



CHANGE!

By Connie Cheren

Change is the word that best describes long term care right now, and some of these changes are significant.

All of the LeadingAge staff, both LeadingAge Florida and national, are learning as much as we can about how to successfully implement these changes so we can keep you, our members, informed and prepared to implement the changes on time. This is certainly one of the benefits of being a member of LeadingAge Florida. Changes include:

- Payroll Based Journal requirement - implementation July 1, 2016
- New MDS section GG - implementation October 1, 2016
- Right To Access Medical Records
- Survey changes for Dementia units

We will be discussing all of these changes at the Nursing Home Roundtable at the [LeadingAge Florida Convention from July 25-27 at the Boca Raton Resort & Club.](#)

The new MDS section GG is one of the most significant changes affecting our members. Staff will have to assess a resident in 4 ADLs (eating, toilet hygiene, oral hygiene and mobility) by the end of third day after admission for a short term resident and establish discharge goals for the resident in these same 4 areas. The resident must then be assessed on their functional abilities on the last 3 days prior to discharge in these same ADLs.

The coding for GG is different than the coding for the MDS G section so staff will need to be trained on correct coding.

There are lots of changes coming and, as in the past, LeadingAge Florida is available to help guide you through these changes as you assimilate them into your day-to-day operations.

If you or your staff have questions, feel free to contact me via [email](mailto:ccheren@LeadingAgeFlorida.org) at ccheren@LeadingAgeFlorida.org or at (678) 778-0561.

Reach out to our Clinical & Compliance Specialist, Connie Cheren, RN, MSW at (678) 778-0561 or via ccheren@LeadingAgeFlorida.org. Connie is available to our members as a value-added service, paid for by LeadingAge Florida, to help answer questions before, during and after surveys OR anytime throughout the year! She can help nursing home and assisted living facility members improve regulatory compliance and clinical outcomes and to offer suggestions about survey results and corrective plans of action.