DC Department of Health Care Finance
PCG Health
Alaska Senior and Disability Services
Critical Incident Reporting
August 28, 2018
Incident Management

**Focus:** current and important trend which have been the focus of CMS and OIG over the past 2 years:

*Failure of states and HCBS providers to appropriately report critical Incidents in HCBS settings.*

**Goal:** capacity building for HCBS 1915c Waiver providers for Elderly and Persons with Physical Disabilities (EPD) to improve quality of care relative to critical incident reporting and coordinating care.
Learning Objectives

1. Participants will be able to identify recent federal oversight actions and regulatory guidance regarding incident management system failures and deficiencies.
2. Understanding events that constitute critical incidents, timeframe for investigations and what constitutes a thorough investigation.
3. Timelines and requirements mandated by state and federal regulations/requirements.
4. Participants will be able to apply models of best practices related to critical incident management in Home and Community Based Settings (HCBS).
5. Participants will be able to describe how analytics can empower proactive oversight of critical incidents.
6. Addressing lack of coordination amongst Elderly Person’s with Disability (1915c waiver) providers.
7. Recent trends in District of Columbia's Critical Incident Management for HCBS 1915c Waiver.
Predators find elderly patients to be easy prey

- CNN Report

Why is this important?

While under the watch of a state-paid caretaker, a Medicaid Recipient went missing and was found dead the next day.

“Predators find elderly patients to be easy prey”

SUFFERING IN SECRET:

State hides abuse and neglect of adults with disabilities
LTC Setting Landscape

Long-Term Care Delivery Settings

HCBS
- Community Living Arrangements
- State waiver programs i.e., IDD Group Homes

Skilled Nursing Facilities

ICFs

Other Facility Care

Home Health
**Critical Incidents:** events or situations that may threaten a beneficiary’s health or welfare. Critical incidents consist of **Serious Reportable Incidents (SRI)** and **Reportable Incidents (RI)**. SRIs are those incidents which - due to their significance or severity to the beneficiary - require immediate response, notification, internal review and investigation by the provider agency and DHCF. Reportable Incidents are events or situations that involve harm or risk to the beneficiary.
Definitions of Critical Incidents

The classification varies across States and the specific population served by the waiver.

The HCBS waiver may classify critical incidents as requiring either a minor or major level of review.

A minor level of review generally include:

• suspected verbal or emotional abuse,
• theft, and
• property damage.

Critical incidents that involve suspected ANE the HCBS waiver and State regulations also require mandated reporting.

Critical incidents requiring a major level of review include:

• Death
• Physical/sexual assault
• Suicide attempts
• Unplanned hospitalizations
• Near drowning
• Missing persons
• Serious Injuries

Example of a Group Home’s Unreported Critical Incident

A group home did not report a critical incident involving a resident with developmental disabilities.

This resident suffered a second-degree burn on his right shoulder that required treatment at a local hospital’s emergency room. The group home’s aide, while assisting the resident in taking a shower, noticed the injury.

The resident’s medical records noted the aide stated that the cause of the injury was unknown and the resident could not describe how he received the injury.

Because the injury met the definition of a “critical incident,” the group home should have reported it.
Critical Incidents: HCBS Waivers

SSA 1915c Waivers & State regs require providers to report critical incidents

- States sometimes enact separate reporting requirements for suspected neglect/abuse

Waiver Assurances (ref. QIS)
1. Administrative authority
2. Level of care (LOC)
3. Qualified providers
4. Service plan
5. **Health and welfare**
6. Financial accountability
Waiver Assurance #5: Health & Welfare

Emphasizes responsibilities re. reporting, investigating, and resolving serious incidents, including cases of abuse, neglect and exploitation

- The State demonstrates on an ongoing basis that it identifies, addresses and seeks to prevent instances of abuse, neglect, exploitation and unexplained death.
- The State demonstrates that an incident management system is in place that effectively resolves those incidents and prevents further similar incidents to the extent possible.
HHS OIG Reports: Waiver Group Homes

- Government should analyze Medicaid claims to identify unreported and unrecorded critical incidents

11/2017: Mentioned as part of OIG’s “Top Management & Performance Challenges Facing HHS”
“OIG found that health and safety policies and procedures were not being followed. Failure to comply with these policies and procedures left group home beneficiaries at risk of serious harm. These are not isolated incidents but a systemic problem – 49 States had media reports of health and safety problems in group homes”

Continuous Quality Improvement Cycle

- Discovery
- Evaluation
- Individual remediation/
  System Improvement
Critical Incident Reporting

Covered Individuals

Federal funds

Internal Investigation

within 5 days

must self-report incident

Survey & Cert Agency

Potential abuse/neglect investigation

2h
serious bodily injury

24h
all others

e.g., MFCU

Law Enforcement

e.g., MFCU

must self-report incident
Performance Measures

What to consider when developing performance measures for health and welfare?

1. What data / reports can you access?
2. What data will drive health and safety?
3. Trending reports
4. Internal performance measures
OIG Guidance: Model Practices

January 2018

HHS OIG Joint Report: Ensuring Beneficiary Health and Safety in Group Homes Through State Implementation of Comprehensive Compliance Oversight

Model Practices

- Model Practices for State Incident Management and Investigation
- Model Practices for Incident Management Audits
- Model Practices for State Mortality Reviews
- Model Practices for State Quality Assurance
Oversight &
Referral Information Flows
The Ballooning Tragedy & Costs of Adverse Events
Membership of the Committee – Partners include other state staff, registered nurse, QIDP, Ombudsman

Criteria for review

Actions of the committee
Case Study in Practice Transformation

- DHCF’s legacy documentation system had limited functionality for analyzing CMS performance measures for the EPD Waiver.
- Need for standardization of DHCF Incident Report form for EPD Waiver Providers.
- Absence of a formal process for implementing alternative sanctions impacted provider compliance.
- Incident Management Policy and Procedures updates required.
- Providers lack requisite knowledge/understanding of:
  - What events constitute critical incidents
  - Timelines mandated for CMS reporting
  - DHCF Critical Incident Reporting requirements for EPD Waiver providers
Incident Investigation

- Initiation
- Investigation Management
  - Root Cause Analysis
- APS Reporting
- Responsible Parties

For SRIs involving...
- Unexpected death due to suspected abuse, negligence, or accident
- Neglect
- Abuse
- Exploitation
- Theft of consumer personal property
Incident Report Process Flow

- **Notification of Incident**
- **Investigation Initiation**
- **Follow-up/resolution & closure**
- **Investigation Notification**
- **Follow-up Implemented**

**All** fields in Pt 1 & 2 must be completed by the reporting provider for ALL SRIs/RIs

**DHCF IMR System**
All New and Updated Critical Incident Forms Data received via LTCA email entered by DHCF within 2 Days

**LTCA Data Trending**
Phase 1-3 Goals

• Phase 1: 60-Day Pilot (November 15, 2017 - January 15, 2018)
  ✓ EPD Waiver-enrolled home health agencies and assisted living providers
  ✓ Build a temporary DHCF Incident Management Registry (IMR)
  ✓ Design an Incident Management form; require providers to adherence to content and timelines as required

• Phase 2: 30-Day Pilot (February 1, 2018 - March 15, 2018)
  ✓ Case management agencies and other EPD Waiver providers join pilot

• Phase 3: 90-Day Pilot (April 1, 2018 - July 15, 2018)
  ✓ Update Critical Incident Policy and Procedures
  ✓ Information sharing with DC Care Connect System Developers
Phase 1 Challenges

• Providers continued to miss timeframe for initial notification incident and associated follow up of incident, due to lack of understanding of the requirements

• Providers lack understanding about:
  - *Incidents that require investigation*
  - *Incidents that require follow-up*
  - *Timeframe for investigations and what constitutes a thorough investigation*
Phase 1 Outcomes

- IMR was able to collect all discrete data required to calculated required performance measures and to evaluate compliance with the EPD Waiver.
- Updates to incident management process which increased coordination and minimized duplicate work efforts.
- Multiple provider meetings held to review the new process and updates to Critical Incident Reporting Form.
## Incident Management Registry Data

### INCIDENT REPORT PILOT - PHASE 1 (11/15/17 - 1/15/18)

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<tr>
<th>Agency/Provider Name</th>
<th>Count of RI</th>
<th>Count of SRI</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T &amp; N Reliable Nursing Care</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASAP Services</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>VMT Home Health Agency</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ideal Nursing Services</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>KBC Nursing</td>
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<tr>
<td>VMT Home Care Health Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Berhan</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capitol View</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immaculate</td>
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<td>Premier Health Services</td>
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<td>Progressive Health Care, Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>VTM Health Services</td>
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<td>Anna Healthcare</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>225</strong></td>
<td><strong>14</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Requires Investigations: 87%
Requires APS Notification: 4%
Phase 1
Incident Management Registry Data
Phase 2-3: Provider Training

• DHCF instituted:
  ✓ Weekly scheduled review with providers
  ✓ Feedback and ongoing technical assistance provided by LTCA and DQHO for each provider
  ✓ Monthly provider trainings with direct care staff, utilizing various techniques to promote understanding and engagement
Phase 2-3: Outcomes

• Incident form updated to reflect feedback from providers and agency staff
• LTCA + DQHO developed an FAQ document to clarify questions we received from the Phase 1 analysis
• Ongoing information sharing with DC Care Connect System developers
• Additional formulas have been added to the IMR system to eliminate the need for manual calculations
• Collaborate with MCO incident management and build IMR v2 to spread improvement to HCDMA incident tracking
Practice Transformation: 2017-2018

*Percent of beneficiaries critical incidents reported within 24 hours or next business day of notification.

*Percent of all beneficiaries critical incidents with investigations initiated within 48 hours.
Practice Transformation:
Innovation/Improvements

• DHCF transferred knowledge gained from IMR pilot to design improved Incident tracking in new Clinical Case Management system - DC Care Connect.
• Ad Hoc & Canned Reporting deployed for measuring compliance (Inversely, Non-compliance) rates.
  ✓ Notification within 24 hours or next business day from date of discovery of incident.
  ✓ Investigations Initiated/Closed within 5 Business Days from Date of Discovery
  ✓ # of Investigations requiring 30-Day Follow-up.
  ✓ # of Incidents with outstanding/unresolved issue(s) post 30-day follow-up period.
  ✓ # of SRIs requiring APS notification; # of SRIs investigated by APS properly closed.
  ✓ Analysis based on Provider Type, Provider Name, Incident Type/Category, Resolution Response Rate etc.
DCCC Incident Report Workflow Process

All fields in Sections I-IV must be completed by the reporting provider for ALL SRIs/RIs before a report can be saved—within 24 hours of discovery of incident.

Follow-up & Resolution of All Outstanding Issues: APS/Police Investigations, Hospitalizations, etc.

Save & Submit

CMA Recommendation

Follow-up Implemented

Post-Investigation Closure Follow-Up Detailed Summary Required

Further Follow-Up Required

No Further Follow-Up Required

Follow-up & Resolution of All Outstanding Issues: APS/Police Investigations, Hospitalizations, etc.
Practice Transformation: 2017-2018

Old Incident Reporting Process

Pilot Phase 1-3

Incident Reporting Today

- Poor coordination, Inconsistent & Duplicate Reporting
- Unreliable Data
- Direct Care Providers
- Email
- DHCF email
- Incident Report Form
- Email
- Direct Care Providers
- DHCF IMR
- Case Management Agency
- Incidents & Clinical Documentation
- Vertical Coordination
- Improved State Oversight
- Direct Care Providers
- Case Management Agency
- DC CARE CONNECT Incident Management
- DHCF Analysis & Reports
Questions?
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