



C. Earl Hunter, Commissioner

Promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment.

February 16, 2012

PWE-R97-20120215

MEMORANDUM

TO: Administrators, Renal Dialysis Facilities

FROM: Gwendolyn C. Thompson, Director
Division of Health Licensing

SUBJECT: Provider-Wide Exception – Long Term Care Plans

Section 402 of Regulation 61-97, Standards for Licensing Renal Dialysis Facilities, requires that "There shall be short-term and long-term care plans for each patient, developed by the professional team to ensure appropriate modality of care. The short-term and long-term care plans shall be developed within the first month of care. Such plans shall be based on the nature of the patient's needs based on prior medical workup." Section 402.B. requires "The long-term care plan shall be reviewed at least annually and include 1) Diagnosis; 2) Type of treatment (hemodialysis, CAPD, CCPD, self dialysis); 3) Medical plan for next year; and 4) Indication whether a candidate for transplantation or home dialysis."

In consideration of the Department's commitment to establishing standards that do not compromise the health, safety, and well-being of patients of renal dialysis facilities, it has been determined that all renal dialysis facilities will be required to meet the standard outlined in the licensing standards, *i.e.*, R.61-97, Section 402 that requires care plans to be developed within the first month of care, and Section 402.B. that requires the long-term care plan to be reviewed at least annually and include the diagnosis, type of treatment, the medical plan for next year and indicates whether the patient is a candidate for transplantation or home dialysis, or **as an alternative:**

The facility may omit the requirement of the long-term care plan provided the facility maintains a plan of care prepared by the facility's interdisciplinary team in accordance with Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Conditions for Coverage for End-Stage Renal Disease Facilities, 42 CFR Sections 494.80 and 494.90.

In the event that CMS modifies its regulations and the modifications do not meet the minimum standards as required in R.61-97, the facility will be required to meet the minimum standards in R.61-97.

Page 2
PWE – Renal Dialysis Facilities
February 16, 2012

This exception applies to any renal dialysis facility licensed by the Department. It relates solely to SC licensing standards. Any adverse condition(s) that may be related to this exception may result in revocation of the exception by the Department.

If there are any questions regarding the above, please call Shara Merritt at (803) 545-4976.

GCT/ejc

cc: Pamela M. Dukes, Deputy Commissioner, DHEC
Dennis L. Gibbs, DHEC
Shara Merritt, DHEC
Sara Granger, DHEC
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