

Survey Types

Traditional (Standard) Survey – A traditional survey utilizes various sources of information available about the facility in order to identify and select concerns, which are then investigated by the CMS surveyors.

Initial Survey – This is the first survey completed to validate regulatory compliance for the reimbursement of Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement. The facility must show they have implemented policies and procedures, and established care systems for the provision of skilled and intermediate care.

Recertification Survey – After the Initial survey, the Recertification surveys will follow concurrently to show the facility has maintained compliance for the provision of care. The Recertification survey will only look at data back to the prior Initial, Recertification, or FLS survey.

Revisit Survey – The Revisit surveys are completed after the Initial, Recertification, Complaint, or FLS surveys are completed, but only when deficiencies were cited on the prior survey. The Revisit survey focuses on determining if the facility has met the requirements for the areas of concern cited on the original survey.

Complaint Survey – The Complaint survey will focus on specific areas of concern received from a source, such as the resident, responsible party, family, facility staff, or advocate of the resident. The Complaint survey will include medical record reviews, and timelines may extend prior to the last standard survey, in order to determine if the complaint occurred as stated by the complainant.

Fire Life Safety Survey – CMS 2470A states that “LSC is a set of fire protection requirements designed to provide a reasonable degree of safety from fire. It covers construction, protection and operational features designed to provide safety from fire, smoke and panic.” The survey process provides oversight for the LSC requirements.