

Texas Department of State Health Services

PASRR: COUNTDOWN TO CHANGE

Are You Ready? Some Key Points to Consider

The May 24th. implementation date is rapidly approaching.

Do you have the equipment needed to receive the PASRR Level One (PL-1) forms from Referring Entities?

Do you have a process in place to log, manage, and track the status of each request for a PASRR Evaluation (PE) that is received?

Have you identified staff members who will be responsible for entering the PL-1 Data into the TMHP Long Term Care Portal?

Do you have protocols in place for the coordination of the PE with the Referring Entity?

Are you prepared and adequately staffed to meet the new rapid turnaround requirements for the completion of the PE and related data entry?

Who will data enter the PE information into the Long Term Care Portal?

The time to get ready for the new PASRR process is now.

In the December 2012 issue, we discussed the changes coming to the PASRR Evaluation (PE). With the May 24th implementation date rapidly approaching, it is important that we cover additional aspects of the new PASRR process. Now is the perfect time to perform a self assessment to determine if your organization is really ready for the changes to come. Here are some key points to consider:

PASRR Level I (PL-1) Process

Under the new PASRR process, a Referring Entity will perform the PL-1 screening. If the PL-1 indicates that the person may have a mental illness, the Referring Entity will transmit the PL-1 to the LMHA (or other evaluator in the NorthSTAR service area) via fax.

It is essential that each LMHA have a central fax number for PASRR-related documents.

Once the PL-1 has been received, the information from the form will then need to be entered into the TMHP Long Term Care Portal.

Are you ready? Does your facility have a reliable fax machine that can be used to receive the PL-1 forms?

Does your fax machine date and time stamp the fax?

Is someone responsible for ensuring that your fax machine is functional at all times?

How will you ensure that the fax machine is checked regularly for PL-1s?

Do you have a process in place to log and track the PL-1s that are received and to notify your designated staff members that a PE needs to be completed?

Who will be responsible for logging the PL-1 data into the TMHP Long Term Care Portal when the PL-1 is received?

Coordination with Referring Entity

Once the PL-1 is received, the PE will need to be scheduled and coordinated with the Referring Entity. This coordination will help to assure the Referring Entity that the PASRR process is moving forward and will also help to ensure that you do not waste time on “dry runs” by attempting to conduct the PE at a time when the individual is unavailable. (Note - “dry runs” can not meet the 72-hour standard)/

Are you ready? Do you have a protocol in place for acknowledging receipt of the PL-1 to the referring entity?

Do you have a process for scheduling the PE with the referring entity as quickly as possible following the receipt of the PL-1?

Rapid Turnaround of PEs

As we noted last month, the maximum completion time for the PE in many instances will be 72 hours from the time the PL-1 is received (i.e., stamped in by your fax machine).

Are you ready? A number of issues may arise with this population that make last-minute evaluations ill-advised. Do you have staff members who can be rapidly deployed to ensure that a PE is performed VERY quickly? [Hint: It may be helpful to attach the PASRR evaluators to your Mobile Crisis Team so that assessment can occur as soon as possible after you receive a PL-1.]

After PE completion, the results from the PE must be entered into the TMHP Long Term Care Portal.

Are you ready? Who will be responsible for logging the PL-1 data into the TMHP Long Term Care Portal?

Do you have backup staff in the event that one or more PASRR Evaluators are on vacation, sick, or otherwise unable to conduct the PEs?

Contract Changes Coming

Changes will soon be made to the Performance Contract that detail the DSHS expectations relating to the new PASRR process. These changes will include specific penalties for failure to perform the PE and enter data in a timely manner.

A Word to the Wise:

Start developing your new PASRR infrastructure now. Ensure that your process will support the new requirements.