AHFSA Members,

The Surveyor Technical Assistant for Renal Disease (STAR) program will be discontinued as of January 1, 2020 and State Survey Agencies should no longer conduct ESRD health facility surveys using the STAR program as of December 1, 2019.  Surveys that are still open on December 1 must be completed and/or closed out by latest December 31, 2019.

**What to do with survey shells that are created before 12/1?** For a survey to be conducted in STAR, a survey shell is created in ACO, exported into ASE-Q and the survey is then opened in STAR.  If a survey shell is created in ACO and opened in STAR before December 1, 2019, surveyors will have until December 31, 2019 to complete survey activities and export all survey materials and findings/citations into ASPEN/ARO.  If a survey shell is created in ASPEN/ARO and imported into ASE-Q after December 1, 2019, surveyors should discontinue opening the survey in STAR.  These surveys should be conducted using the traditional survey method.

**What if something happens on a survey after 12/1 with shells that were created before?** All investigation activities (exit conference, decision-making, citation write-up, export citation into ASE-Q) should be completed on or around December 1, 2019.  Any subsequent activities that happen after December 1 relating to surveys completed using STAR prior to December 1 should be performed using the traditional survey method.  Any survey edits that need to happen after the export of survey findings can be performed in ASE-Q or ACO per the state’s process.

Association of Health Facility Survey Agencies