

FOR SNF ADMINISTRATORS, DONS, AND COMPLIANCE TEAMS

SNF Behavioral Health Compliance Brief

Reference: 42 CFR §483.40 - F740 Behavioral Health Services (CMS Requirements of Participation)

THE REGULATORY MANDATE

The Requirements of Participation for long-term care facilities require that each resident who displays signs of mental or psychosocial adjustment difficulty receives adequate treatment and services to correct the assessed problem - including access to medically necessary behavioral health services.

The F740 obligation

CMS Surveyor Guidance for F740 makes clear that facilities must provide or arrange behavioral health services when a resident's comprehensive assessment identifies a need. Inadequate access to behavioral health is a citable deficiency under immediate jeopardy standards.

The prevalence reality

Studies consistently find 40 to 50% of nursing home residents have depression, anxiety, or behavioral symptoms. Facilities rely on contracted psychiatric services that often provide only medication management - leaving individual therapy needs unmet.

The survey risk

CMS's expanded focus on behavioral health during surveys means facilities with gaps in their behavioral health service array - particularly psychotherapy access - face increased deficiency exposure in the post-pandemic survey environment.

How Total Life supplements SNF behavioral health

Total Life provides licensed therapists who deliver individual therapy by phone and video to SNF residents. Services are billed to Medicare Part B - no cost to the facility. Referrals are integrated into your care planning workflow.

Ready to close this compliance gap?

Total Life provides SNFs with a licensed behavioral health referral pathway that satisfies F740 obligations and addresses the high prevalence of depression and anxiety among long-term care residents.

Book a partnership discovery call: totallife.com/partners/nursing-facility-behavioral-health

Email: partners@totallife.com

Total Life is a Medicare-covered behavioral health telehealth provider. Licensed therapists provide individual therapy by phone and video for adults 65+ in all 50 states. Services are billed under the patient's own Medicare benefits - no cost to partner organizations.