I'm David Wright, Director of the Survey and Certification Group at CMS.

CMS has made revisions to the regulations that Long Term Care facilities must meet to participate in the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

These changes were made to help reflect the substantial advances that have been made over the past several years in theory and practice of service delivery and safety.

Regulation updates have been made in an effort to improve quality of life, healthcare services, and patient safety.

Regulations from the Long Term Care facilities Code of Federal Regulations were first published in the Federal Register on February 1989.

These regulations have not been comprehensively reviewed and updated since 1991.

There have been substantial changes in the service and delivery of care in the Long Term Care setting.

At the same time, there have been significant innovations in resident care and quality assessment practices.

And Long Term Care residents are more diverse and more clinically complex.

The intent of updating these regulations is to reduce and/or eliminate duplication in unnecessary provisions and reorganize the regulations.

This aligns our requirements with current standard clinical practice.

I hope you enjoy the training on the new requirements for participation.

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Hello, I'm Karen Tritz, the Director of the Division of Nursing Homes in the Survey and Certification Group at CMS.

I'm going to summarize the major provisions of the Long Term Care regulations.

The regulation continues its focus on person-centered care.

The new requirements have maintained existing protections, expanded resident choices, and continued the emphasis that the resident be involved in care and discharge planning decisions.
The regulation also continues its emphasis on quality of care and quality of life and new requirements for each facility to have a Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement program.

One of the key approaches in the regulation is to create a framework that can be tailored to account for and allow for differences in population and the services provided.

Specifically, it requires that the facility conduct a facility assessment.

This assessment would then form the basis for number of staff and competencies needed by staff and other required services.

The new regulation advances and aligns with existing public help priorities, such as antibiotic stewardship, reducing re-hospitalizations, and improving behavioral health.

The regulation also implements a number of pieces of legislation from the Affordable Care Act and Impact Act, including the following:

The compliance and ethics programs.

Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement, or QAPI.

Reporting suspicion of a crime.

Increased discharge planning requirements.

And staff training.

The intent of this training is to help provide you with the context, regarding the new regulation and its phased-in effective dates.