## In the Know With



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#### **In This Issue**

Service that Means a Smile



**New CDC Guidelines: How to Choose Safe Activities** CMS Guidelines Require LTC Staff to Provide Weekly Vaccine Reports

By the Numbers: Did you know at HRLTCP, we deliver around 1,800 medications each day? On Mondays, that number exceeds 2,000! You can count us to be there before your residents get to bed!



"Nothing else in our building matters if we can't get the medications to the people who need it."

-Angelo Angerame, CEO, Hudson Regional Long Term Care Pharmacy

## Why You Can Expect More and Worry Less with Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy

We understand how tirelessly long-term care facility staff and nurses work to care for the needs of others. The last thing you need to worry about is when will your resident receive their medication. If a doctor orders a prescription for your long-term care resident, you should get it that day. If a resident is on medication(s), you should have **peace of mind that it will be delivered as scheduled and on time.** 

Your long-term care staff should never have to worry about how they're going to document the administration of the medication **because Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy is going to provide you with a paper or electronic MAR.** 

You should never have to worry about when a delivery is going to get there; **medications will always be there by 9 PM** to ensure residents are not disrupted once they are settled and ready for bed.

These are just a few of the things that you can **Expect More and Worry Less** about with Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy as your provider; it's our commitment to our partners.

Call us today to Discover the Difference in your pharmacy care.

845-341-2714

## What can we do for you?

#### A Letter From Our CEO

Service that Means A Smile...Because It's The Right Thing to Do

One of the many things we take pride in at HRLTCP is that our team is truly a mission-driven organization. I want to share with you an example of our philosophical belief system and what we mean when we say, we will do whatever it takes to get a patient what they need.

One of the residents we serve at a facility has an A-typical cancer that requires a certain medication. This medication however is not fully covered by insurance. The Medicaid reimbursement in the state of New York reimburses HRLTCP \$500 less than our cost for the medication. But we fill this patient's medication, regardless of the monetary loss, every three weeks.

Why? **Because it's the right thing to do.** I can't allow the politics and insurance roadblocks to prevent these patients from getting the medication they need. We have ensured patients are taken care of no matter what; that's what makes us different at HRLTCP.

Another differentiator with our LTC pharmacy is that when we participate in any philanthropy

event or cause, we don't just write a check; we want to participate, join in and make sure there is a success for the cause or fundraising event. With that being said, we would like to take a moment and recognize one of our group home partners, Greystone Programs, for their successful Escape From Quarantine online auction that raised \$75,000 to remodel the Van Kirk house. The gentlemen who live in this home specifically have been a family for 25 years. We are so happy to celebrate with Greystone Programs as they continue to impact and better the lives of their residents.

As a group here at HRLTCP, we are involved and plugged into the community where we can be, and we are here to serve our partners, patients, and the community at large.



Yours in Health, Angelo Angerame

CEO, Hudson Regional Long Term Care Pharmacy

#### **HRLTCP Staff Community Involvement**

Angelo Angerame - Board of Directors for Local Pharmacy Society

- Board of Director for Orange County Society of Pharmacists
- Board of Directors for Greystone Programs
- Past President of the Brittany Miller Foundation

Steve Andrews

- Board of Directors for the Pharmaceutical Society of the State of New York, Representative for Region 6

#### Industry News

#### New CDC Guidelines: How to Choose Safe Activities

As more people become vaccinated, we are starting to see a sense of normalcy in our everyday lives. New guidelines for safe activities for those vaccinated and unvaccinated recently rolled out from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. People who are considered fully vaccinated, those who have passed the two-week mark past the two-dose series from Pfizer or Moderna or the single-dose from Johnson & Johnson, can start resuming activities that had to stop because of the pandemic. Visiting outdoors with others is considered safer than indoor activities, and fully vaccinated people can begin participating in some indoor events safely without much risk.

We wanted to share this graphic with you of indoor and outdoor activities that are marked safe, less safe, and least safe for vaccinated and unvaccinated people.

[You can access this graphic to download and print out on the CDC's website.]

#### **Choosing Safer Activities** Accessible link: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/participate-in-activities.htm Fully Vaccinated People Unvaccinated People **Examples of Activities** 9 Walk, run, wheelchair roll, or bike outdoors with members of your household Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated family and friends 9 Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people, particularly in areas of substantial to high transmission Less Safe Dine at an outdoor restaurant with friends from multiple households 9 Attend a crowded, outdoor event, like a live performance, parade, or sports event 受受 9 Visit a barber or hair salon Less Safe Go to an uncrowded, indoor shopping center or museum Attend a small, indoor gathering of fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people from multiple households Go to an indoor movie theater 0 Attend a full-capacity worship service 0 Sing in an indoor chorus Eat at an indoor restaurant or bar Participate in an indoor, high intensity exercise class Get a COVID-19 vaccine Safety levels assume the recommended prevention meas are followed, both by the individual and the venue (if applicable) CDC cannot provide the specific risk level for every activity in every community. It is important to consider your own personal situation and the risk to you, your family, and your community ear a mask, stay 6 feet apart.

**GOOD NEWS!** The New York State budget advocates for the developmentally disabled were able to pressure Albany into not enacting many of the cuts that were budgeted by the Governor. This means many of the services these individuals need will remain. While there are still details to work out, we can count on there being stability.

# Updated CMS Guidelines Require LTC Staff to Provide Weekly Vaccine Reports

The Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that staff of long-term care facilities and intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities (ICFs-IID) will need to report weekly COVID-19 vaccination status updates for both residents and staff under a new interim final rule. This new reporting requirement is designed to assist uptake among residents and staff and identify if there is a need for additional resources at facilities in response to the pandemic.

"These new requirements reinforce CMS' commitment of ensuring equitable vaccine access for Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries," said Dr. Lee Fleisher, MD, CMS Chief Medical Officer and Director of CMS' Center for Clinical Standards and Quality (CCSQ).

These weekly reports will be sent to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN), which is the nation's most widely used healthcare-associated infection tracking system. LTC facilities are currently required to send NHSN reports that include data on COVID-19 testing, case, and mortality data for residents and staff. The new vaccine data will allow CMS to share facility-specific vaccine status reports, which can be viewed by the public on the Nursing Home Data website.

While this new requirement is currently only specific to LTC facilities and ICFs-IID, CMS is looking to expand these guidelines in psychiatric residential treatment facilities, group homes, and assisted living facilities.

## Two \$1,000 Scholarships Available for BSN or MSN Students

Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy is offering two \$1000 scholarships to registered nurses (RN) who are working in New York State in the field of intellectual / developmental disabilities nursing and are enrolled in a program toward a bachelor's or master's degree in nursing.

"Nurses are always heroes! We want to celebrate them and we want to help elevate people who want to invest in their future," said Angelo Angerame CEO, Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy. "While we may not be in the facilities that we serve, we believe we are members of the care team. We want to support all of the different team members, and one way we are able to do that is with these two \$1,000 scholarships."



#### To be eligible, an applicant must meet the following requirements:

- 1. Is an RN currently working in the intellectual/developmental disabilities field.
- 2. Is enrolled full-time or part-time in a BSN or MSN nursing program, is taking courses towards a BSN/MSN, or is enrolled/accepted into a BSN or MSN program to begin in the fall 2021 semester.
- 3. Works in an ID/DD agency in New York State.
- 4. Intends to continue working as an ID/DD nurse in New York State upon graduation.

Applications are due on Sunday, August 15, 2021. For more information on these scholarships and how to apply, visit The New York State Intellectual and Developmental Disability Nurses Association website at *www.nysidddna.org.* 

\*\*Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy is not affiliated with NYS ID/DD Nurses Association nor is NYS ID/DD Nurses Association affiliated with Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy. The scholarships will be awarded in September 2021. The NYS ID/DD Nurses Association will appoint a scholarship selection committee from among its members and will make a recommendation to Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy regarding whom to award the scholarships. Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy will provide the scholarships directly to the recipients.

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#### **Switching Long Term Care Pharmacies Can Seem Daunting.**

But we understand that if your facility is at a place to make the move, things aren't going the way they should be. Our team members are experts at prescription transferring, facility/ pharmacy transitioning, training, and ensuring your pharmacy needs are met with excellence and consistency.

These are improvements your facility will notice when making the switch to Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy.

#### There is no delay.

Your residents will receive your prescriptions when needed and on time.

#### A friendly voice.

We listen to your problems and do our best to solve them immediately.

#### LTC nurses can focus on patient care, not pharmacy issues.

We want your medical staff to do what they do best-care for patients. Your nurse administration staff shouldn't have to worry about pharmacy problems or worry if prescriptions will be delivered.

#### Positive pharmacy experience.

Our team is here to serve your facility, your staff, and your residents. It's hard to put a value on excellent care until you don't have it.

#### Staff time is spent with residents.

We don't want your staff stuck on the phone trying to figure out where medical administration records or when you will receive them. You can count on MARs to show up the same day every month with Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy.

#### **Training Provided**

We know the process of reordering medications can be burdensome. That's why we supply all of our new facility partners with an ample amount of training on our web portal to fit your needs. Here's what you can expect during the training process:

- Connecting our nurse consultants with your agency's nurses and staff on a Zoom call to introduce one another and the web portal
- Weekly, monthly, or as-needed trainings
- A training manual with detailed stepby-step directions of the web portal
- Access to our nurse consultants and team to troubleshoot any questions

**With Hudson Regional** LTC Pharmacy's Web Portal, reordering medications can be done in only 15 minutes each week!

What You Need is Less Time with **Pharmacy Care and More Time to Provide Direct Patient Care.** 

#### We Can Help!

Dir of Nursing & Address Exec. Director

#### Prescription: Hudson Regional **Long Term Pharmacy**

- Service That Means A Smile
- All Deliveries Before **Resident Bedtimes**
- We Take Care Of You, So You **Can Take Care of Patients**

Because... It's the Right Thing to Do

## Switching is as easy as...

- **Have a Discovery Call** with Us & Your **Director of Nursing** Call us at: 845-341-2714
- Allow Us to Schedule an **On-Boarding Call with Our Transition Team**
- Sit Back & Relax:)





## It's Time to Order Flu Vaccines for Your Facility!

The 2021-22 flu season will be here before we know it. In preparation to serve your facility, please contact our team at Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy so we can plan the number of vaccines to order for your patients to ensure you're stocked up. Have questions? We can help.

## Expect More & Worry Less

## with Hudson Regional Long Term Care Pharmacy.

With a 99% success rate for on-time deliveries, our pharmacy has 26 drivers that start prescription delivery runs each day at 2 PM, 4 PM, 5 PM and 5:30PM. Our delivery region spans from New York City to Long Island and Green County. You can count on us to deliver your residents' prescriptions before bed each night.

Call Us Today to Discover the Difference in Your Pharmacy Care.

**(845) 341-2714** 

### Staff Spotlight

## **Christopher Guy**

Delivery/Pre-Delivery Manager



Christopher has worked at HRLTCP for the past three years and has been in the pharmaceutical industry for 10 years. As the Delivery/Pre-Delivery Manager, Christopher ensures all medications get out on time and delivered to the homes by 9 PM. Part of his role is to also work with the drivers to expand and consolidate delivery routes with the most efficient layouts to ensure on-time deliveries.

"It feels like a family here at Hudson Regional LTC Pharmacy. There are not many places where you can work, and it really feels like a family environment. Our goal is to ensure that we are catering to our patients' needs to get their medications. My mindset has always been, 'imagine my parents are taking these medications and I need to get it to them.' I also feel like everyone here also has that mindset. We always make sure everything is running like clockwork."

#### Fun Fact:

"My family owns the only Filipino restaurant (Fil-Am Market Corp.) here in Middletown."

