

THE LONG TERM CARE DISCUSSION GROUP

**A VOLUNTARY INDEPENDENT GROUP THAT MEETS SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE
OF EDUCATING THE POLICY COMMUNITY ON ALL FACETS OF LONG TERM CARE**

**Wednesday November 6, 2013
11:00 a.m. Eastern Time**

**Administration for Community Living (ACL)
One Massachusetts Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20004**

**TOPIC: Standardizing Assessment Data: Continuity Assessment Record and
Evaluation (CARE) Item Set**

**Speakers: Barbara Gage, PhD
Fellow**

Engelberg Center for Health Care Reform, Brookings Institution

**Stella Mandl, BSW,BSN,PHN,RN
Technical Advisor
CMS Center for Clinical Standards & Quality**

This presentation focuses on federal initiatives to develop harmonized, setting-agnostic quality measures. As part of this effort, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) supported the development of the Continuity Assessment Record and Evaluation (CARE) item set, a consensus-based set of assessment items that reflects the input of a wide network of stakeholders and the current state of the science in health status measurement. These items were tested for reliability with different populations as part of the Post Acute Care Payment Reform Demonstration. The items are currently being tested, along with other items, in outpatient therapy settings, long term care facilities, and home and community-based waiver programs. CMS is using the standardized items to develop an assessment item library that contains reliable, standardized measures of common health status concepts.

Barbara J. Gage, PhD, is a nationally recognized expert in Medicare post-acute and long-term care payment and quality monitoring policies. Her research focuses on the use of select services, including inpatient rehabilitation, psychiatric, and long-term care hospitals, home health agencies, skilled nursing facilities, ambulatory therapy providers, and community-based providers. She has directed numerous studies, including the development of CARE set to produce consensus-based, standardized assessment items to measure complexity across settings. Dr. Gage also led the Post Acute Care (PAC) Payment Reform Demonstration, which used the CARE tool to examine patient outcomes and payment incentives associated with the range of acute and PAC services across an episode of care. Additionally, she has led

numerous studies to develop quality of care measures for these populations, as well as earlier studies of Medicare's hospice and DME benefits, community-based long-term care systems, and longer term episodes of care, including the identification of related services, quality of care and outcomes, and payment impacts.

Stella ("Stacy") Mandl has nearly 30 years of healthcare and social services experience. She has dedicated her professional career to the improvement of patient care quality, safety and patient outcomes. Stacy currently serves as a Technical Advisor in the Division of Chronic and Post-Acute Care at CMS. She provides strategic and advisory support for the post-acute quality reporting programs, including skilled nursing facilities, long-term care hospitals, inpatient rehabilitation hospitals and hospices. In this role, she was responsible the implementation of the Affordable Care Act's Section 3004 regulation. Her responsibilities include providing strategic direction to measure development and measurement selection for post-acute setting programmatic use and quality reporting; measurement harmonization and alignment with critical, overarching, strategies such as the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Healthcare Acquired Infection Action Plan, the National Quality Strategy, and the CMS three-part aim of better care for individuals, better health for populations, and lower growth in expenditures.

Dial-in capacity limited to 20. Please RSVP to Jenifer Allen at JAllen@univitahealth.com

**Long Term Care Discussion Group Co-Chairs:
Winthrop Cashdollar, John Cutler, Hunter McKay, Karl Polzer, Jill Randolph, and
Eileen J. Tell**

For more information about the Long Term Care Discussion Group, and to access materials and information relating to previous meetings, visit www.ltcdiscussiongroup.org