

Nurse Aide/VIP

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Nurse Aide/VIP

Current, evidence-based training and education

Inside this issue

- Loneliness and depression: How you can help.
- Some tips on coping with stress.
- Pain in elders with Alzheimer's.

Educators: Here's what's available for you on your Nurse Aide/VIP Educational Internet site:

- A set of slides, in both PowerPoint and MS Word... over topics in this issue, with discussion questions. These slides can be used for computer presentations, overheads, charts, or handouts.
- A PDF copy of this entire issue, for reprinting for your educational use.
- Adobe online handouts about topics in this issue for your hand-out use.

Subscribers have permission to reprint copies for use within their facility, without additional cost. Download Instructions

- Go to www.care4elders.com
- Click on the "Nurse Aide/VIP" button.
- Login to the Nurse Aide subscriber site, using your customer number from your mailing label as your username, and your zip code as printed on your mailing label as your password.

For problems and help, email: klynch@cfu.net, or phone Kate Lynch toll free: 1-800-354-3371


Notice: We attempt to be as accurate as possible, but the information contained here should not be implemented without checking current guidelines from your own medical and supervisory personnel.

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The HIPAA Privacy Rule

Are you complying?

- In this article, you will learn:
 - what the HIPAA Privacy Rule is;
 - which information you can use and disclose, and which you cannot;
 - tips to help yourself comply with the rule, and things to avoid doing.



Note: The HIPAA regulations are a very complex set of rules, with many different opinions out there about how to interpret various aspects of these federal regulations.

Plus, many states have their own set of rules including medical privacy which, in some cases, can take priority over the federal regulations.

Therefore, your own privacy rules may be different from the ones in this training session. So it's important that you check your own privacy instructions, specifically for your facility, as they may give different or more specific guidance than the information in this in-service training session.

This training course is designed to mainly inform you of the basics of the federal HIPAA privacy rules, so that you'll have a fundamental understanding of what you can do, and what you cannot do, relative to your elders' guaranteed privacy, and is not designed to replace your own institutions' rules.

Also note that there is only one official source for correct information and interpretations on the HIPAA privacy regulations. And that is the federal government's Internet HIPAA website: www.hhs.gov/ocr/hipaa. It contains lots of easy-to-understand information, and questions and answers, about the Privacy Rule.

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) is a federal law which prohibits the use and disclosure of patient/resident healthcare information, unless the person gives written consent allowing you to do so.

It does so through a set of regulations called the Privacy Rule, which came into effect on April 14, 2003.

According to the Privacy Rule, if a patient/resident discovers that information regarding their health - or other personal data - has been disclosed without their written permission, they have the right to demand both civil and criminal charges to be brought against healthcare providers.

(Privacy, cont'd next page)

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