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industry news.

More LTC industry regulations

According to Fierce Healthcare.com, U.S. lawmakers want new nursing home regulations triggered by a wave of private investment in nursing homes by players like The Carlyle Group, federal legislators have begun to take a closer look at how such investments affect the care such homes provide. This week, lawmakers conducted hearings looking at ways to demand ownership details from nursing home operators and to make them accountable for patient care problems. To read more, go to: <http://www.fiercehealthcare.com/story/u-s-lawmakers-want-new-nursing-home-regulations/2007-11-16>

CMS-Quality Initiative

The Quality Initiative touches every aspect of the healthcare system. The Quality Initiative was launched nationally in 2002 with the Nursing Home Quality Initiative (NHQI), and expanded in 2003 with the Home Health Quality Initiative (HHQI) and the Hospital Quality Initiative (HQI). In 2004, the Physician Focused Quality Initiative, which includes the Doctor's Office Quality Project, was developed. In 2004, the Quality Initiative was expanded to officially include kidney dialysis facilities; the End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Quality Initiative promotes ongoing CMS strategies to improve the quality of care provided to ESRD patients. In 2005, CMS announced the launch of the Physician Voluntary Reporting Program to begin in 2006. To read more, go to: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/QualityInitiativesGenInfo/>

shop talk.

Felicia Wilson LMSW, LNHA

Learning Self-discipline

The first quarter of 2008 is quickly coming to an end. Most people made resolutions at the end of 2007 to accomplish new goals and change something in their lives. But, sadly many who started off with great aspirations have not yet started the journey. The question becomes how do people achieve goals and the answer is self discipline. According to Remez Sasson, most people admire and respect strong individuals, who have won great success by manifesting will power and self discipline. They admire people, who with sheer will power, self discipline and ambition, have improved their life, learned new skills, overcame difficulties and hardships, reduced their weight, rose high in their chosen field or advanced on the spiritual path. The truth is that everyone can reach high levels of will power and self-discipline through a practical method of training. These inner powers are not reserved for a few special people. To read more, go to: http://www.successconsciousness.com/index_00002c.htm

trivia time.

What is the average daily cost for a semi-private room in a nursing home? The first ten correct responses e-mailed to support@patientplacement.com will receive a free gift. Be sure to include your mailing address in the e-mail.

fun facts

Did you know that:

- By 2026, the population of Americans ages 65 and older will double to 71.5 million.
- Between 2007 and 2015, the number of Americans ages 85 and older is expected to increase by 40 percent.
- Among people turning 65 today, 69 percent will need some form of long-term care, whether in the community or in a residential care facility.
- By 2020, 12 million older Americans will need long-term health care. (HIAA, "A Guide to Long-Term Care Insurance", 2002)
- The average daily cost for a private room in a nursing home is \$213, or \$77,745 annually.
- The average daily cost for a semi-private room in a nursing home is \$189, or \$68,985 annually.