



Nursing Facility MDS Section Q Fact Sheet



STEPS TO INITIATE AN MDS SECTION Q REFERRAL:

1. Contact Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME) at 800.383.1173 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. (Referrals to IME can be made at any time, not just during the MDS assessment period.)
2. For Section Q referrals made between Oct. 1 and March 31, 2016, IME will contact the Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) to make the referral within four business days. If you have not received a call from DHS within two weeks, contact IME to check on the status of the referral.
3. Effective April 1, 2016, the managed care organizations will be responsible for providing counseling and transition services.

QUESTIONS:

If you have questions about the MDS Section Q Referral Process, contact the Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman at 866.236.1430.

WHEN IS AN MDS SECTION Q REFERRAL APPROPRIATE?

The following (non-inclusive) list provides suggestions for when an MDS Section Q referral may be appropriate:

- If there are accessibility needs and the discharge planner has exhausted options.
- If the resident has complicated medical or mental health needs.
- If the resident wants to move to a different county and the facility discharge planner is not aware of community options available in that area.
- If the resident wants to explore discharge options, but a guardian or legal decision maker does not favor this option.

WHEN IS AN MDS SECTION Q REFERRAL NOT APPROPRIATE?

The following (non-inclusive) list provides suggestions for when an MDS Section Q referral may not be appropriate:

- When there is already a discharge plan in place.
- If the resident is in the facility for a skilled stay and already has a discharge plan.
- If the resident's discharge services and supports can easily be arranged to an established home. MDS Section Q is not meant to replace the facility's discharge planning responsibilities.
- If the resident is court-committed to the nursing facility. In this case, contact the mental health advocate (the Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman can provide the contact number for the mental health advocate, if needed).

WHERE CAN I FIND DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT THE MDS SECTION Q REFERRAL PROCESS?

To obtain detailed information about the MDS Section Q referral process, please visit www.iowaaging.gov. If you have questions, contact IME Provider Services Unit at 800.383.1173 or imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us.