

Common Health Care Acronyms¹

Here are some common acronyms used at our firm:

GENERAL

ALJ	Administrative Law Judge
AWP	Average Wholesale Price
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CMP	Civil Money Penalty
CON	Certificate of Need
CoP	Condition of Participation (<i>in Medicare</i>)
DD	Developmentally Disabled
DME	Durable Medical Equipment
DMEPOS	Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies
DON	Director of Nursing
DRG	Diagnosis Related Group (<i>hospital reimbursement</i>)
EAC	Estimated Acquisition Cost
EHR	Electronic Health Records
ESRD	End Stage Renal Disease
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act (<i>pronounced “Foy-ya”</i>)
FTE	Full-Time Equivalent
HCBS	Home and Community Based Services
HCPCS	Health Care Common Procedure Coding System (<i>pronounced “Hix-Pix”</i>)
HIPAA	The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (<i>pronounced “Hip-ah”</i>)
HITECH	Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (<i>adopted as part of 2011 health reform – typically used to refer to updates to HIPAA</i>)
HMO	Health Maintenance Organization
IDTF	Independent Diagnostic Testing Facility
IMD	Institute for Mental Diseases

¹ Or, CHCAs – if you are so inclined!

IDR	Informal Dispute Resolution
LCD	Local Coverage Determination
LOC	Level of Care
LPN	Licensed Practical Nurse
MCO	Managed Care Organization
MDS	Minimum Data Set
MH	Mental Health
MSP	Medicare Secondary Payer
NATCEP	Nurse Aide Training and Competency Evaluation Program
NPI	National Provider Identifier
OAC	Ohio Administrative Code
OASIS	Outcome and Assessment Information Set (<i>HHA payment</i>)
ORC	Ohio Revised Code
OBRA '87	The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987, statute that introduced NF reform.
PASRR	Preadmission Screening & Resident Review (<i>pronounced "Pass-Are"</i>)
POC	Plan of Correction
PHI	Protected Health Information (<i>HIPAA term</i>)
PPS	Prospective Payment System
RAI	Resident Assessment Instrument
RFP	Request for Proposal
RN	Registered Nurse
RoP	Requirement of Participation (<i>in Medicare – applies to SNFs</i>)
RUG	Resource Utilization Group
WAC	Wholesale Acquisition Cost

TYPES OF PROVIDERS

ACF	Adult Care Facility
ALF	Assisted Living Facility (<i>called RCFs in Ohio</i>)
ASC	Ambulatory Surgical Center
CAH	Critical Access Hospital

CCRC	Continuing Care Retirement Community
CORF	Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility
HHA	Home health agency (<i>generally to refer to a Medicare certified agency</i>)
ICF/MR	Intermediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded (<i>the federal law still uses the term “Mentally Retarded” or “MR”, but the clear trending is towards the use of “Developmentally Disabled” or “DD”</i>)
IL	Independent Living
LTACH	Long-Term Acute Care Hospital (<i>pronounced “L-Tack”</i>)
NF	Nursing Facility (<i>pronounced “Niff”</i>)
PACE	Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly
RCF	Residential Care Facility (<i>often referred to as “AL” for “assisted living”</i>)
SNF	Skilled Nursing Facility (<i>pronounced “Sniff”</i>)

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

AG	Attorney General
CMS	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
DHHS	Department of Health and Human Services
DOJ	Department of Justice
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation
FDA	Food & Drug Administration
GAO	Government Accountability Office
OCR	Office of Civil Rights
OD/DD	Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (<i>referred to as DODD</i>)
ODH	Ohio Department of Health
ODJFS	Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services (<i>referred to as JFS</i>)
OIG	Office of Inspector General

TRADE ASSOCIATIONS

AHCA	The American Health Care Association
AHLA	The American Health Lawyers Association

- Leading Age The not-for-profit long-term care trade association. Leading Age is national & Leading Age Ohio is local.
- NCAL The National Centers for Assisted Living (*associated with AHCA*)
- OALA The Ohio Assisted Living Association
- OCAL The Ohio Centers for Assisted Living (*associated with OHCA*)
- OHCA The Ohio Health Care Association (*called both O-H-C-A and as a word pronounced “oh-ca”*)
- OSBA The Ohio State Bar Association

AUDITS / CONTRACTORS / PAYERS

- FI Fiscal Intermediary
- MAC Medicare Administrative Contractor
- MIC Medicaid Integrity Contractor
- MRA Medicare Recovery Auditor (fka RAC)
- PSC Program Safety Contractor.
- QIC Qualified Independent Contractor
- QIO Quality Improvement Organization
- RAC Recovery Audit Contractor. (*Term is no longer used. New term is RA – recovery auditor*)
- ZPIC Zone Program Integrity Contractor

