



Skilled nursing organizations need to have affordable and accessible options for collecting and analyzing data in their communities. The real time reporting and data analytics that Linked Senior offers gives staff and family members insights on how the needs and desires of each resident are being met over time. Nursing home surveys are conducted in accordance with survey protocols and Federal requirements to determine whether a citation of non-compliance is appropriate. Providers need to be aware of how to comply with all requirements including federal regulations for nursing homes (also known as F-Tags).

## WHAT F-TAGS SHOULD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS FOCUS ON?

**1 F-Tag 561 (Self-Determination and Participation):** The resident has the right to:

- Choose activities, schedules, and health care consistent with his or her interests, assessments, and plans of care,
- Interact with members of the community both inside and outside the facility; and
- Make choices about aspects of his or her life in the facility that are significant to the resident.

- 2** **F-Tag 679 (Activities):** The facility must provide for an ongoing program of activities designed to meet, in accordance with the comprehensive assessment, the interests and the physical, mental, and psychosocial well-being of each resident.
- 3** **F-Tag 680 (Activities Director):** Activity Director is responsible for directing the development, implementation, supervision and ongoing evaluation of the activities program. This includes the completion and/or directing the completion of the activities component of the comprehensive assessment.
- 4** **F-Tag 744 (Dementia Care):** The facility must provide dementia treatment and services which may include, but are not limited to the following:
  - Ensuring that the necessary care and services are person-centered and reflect the resident's goals, while maximizing the resident's dignity, autonomy, privacy, socialization, independence, choice, and safety; and
  - Utilizing individualized, non-pharmacological approaches to care (e.g., purposeful and meaningful activities). Meaningful activities are those that address the resident's customary routines, interests, preferences, and choices to enhance the resident's well-being.

## HOW CAN YOU REDUCE YOUR COMPLIANCE RISK?

- Be responsive to each resident's behavior communications using person-centered care techniques and enhance quality of life from a therapeutic approach.
- Understand effective interventions to prevent a resident living with dementia from causing harm to themselves or others.
- Use tools that can be adapted to meet the unique cognitive and physical needs of residents living with dementia including socialization tools to keep a person's mind off an unpleasant situation.

It is important to use non-pharmacologic strategies because reimbursements for care now depend on the effective use of these interventions thanks to the new Medicare and Medicaid [Requirements of Participation](#), which became effective on November 28<sup>th</sup> 2016. Compliance obligations for the rule will be implemented in three distinct phases, concluding in November 2019.

---

Linked Senior has created cue cards and other resources to help you, they're available at [linkedsenior.com](https://www.linkedsenior.com). As always, feel free to contact us if you have any questions or want to learn more!