



## Staff Charting and CMI Reimbursement Improve at The Cedars After CareTracker Implementation

The Cedars in McPherson, Kansas, is the state's oldest continuing care retirement community. The community's 110-bed skilled nursing facility offers innovative, person-centered care in their two unique units – the “neighborhood” and the “houses.”

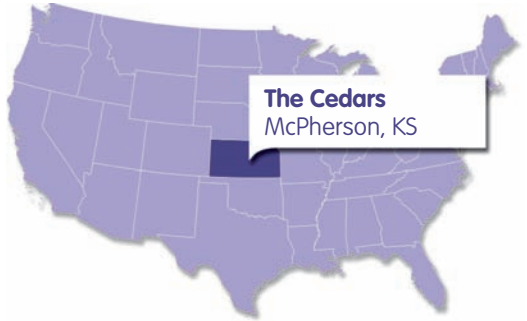
Like many facilities that rely heavily on paper documentation, staff at The Cedars faced challenges with this method. Staff tended to copy from prior shifts and the forms were often incomplete.

During a project to update their computer systems, management at The Cedars heard about CareTracker through one of their other software vendors. After visiting some facilities that were using the system, and hearing about the compliance and reimbursement benefits, they decided to implement CareTracker.

**The facility uses many of the standard buttons (ADLs, Meals, Mood and Behavior, Bowel and Bladder) but they have also customized questions specifically for their home.**

The Cedars have experienced many benefits of using CareTracker.

“We don't have to go through papers and papers to find the information that we are looking for. We are much more confident of the accuracy of the staff's charting and the integrity of the data going into the system,” explains Laura Kilby, IT Manager.



The Cedars  
McPherson, KS

They use the system to track staff compliance, which is now at 96-98%. Geraldine Hedge, Staff Development Coordinator, continues retraining of staff to encourage “non-traditional” nursing home habits to better match The Cedars' non-traditional nursing home setting.

“They have gotten away from documenting at the end of the shift and are in the habit of putting things in the system as they happen,” explains Geraldine.

**Aside from the resident care benefits, The Cedars experienced a financial benefit as well. Their Medicaid CMI went from .9534 to 1.0004 since implementing CareTracker.**

“This increase paid for the entire system within the first year,” explains Laura.

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