



HHA Survey Trends Report

November 2025

A LeadingAge Iowa Publication to help Home Health Agencies track deficiency data from the Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals and Licensing and utilize the information for performance improvement.

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November Home Health Agency Survey Report

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Total Home Health Agencies in Iowa = 130

Accredited = 50 of 130

Number over 36 months since last recertification = 4

Longest time frame since last recertification = 38 months

Number of Agencies 35-36 months since last recertification = 9

There were two complaint surveys available for review from October and November. Home Health Agency recertification visits were paused during the Federal Government shutdown but complaints where there was concern for patient harm could be completed. Both complaint surveys resulted in deficiencies.



Deficiencies Cited in October/November

G0406 Condition of Participation: Patient rights The agency did not comply with patient's rights by following through with the policy established by the agency of addressing discharge for cause, did not advise the patient and health care professionals who would be responsible for providing care and services to the patient after discharge from the agency that a discharge for cause is being considered, did not make efforts to resolve the problems presented by the patient's behavior, the behavior of other persons in the patient's home, or situation, and failed to document the problem and enter this documentation into the clinical record.

G0462 Before Discharge for Cause The agency documented that the patient displayed disruptive or aggressive behaviors, and they used the emergency room prior to contacting the agency on-call service and failed to document the efforts to resolve the issues prior to discharge.

G0464 Advise the Patient of Discharge for Cause The agency did not notify patient #5 of discharge for cause prior to the discharge date.

G0466 Make Efforts to Resolve the Problems The agency did not attempt to initiate efforts to resolve the problems before patient #5 was discharged for cause.

G0470 Document Efforts to Resolve Problems The agency did not document efforts made to resolve concerns prior to the patient's discharge for cause.

G0590 Promptly Alert Relevant Physician of Changes The HHA did not notify the physician when there were concerns identified with the patient's catheter change.

G0608 Coordinate Care Delivery During an interview a patient expressed concerns about the agency staff not completing visits.

G0702 Services by Skilled Professionals The nurse completed an indwelling foley catheter change during a visit. During the catheter change procedure, the nurse inserted the catheter into the vaginal opening. They gathered another catheter to use due to the error, but the nurse used all of the lubricant during the first attempt, and the patient did not have any. The nurse then used olive oil as a lubricant and the patient reported having blood clots and feeling sore following the catheter change.

G0726 Nursing Services Supervised by RN An LPN completed skilled nurse visits x 4. The policy indicated that the RN would complete LPN supervisory visits on recertification, however, the recertification visit documentation stated "not applicable" to supervision.