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Q: When a facility has the Subpart U – Alzheimer’s/Dementia unit, how it that communicated to visitors? For example, is it on the facility license? Does it show up on Nursing Home Compare? Also, I hear many facilities state they have an Alzheimer’s unit, but that does not mean it is a Subpart U unit. How do I check to find out if they have Subpart U?

A: Only LTC facilities with IDPH approved units may advertise the fact that they provide services to residents with Alzheimer’s/related dementias. This is a state designation and it will not show up on the federal Medicare.gov website. LTC facilities that are not approved Alzheimer’s Units under Subpart U, cannot advertise or tell potential residents/families that they provide Alzheimer’s care (click here for Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias Special Care Disclosure Act). They can state that they have a memory unit, but cannot use the term “Alzheimer’s Unit or Related Dementias Special Care Unit.” At some point in the future, IDPH hopes to be able to have Subpart U designations on the actual license, but their data/IT system will currently not allow it. Families or facilities can contact Paul Corpstein (217-782-9314) with IDPH if they need/want to know which facilities have approved Alzheimer’s Units. IDPH does send a Alzheimer Special Care Unit Recognition Letter yearly to each LTC facility that has been approved under Subpart U. Residents/families can request to see that letter to verify that the LTC facility has an IDPH approved Subpart U unit.