

Washington State Preadmission screening and resident review (PASRR)

PASRR and the 1135 waiver

Background

Each state applies for their own 1135 waiver from the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). CMS gave Washington State the authority to temporarily suspend Level I and Level II assessments.

CMS did not require Washington State to temporarily suspend level 1 and level II assessments. The waiver language states that we “can” waive, not that we “are” waiving or “must” waive. Washington State has made the decision to continue doing Level I assessments.

Facts

- During this thirty day period, hospitals are required to continue with Level I assessments.
- PASRR spans two administrations in Washington State – Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) and Health Care Authorities Behavioral Health
 - HCA Behavioral Health PASRR program opted to implement the 30 day waiver for Level II evaluations.
 - The risk to the evaluators, staff and residents is priority.
 - This decision is intended to make it easier to place people in nursing homes and to prevent the PASRR process from creating hold-ups to the hospital discharge process when beds are needed for the COVID-19 response.
 - **DDA has not waived the Level II process** for this thirty day period. For more information contact [DDA PASRR](#).
 - Residential Care Services (RCS) will send out a Dear Provider letter to each nursing home informing them of these changes to the PASRR process.

For more information

The behavioral health PASRR contractors are available for phone consultation if you have questions about your residents and/or a Level I assessment during this time.