



January 3, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: Administrator of Renal Dialysis Facilities

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

SUBJECT: Short and 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 patients' 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 transportation 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 will be required to meet the standard outlined in Sections 402.A. and 402.B. of R.61-97, 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 review of short-term care plans and the facility complies with all other care plan requirements of Sections 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 Section 402.

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 standards outlined in Sections 402 and 402.B. of R.61-97, 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 of R.61-97.

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

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

GCT/dnf