



State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services

DDS

Jordan A. Scheff
Commissioner

Elisa F. Velardo
Deputy Commissioner

Date: December 16, 2023

To: All DDS Qualified Providers

From: Jackson Pierre-Louis, Division Director of Quality and Systems Improvement

cc: Jordan Scheff, Commissioner; Elisa Velardo, Deputy Commissioner; Kathryn Rock-Burns, Chief of Staff; Sean Bannon, Division Director of Operations; Krista Ostaszewski, Health Management Administrator; Jacob Manke, Director of Strategic Planning and Emergency Services; Regional Directors, Assistant Regional Directors, Regional Quality Directors, Regional Resource Administrators; Rose Sierra, DDS Training Manager; Amy Davies, DDS Curriculum Manger; Claudine Testani, DDS Manager of Licensed Programs

Re: DDS Safety Alerts

Effective immediately, DDS will no longer be hosting Safety Alerts on the DDS website. To this end, the requirement to review and train staff on DDS issued Safety Alerts that were posted on the DDS website is no longer required. DDS has established policies and procedures that address the alerts that were previously issued and classified as current on the DDS website. DDS policies and policy requirements for qualified providers can be found on the DDS website under DDS Manual and on the Provider Gateway. Qualified providers are required to create policies on the following topics associated with past safety alerts, as part of the provider enrollment and qualification process:

Water Safety for Individuals is addressed in the nursing standard: https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DDS/DDS_Manual/IGRR004RFPPProcessforSelectingQualifiedProviders/HealthStandard171WaterSafety.docx

Hot Water Safety for Individuals is address in DDS policy: <file://doit-fs401/dds-common/Provider%20Information/Policy%20Reviews/FINAL/Hot%20Water%20Temperature%20Safety%20Policy.pdf>

Bathing and Personal Care is address in DDS policy: <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DDS/eLicense-policies/Bathing-and-Personal-Care-Policy.pdf>

Main Phone: 860-418-6000

Central Office: ddsct.co@ct.gov

Ombudsperson: dds.ombudsperson@ct.gov

Website: portal.ct.gov/dds

Public Region: ddsct.pub@ct.gov

Southbury Training School: ddsct.sts@ct.gov

North Region: ddsct.nr@ct.gov

South Region: ddsct.sr@ct.gov

West Region: ddsct.wr@ct.gov

An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer

Food consistencies is addressed in the nursing standard: https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DDS/DDS_Manual/IGRR004RFPPProcessforSelectingQualifiedProviders/HealthStandard162SafeEating.docx

Bed Rail Safety is addressed in the nursing standard: https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DDS/DDS_Manual/IE/IEPR002_Bed_Side_Rail_Safety_Assessments_and_Audits_8_1_2023.docx

A separate DDS memo will be distributed regarding Bed Bugs Infestation and the notification process.

If you have any questions, you may contact the DDS Training department at DDS.Training@ct.gov.