



C. Earl Hunter, Commissioner

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

March 23, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Administrators, Renal Dialysis Facilities

FROM: Nancy E. Maertens, Director
Division of Health Licensing

SUBJECT: Provider-Wide Exception – 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.A. requires “The short-term care plan shall reflect medical, psychological, social, and dietary needs, and stability of patients. It shall be reviewed at least monthly on unstable patients, every six months on stable patients and revised as necessary. There shall be documentation of patient or legal guardian involvement in the development of the short-term care plan with the professional team.” 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, §402 that requires care plans to be developed within the first month of care, §402.A. that requires a short-term care plan addressing the medical, psychological, social, and dietary needs, and the stability of patients be developed within the first month of care and reviewed at least monthly on unstable patients and every six months on stable patients and revised as necessary, and §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 six (6) month review of the short term care plan for stable patients provided there is no less than an annual

Page 2

PWE – Renal Dialysis Facilities

March 22, 2010

review of short term care plans and the facility complies with all other care plan requirements of §§402, 402.A. and 402.B. of the standards. In addition, the care plan (short or long term) may be developed either within the first thirty (30) days of care or within the first thirteen (13) treatments as required in §402.

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.

NEM/shh

cc: Pamela M. Dukes, Deputy Commissioner, DHEC
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