparation for negotiating L-SAAs. Although the signing of the L-SAA has been delayed from the original March 31, 2010 date, an overall refresh of the LAPS information will not take place in advance of completing the L-SAAs.

The L-SAA schedules will be completed based upon the current LAPS information. LHINs will continue to work with their LTC homes to ensure that the information in the service plan narrative and description of services form is accurate and complete. LHINs and LTC homes are encouraged to continue working together in an open and collaborative manner..

DRAFT L-SAA TEMPLATE FEEDBACK

The L-SAA draft continues to be under development. Written feedback received from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Ontario Long-Term Care Association, Ontario Association of Non-Profit Homes and Services for Seniors, Ontario Hospital Association, Association of Municipalities of Ontario and City of Toronto has been reviewed and considered during the development process. Further discussions on the template agreement and schedules will occur at the next L-SAA Steering Committee meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS

The fourth external communiqué was circulated to LTC home Associations as well as individual homes on November 19th, 2009. A LAPS Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document was released to the LHINs and LTC homes on November 26th, 2009.

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Deborah Hammons issued a brief note to the Sector Consultation Team on December 23rd, 2009 to advise them that work was continuing and that the team would reconvene early in the New Year to review the updated version of the L-SAA template.

The ministry released a letter to the LHIN CEOs, Chairs and LTC Associations on December 24th, 2009 advising that the date of proclamation of the LTCHA would not be April 1, 2010. Deborah Hammons, Mimi Lowi-Young and Sandra Hanmer released a letter on January 15, 2010 to the same distribution groups discussing the LHINs' commitment to finalizing the L-SAA template and commence negotiations of the schedules with LTC homes.

NEXT STEPS

The next meeting of the L-SAA Sector Consultation will be held on February 17th, 2010.

The next meeting of the L-SAA Steering Committee will be held Tuesday, February 23rd, 2010.

For further information please contact:

Deborah Hammons (Deborah.hammons@lhins.on.ca)

Mimi Lowi-Young (Mimi.Lowi-Young@lhins.on.ca)