



January 3, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: Administrators of Renal Dialysis Facilities and Birthing Center Facilities

FROM: Gwen C. Thompson, Bureau Chief
Bureau of Health Facilities Licensing

SUBJECT: Clarification of Requirements of Regulations 61-97 and 61-102.

NOTE: **This memorandum replaces the memorandum dated August 31, 2011. Amendments were made to comply with Act No. 47 of 2011 and to reflect regulation revisions.**

In the interest of establishing reasonable standards which do not compromise the health, safety, and well-being of clients/patients receiving care/treatment in the above facilities/activities, it has been determined that an alternate standard will be allowed.

All facilities referred to above must meet either the standards outlined in their respective licensing standards, or, as an alternative:

In order to ensure that a new employee is medically capable of performing his or her job duties, a health assessment, to include required tuberculin skin testing, shall be conducted prior to direct client/patient contact by one (1) of the following:

- 1) Medical Doctor or Doctor of Osteopathy;
- 2) Physician Assistant;
- 3) Nurse Practitioner; or
- 4) Registered Nurse, pursuant to standing orders approved by a physician as evidenced by the physician's signature. The standing orders must be reviewed annually, with a copy maintained at the facility/activity.

(Note: The tuberculin skin testing can be conducted by Licensed Nurse)

This memorandum does not change any other standards not specifically references in this memorandum. The standards in the above-referenced sections of the appropriate regulations will be enforced during licensing inspections, as required either by the applicable regulation or this memorandum.

This exception applies to any of the above facilities/activities licensed by this Department, and related solely to South Carolina licensing standards. Any adverse condition(s) that may be related to this exception may result in its revocation by the Department.

If there are any questions, you may call the Bureau of Health Facilities Licensing at (803) 545-4370.

GCT/dnf