

**Social Work Conference Call
Meeting Summary
May 6, 2008**

Facilitators: Paige Hector, LMSW with CARES; Kristin Burns, BSW with JacksonWhite

Conference calls are regularly scheduled meetings on the first Wednesday of each month at 12:30 PM. Call 1-888-482-3813 and enter the pass code of 3813 to join in!

Topics Discussed

- The role of the social worker with restraint reduction and pressure ulcers is an important component in resident care. Social workers can provide education to both the resident and the family as well as participate in the care plan conference. The psychosocial assessment is a vital component in the development of an individualized restraint reduction care plan as oftentimes social information such as work and sleep habits provide valuable information for successful reduction. For an excellent text that offers specific guidelines on the role of the social worker, refer to *Social Work Policies, Procedures and Guidelines for Long-Term Care* by Steven Greenwald, MSW, LCSW, ACSW. Go to www.swcginc.com and click on In Print.
- The University of Iowa offers a listserv forum for social workers to ask questions, offer suggestions and share resources. Strong recommendation to sign up! To join, go to <http://www.uiowa.edu/~socialwk/NursingHomeResource/AboutOurListServ.html>.
- Discussed resource ideas for identifying activities appropriate for patients in acute care swing beds.
- Depression and falls in the nursing home can be related. One call participant is working on a project closely with the medical director in her facility to identify how best to address depression, medication management and identification of the underlying issue(s) causing the falls. She plans to use the Cornell Scale for Depression in Dementia as well as the Geriatric Depression Scale. To obtain the Cornell scale and administration guidelines, go to <http://www.qualitynet.org/dcs/ContentServer?cid=1116947564848&pagename=Medqic/MQTools/ToolTemplate&c=MQTools>
- Ideas for family council meetings include explanation of disease processes and what to expect, advance directives and the challenges of placing a loved one in a nursing home. Again referenced the text on Social Work Policies (see bullet at top) as there is an entire chapter dedicated to “Resident Council and Family Programming.”
- Discussed challenges related to residents with a criminal background. Participants suggested making sure the ombudsman was aware of the situation, consider a self-report to DHS, contact Sylvia Balistreri at DHS (director of surveyors) to get instruction on how and what to document, etc (602-364-2690), and involve the parole officer.