



**KAREN L. SMITH, MD, MPH**  
*Director and State Public Health Officer*

State of California—Health and Human  
Services Agency  
**California Department of  
Public Health**



**EDMUND G. BROWN JR.**  
*Governor*

September 28, 2017

AFL 17-19

**TO:** Nursing Facilities  
Skilled Nursing Facilities  
Intermediate Care Facilities  
Swing Bed Hospitals

**SUBJECT:** Resident Assessment Instrument (RAI) 3.0 User's Manual updates v1.15, effective October 1, 2017

**All Facilities Letter (AFL) Summary**

This AFL notifies all certified Medicare and/or Medicaid nursing facilities about the new item set changes and updated in the RAI 3.0 user's manual effective October 1, 2017.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) publishes the Long-Term Care Facility RAI User's Manual version 3.0 as a public document that providers can copy. CMS's goal is to disseminate information broadly to facilitate accurate and effective resident assessment practices in long-term care facilities.

Starting October 1, 2017, all certified Medicare and/or Medicaid facilities must use the latest RAI 3.0 Manual v1.15 as a reference in completing the Minimum Data Set (MDS) 3.0.

This version incorporates new guidance, coding instruction, steps for assessments, and clarification in the following chapters:

- Chapter 1- Overview, content, and components of the RAI;
- Chapter 2- RAI assessment process, requirements, state designation, and nursing home responsibilities in completing the RAI;
- Chapter 3- Overview of the item-by-item guide to the MDS. Items in sections N and P are added with new guidance and coding instructions;
- Chapter 4- Care area assessments (CAA) and care planning guidance and instructions;
- Chapter 6- Medicare Skilled Nursing Facilities Prospective Payment System (SNF PPS) eligibility criteria.

Providers may find and print the new version of the RAI 3.0 at the CMS website:

CMS - 3.0 RAI Manual

(<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/quality-initiatives-patient-assessment-instruments/nursinghomequalityinits/mds30raimanual.html>)

If you have additional questions, please contact the MDS/OASIS Help Desk by email at [MDSOasis@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:MDSOasis@cdph.ca.gov) or by phone at (916) 324-2362.

Please distribute copies of this AFL to MDS Coordinators, Directors of Nursing, and Facility Administrators in our facility.

Sincerely,

**Original signed by Jean Iacino**

Jean Iacino  
Deputy Director

Center for Health Care Quality, MS 0512 . P.O. Box 997377 . Sacramento, CA  
95899-7377  
(916) 324-6630 . (916) 324-4820 FAX  
Department Website ([cdph.ca.gov](http://cdph.ca.gov))



Page Last Updated : October 7, 2017