



## TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

DAVID L. LAKEY, M.D.  
COMMISSIONER

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[www.dshs.state.tx.us](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us)

Dear Director of Case Management/Social Services,

The Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) and the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) are changing the Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) process to ensure compliance with federal regulations. The date of implementation for the redesigned PASRR program is May 24, 2013.

PASRR is a federally mandated program designed to ensure that all applicants to a Medicaid-certified nursing facility are evaluated for Mental Illness and/or Intellectual/Developmental Disability and are not inappropriately placed in nursing facilities for long-term care. The redesign also requires that the need for specific specialized services for these individuals be identified prior to admission to the nursing facility.

**Background:** In December of 2009, the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) Medicaid Director received notification from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) that Texas was not in compliance with federal PASRR requirements. As a result, the state's current PASRR process is being redesigned to achieve compliance. The PASRR redesign includes the following:

- Eliminates the role of nursing facilities in the Level II PASRR evaluation process.
- Requires specific specialized services to be identified before admission to the nursing facility.
- Establishes a clear process for resident review when individuals experience a significant change in their Minimum Data Set assessments.
- Hospital Case Managers/Discharge Planners will not be able to refer patients to nursing facilities without completion of the PASRR Level I screening form.
- Some nursing facilities will require notification of the appropriate Local Mental Health Authority or Local Authority prior to discharge from a hospital.

**Next Steps:** Targeted webinars will be offered for hospital case managers and discharge planners within the next few months. DADS and DSHS have developed websites to communicate PASRR redesign information. The DADS website is

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/pasarr/index.html>.

The DSHS website is <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/mhsa/pasrr/>

To ensure you receive all relevant information about the redesign process, please send an email to Lisa Fallon at [lisa.fallon@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:lisa.fallon@dshs.state.tx.us). Please include the name, email address and phone

Name of the Addressee

DATE

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number of the individual(s) responsible for implementation in your hospital. If you have any questions pertaining to the PASRR redesign, please visit the websites listed above for more information.

Sincerely,

*Laura Seefeld Lewis* on behalf of Ross C. Robinson

Ross C. Robinson, MBA, MA, LPA  
Director, Program Services Section  
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Division