

QualityWISE NEWSLETTER

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MAY 2016

Welcome to the Third Issue of the QualityWISE Newsletter

This month's edition of the QualityWISE Newsletter focuses on the 2016 training calendar, tips for enhancing the therapist and assistant partnership, and a call for entries for this year's Paul Diaz Caring Award.

2016 Training Calendar

Training is a process that is vital to the success of any organization. For RehabCare, training provides a platform to keep our employees up to date with current state and federal regulations, best clinical practices and documentation guidelines.

Our clinical and compliance teams have worked together to create the training calendar for 2016. A total of five hours of training is required to be completed by December 31, 2016, and must be completed by all designated staff (all new hires must complete the required training within the first 30 days of employment).

Here is an overview of this year's required training:

* General Compliance Training for 2016 is being finalized and is tentatively expected to be available around June 1; watch for additional communications announcing when the training is available.

2016 RehabCare – Required Training

Course	Anticipated Release Date	All RehabCare FT, PT, PRN and contractors	Where Training is Accessible
Module 1: Doc Medical Necessity Eval Tx Plan	May 13	.5	– RediLearning: As Group or Individually (individual Attestation Required, passing quiz)
Module 2: Doc Medical Necessity Progress notes/Daily Treatment notes	May 30	.5	
Module 3: Validation of Treatment Time for MDS-Part I	June 15	.5	
Module 4: Validation of Treatment Time for MDS- Part	June 30	.5	
Total Training for Modules 1 - 4		2.0	
General Compliance Training	June 1*	1.0	– RediLearning: As Group or Individually (individual Attestation Required)
Code of Conduct	May 12	1.0	– LMS: Individually (individual self-study booklet and Attestation Required by passing quiz)
Elder Justice Act (annual requirement)	Currently available	.5	– RediLearning (credit interfaces) – LMS (credit recorded)
HIPAA (annual requirement)	Currently available	.5	– RediLearning (credit interfaces) – LMS (credit recorded)
Total 2016 Required Training		5	

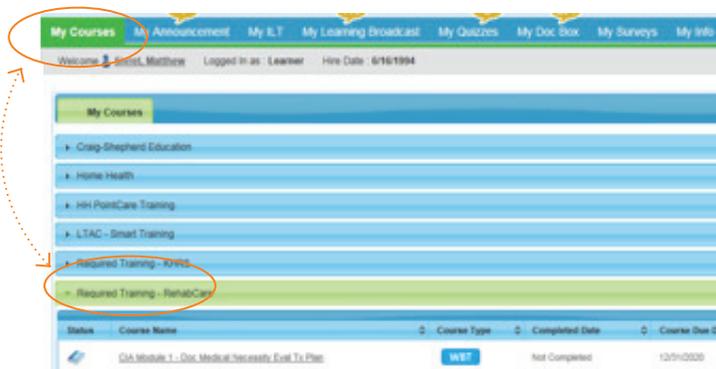
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RehabCare required training can be found in RediLearning under "My Courses>Required Training – Rehabcare." Refer to the graphic below for assistance in locating the training:



Please note that each facility should have a training plan in place for PRNs and contractors. If you have questions about your facility's specific training schedule, please contact your PD or ADO.

Tips for Enhancing the Therapist and Assistant Partnership

In order to efficiently deliver the highest level of care, it is important that a true partnership be formed between therapists and therapist assistants. Working together to draw upon one another's knowledge, expertise and experience, the therapist and the assistant can ensure optimal outcomes for all residents and patients. Here are a few tips for enhancing this important partnership:

- Be knowledgeable and follow your state practice act and specific payer regulations.
 - In some states, supervisory tracking logs are required.
- The assistant must read the evaluation prior to initiating treatment.

- Communication is key:
 - Schedule regular communications to ensure you are working as a team, such as brief weekly meetings or intermittent communication via phone throughout the week.
 - Assistant should capture communication with therapists in a daily note.
 - Therapists should participate during patient treatment.
 - Supervising therapists should take the lead role in communication with the physician and document those communications.
 - Family, client and facility communication should be documented by the involved clinician.
- Consider together whether group, concurrent or co-treatment is clinically appropriate for a portion of the intervention (following payer regulations).
- Assistants must document each patient encounter thoroughly. This will provide additional information for the supervising therapist.
- Using tests and measures, assistants should accurately collect and document necessary data to provide a clear picture of the patient's status, and report this information to the supervising therapist.
 - This data should highlight progress or a lack thereof.
 - It should be communicated to the supervising therapist if progress is not occurring.
- Use of a white board/planner scheduler is a viable tool for coordinating gym times and may increase the ease of communication and oversight of patient care.
- Group sessions provided with both the therapist and assistant may provide opportunity for oversight of patient progress.

If you have any questions, please contact your Clinical Performance Specialist (CPS).

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The Paul Diaz Caring Award – Call for Entries

The Paul Diaz Caring Award is presented annually to Kindred patient caregivers who demonstrate an extraordinary sense of compassion and empathy while caring for their patients or residents. These individuals approach their jobs not just as a means to a paycheck or the completion of their routine duties, but also as an opportunity to make an impact on the lives of those with whom they interact every day.

Nominations for this prestigious award are open through July 31. If you know someone who possesses a selfless concern for others, displays great respect for patients and family members, and serves as role models for their colleagues and peers, please consider nominating him or her for the Paul Diaz Caring Award.

You can find more information about the award, including who is eligible to be nominated, and complete a nomination form at:

<http://www.kindredhealthcare.com/employees/caring-award/>.

Thank you for helping us honor those caregivers who truly go above and beyond to deliver outstanding care to our patients, residents and family members.

Remember, every issue of the QualityWISE newsletter is archived at <http://www.rehabcare.com/employees/qualitywise/>, along with helpful FAQs. If you have any questions or concerns related to quality, compliance or the CIA, you can email RehabCareQualityWISE@rehabcare.com or contact Kindred's Compliance Department at compliance@kindred.com. And you can always contact the Compliance Hotline at 800.359.7412 to report suspected violations of any federal healthcare program requirements or Kindred's policies and procedures.

Thank you for everything you do
to ensure exceptional outcomes for our patients
and partners.