April 23, 2018

**Q:** Question on contacting a resident after discharge. We have been advising our facilities to contact a resident discharged within 7 days of them being discharged from the facility. Is there a requirement that says it needs to be more than once in that 7 day window that the facility contacts the resident.

**A:** There is no federal or state requirement regarding the number of days or number of times a resident discharged to community has to be followed up on. That would be determined by each facility in their discharge policies and procedures. F661 states that “The post-discharge plan of care must indicate where the individual plans to reside, any arrangements that have been made for the resident’s follow up care and any post-discharge medical and non-medical services”. It is more of a goodwill/quality issue to follow-up with residents after discharge. It shows a quality care/life commitment to the discharged resident and their family/caregiver.