

October 7, 2024 Weekly Clinical Update

AHCA has provided another resource for our providers. This is such an interesting issue. The message from AHCA came from Meghan Medvitz and she has provided the following information...

“Recent events have highlighted the increasing threat posed by pre-emptive power shutdowns, aimed at preventing wildfires, on vulnerable populations such as nursing homes and senior living facilities. A U.S. News article from June 2024, "[Power Cuts to Prevent Wildfires Threaten to Leave Nursing Homes in the Dark](#)", outlines the severe consequences these power cuts can have on facilities that rely on continuous electricity to maintain essential services and ensure resident safety.

To support our members, AHCA has developed a [resource](#) to assist members in understanding and preparing for a Public Safety Power Shutoff. A Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) is a planned shutoff of power lines by a utility company to help prevent wildfires from starting. ...utilities across the country are increasingly resorting to PSPS to mitigate the risk of fires sparked by electrical equipment. While these preventive measures are crucial for community safety, they pose significant challenges for nursing homes, where uninterrupted power is essential for maintaining critical health and safety systems.

This newly published [Public Safety Power Shutoff resource](#) provides a comprehensive guide to support nursing homes in preparing for PSPS events, and includes regulatory implications and considerations for preparation, mitigation and communication.

Please feel free to share with your members. As always, continue to monitor AHCA's Emergency Preparedness [website](#). Please let us know if you have any questions at emergencyprep@ahca.org.”

You might want to consider adding this issue to your Emergency Preparedness Plan “All Hazard Risk Assessment”, along with this mitigation abatement plan to your Plan.