HOSPICE CAHPS SURVEY 2015

Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems

What is Hospice CAHPS?

- New national survey for CMS(Centerfor Medicaid and Medicare Services)
- Developed using the same process as other CAHPS surveys-current use for Home Health Care
- Selected measures from the survey will be used as national quality measures.

What is Hospice CAHPS?

- Standard survey administration protocols allows for fair comparison across hospices
- Anticipated public reporting in 2018
- Failure to participate results in 2% payment reduction to Hospice.

SURVEY DESIGN

- Includes 47 Core questions
- Focus on patient/caregiver experience of care rather than caregiver satisfaction.
- Covered topics include:
- Hospice team communication
- Getting timely care
- Treating family member with respect
- Providing emotional support

SURVEY DESIGN

- Support for Religious and Spiritual Beleifs
- Getting help for symptoms
- Information continuity
- Understanding the side effects of medication
- Getting Hospice care training
- Focus is on experiences and behaviors
- More actionable, specific and objective than general ratings

Who will complete the survey and when?

- Hospices are required to send surveys (through a designated vendor) beginning in January 2015. At least one survey will be sent in the first quarter of 2015.
- After the first quarter, surveys will be sent on a monthly basis.
- Post death survey is sent to the primary caregiver-treats the caregiver and patient as the unit of care.

Who will complete the survey and when?

- To allow the caregiver some recovery time, the survey will be mailed two months after the month of death. Caregivers of January decedents will receive the survey in April.
- If the survey is not received in 21 days a second survey and reminder letter is mailed.

What does the CAHPS mean to me as a member of Hospice IDT?

- We become an active participant in evaluation of the care we provide,
- We learn in an objective and measurable way what is important to families and patients regarding Hospice care
- We can focus very clearly on needed improvements and successes!
- Survey focuses on the Hospice team not individual discipline

- Nine selected survey questions will be selected as a quality measure for public reporting.
- Some of the questions include:
- Hospice team communication:
- Q9 How often did the hospice team keep you informed about your family member's condition?

- Getting timely care:
- Q5 How often did you get the help you neededfrom the Hospice team during evenings, weekends or holidays?
- Treating family member with respect.
- How often did you feel that the hospice team really cared about your family member?

- Providing emotional support:
- Q37 How much emotional support did you get from the hospice team?
- Getting help with symptoms:
- Q16 Did you family member get as much help with pain as he or she needed?
- Support for religious and spiritual beliefs:
- Q36 How much support for your religious or spiritual beliefs did you get from the hospice team?

- Information Continuity:
- Q10 How often did anyone from the Hospice team give you confusing or contradictory information about your family member's care?
- Understanding the side effects of pain medications
- Q18 Did any member of the hospice team discuss side effects of pain medicine with you or your family member?

- Getting Hospice Care Training
- Q29 Did the hospice team give you the training you needed about what to do if your family member became restless or agitated?

Public Reporting of Survey Information

- Data will not be reported until at least 12 months of data are available
- Only Hospice CAHPs survey items will be reported.
- Possible public reporting of hospice data in 2018

What can I do? What can't I do?

- Become familiar with the survey questions
- "Test" the questions during the IDT meeting; consider how would the family answer a certain question at this point in time.
- You cannot give a copy of the survey to patients/families
- You cannot contact patients to ask them if they want to participate in the survey or advise them how to answer a question.