NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. Office for People With Developmental Disabilities

OPWDD PASRR Referral Communication Protocol

Intent of Protocol

This communication protocol serves to inform hospitals and nursing facilities of a change to the referral process for the **Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR)** Level II assessments for people suspected of, or diagnosed with, an intellectual or developmental disability (IDD). The Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) conducts these required assessments for individuals who are known or suspected of having an IDD prior to admission to a nursing facility.

Effective 11/16/2023, hospitals and nursing facilities are to send all PASRR Level II referral materials to the email address listed below that corresponds to the referred person's county of residence. Please securely email all PASRR referral materials to the appropriate email address as referral materials provided via other means will no longer be accepted (i.e., faxing). Please discontinue sending PASRR referral information to any other OPWDD email address that is not listed in this communication.

PASRR Overview

The Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) process is intended to prevent the inappropriate admission into nursing facilities of persons with serious mental illness, intellectual disabilities, or developmental disabilities. PASRR requirements were enacted with the Nursing Home Reform Act as part of OBRA 1987 and the federal regulations may be found at: PASRR Federal Regulations. The NYS Department of Health (DOH) maintains oversight of the PASRR function for New York.

Federal regulation requires hospitals and/or nursing facilities to:

- Complete a Level I SCREEN Form for all persons, with limited exceptions, who are seeking admission to a Medicaid-certified nursing facility to determine whether they are suspected of, or have a diagnosis of, an IDD. When indicated by the Level I SCREEN Form, hospitals must submit a referral to OPWDD for a PASRR Level II assessment.
    - Please note, when a person meets the criteria for a Categorical Determination on the Level I SCREEN Form:
        - A PASRR Level II referral is still **required** to be made to OPWDD. In these cases, the OPWDD PASRR Coordinator will review the referral information and will complete an abbreviated PASRR Level II assessment, if indicated.
        - If the Categorical Determination has a time limit (i.e., Brief and Finite Stay or Convalescent Care), and the person's stay must extend beyond that limit (i.e., amended to Long Term Care status), the nursing facility **must** contact the OPWDD PASRR Coordinator prior to the end of the Categorical Determination time limit so that the OPWDD PASRR Coordinator can complete a full PASRR Level II assessment.

Nursing facilities are prohibited from admitting persons suspected of, or with a diagnosis of, an IDD until OPWDD determines via the PASRR Level II assessment that the person:

- Requires the level of services provided in a nursing facility, and
- Requires "specialized services" or "services of a lesser intensity" to address the person's IDD needs.

Furthermore, federal regulation requires a nursing facility to notify OPWDD to request completion of another PASRR Level II assessment when a resident suspected of, or having a diagnosis of, an IDD has experienced a “Significant Change”.

OPWDD PASRR Contact Information

OPWDD PASRR Coordinators are located throughout the state to receive referrals for completion of PASRR Level II assessments and to answer questions about the PASRR process. Hospitals and nursing facilities are to send all PASRR Level II referrals to the OPWDD email address below that corresponds with the referred person’s county of residence.

Referred Person’s County of Residence	OPWDD PASRR Referral Email Address
Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chemung, Erie, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming, Yates	RO1PASRR@opwdd.ny.gov
Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, Otsego, Tioga, Tompkins, St. Lawrence	CentralNYPASRR@opwdd.ny.gov
Albany, Clinton, Columbia, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Greene, Hamilton, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren, Washington	CapitalDistrictPASRR@opwdd.ny.gov
Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, Westchester	HudsonValleyPASRR@opwdd.ny.gov
Bronx, Manhattan	MetroPASRR@opwdd.ny.gov
Kings	BrooklynPASRR@opwdd.ny.gov
Queens, Richmond	QueensPASRR@opwdd.ny.gov
Nassau, Suffolk	LongIslandPASRR@opwdd.ny.gov

For general inquiries regarding OPWDD PASRR, please email the Statewide OPWDD PASRR mailbox at opwdd.sm.cof.PASRR@opwdd.ny.gov or call the statewide OPWDD PASRR phone line at 518-388-0694.