



AALTCN
*Changing the Culture of Long Term Care Nursing
Together we ALL Can*

Study Shows Consumers Interested in Culture Change

A research project, “Changing the Culture of Aging: Taking a First Step to Creating Knowledgeable Consumers,” completed by the Pioneer Network found that nearly four out of five consumers wanted to learn more about culture change: what it looks like and how providers pay for it.

During the course of the year-long study, the Pioneer Network brought approximately 500 consumers together to conduct small-group discussion meetings. The study confirmed that there is increasing consumer awareness and demand for culture change.

Joanne Rader, the project director, stated that “those who had been exposed to the traditional model were unaware that things could be different. Those who had little contact with nursing homes were surprised that there could be such a lack of choice about basics such as when you decided to get up and go to bed,”

The study reinforces that as consumers learn more about culture change, they will seek care from those nursing homes that reflect it.

The Pioneer Network hopes to begin the second phase of the project later this year. The second phase will focus on educating consumers about culture change and how they can advocate for it.

HHS Secretary Expresses Concerns about 5-Star Rating System

While at the NCOA and ASA Conference in Chicago, HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius commented that the Five-Star Quality Rating System needed review. She thought the criticisms of the system need to be examined to assure it wasn't based on an arbitrary bell curve that was flawed. These comments echo the concerns of providers that object to the fact that all states must have 20% of their nursing homes ranked as poor quality for the system to work. Last year more than half of the state attorneys general in the country wrote to Sebelius requesting that the Five-Star program be temporarily suspended. It appears Sebelius has heard them and may re-evaluate the program.

Multidisciplinary Competencies

Representing nursing, AALTCN was part of a workgroup convened by the American Geriatrics Society that developed and endorsed multidisciplinary competencies for the care of older adults. The document will be broadly distributed to geriatric care professionals and organizations. To review the competencies, [click here](#).

Urinary Incontinence Guidelines Available

The National Guidelines Clearinghouse has published a synthesis of leading guidelines for the assessment and management of urinary incontinence. To access the document, visit:

<http://www.guideline.gov/Compare/comparison.aspx?file=INCONTINENCE5.inc>

LTC Nursing Standards and Competencies

Did you know that the first set of Standards and Core Competencies for LTC nursing has been developed by AALTCN's Practice Committee? The document includes position descriptions and core competencies for the DON, LPN, RN, staff development specialist, CNA, and other major roles in the nursing home.

Most importantly, members can download these free, as one of their many membership benefits. To learn more about this and other membership benefits visit www.LTCNursing.org

Advancing Excellence Campaign Newsletter

There is much happening in the Advancing Excellence Campaign. To read the current newsletter [click here](#).

American Association for Long Term Care Nursing

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