



Corning Tower The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12237

Richard F. Daines, M.D.  
*Commissioner*

June 18, 2007

**Re: DAL/DQS: 07-05  
Patients Who Are Difficult to Place Survey on  
the Nursing Home Surveillance and Reporting  
System**

Dear Long Term Care Facility Administrator:

The Department has activated a Discharge Planning Survey on the Nursing Home Surveillance and Reporting System. The survey will contain questions about reasons nursing homes have difficulty discharging patients. The data collected will facilitate the development of effective strategies for addressing hard to place patients.

In this regard, the Department of Health and the State Office for Aging in conjunction with the statewide trade associations for Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Home Care and Adult Homes along with the Office of Children and Family Services and IPRO presented a Discharge Planning Conference in November 2006 to address concerns of discharge planners across all settings. The conference was a success and the work has begun to determine the next steps in this effort. In order to further this effort we are disseminating this survey to all providers. We ask that those most knowledgeable as to the discharge issues complete the survey which we have limited to the top three reasons for delays in placement.

The application may be found on the Nursing Home page under Data Systems on the HPN, as well as on the HPN News Bulletin. Please complete the survey and submit the information through the HPN by Monday, July 2, 2007. The link to the application is: <https://commerce.health.state.ny.us/doh3/applinks/nuhsur/mainMenu.do> .

The following roles in the Communications Directory have access to enter data into the Nursing Home Surveillance and Reporting System: Administrator, Director of Nursing, Safety/Security Director, Emergency Response Coordinator, HPN Coordinator, HPN Organizational Security Coordinator, Infection Control Practitioner, Medical Director, Plant Manager and Nursing Home Data Reporter.

If you would like other staff to have access to enter data into the Nursing Home Surveillance and Reporting System, please have your HPN Coordinator add their contact information and HPN account ID to the Nursing Home Data Reporter role in the Communications Directory.

If you have any questions about how to access the application, need technical assistance or assistance in using the application please call (518) 408-5163. If you need clarification on the survey questions please call (518) 402-5733.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark H. Kissinger". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end.

Mark Kissinger  
Deputy Commissioner  
Office of Long Term Care