

**§ 484.18 Condition of participation: Acceptance of patients, plan of care, and medical supervision.**

Patients are accepted for treatment on the basis of a reasonable expectation that the patient's medical, nursing, and social needs can be met adequately by the agency in the patient's place of residence. Care follows a written plan of care established and periodically reviewed by a doctor of medicine, osteopathy, or podiatric medicine.

(a) *Standard: Plan of care.* The plan of care developed in consultation with the agency staff covers all pertinent diagnoses, including mental status, types of services and equipment required, frequency of visits, prognosis, rehabilitation potential, functional limitations, activities permitted, nutritional requirements, medications and treatments, any safety measures to protect against injury, instructions for timely discharge or referral, and any other appropriate items. If a physician refers a patient under a plan of care that cannot be completed until after an evaluation visit, the physician is consulted to approve additions or modifications to the original plan. Orders for therapy services include the specific procedures and modalities to be used and the amount, frequency, and duration. The therapist and other agency personnel participate in developing the plan of care.

(b) *Standard: Periodic review of plan of care.* The total plan of care is reviewed by the attending physician and HHA personnel as often as the severity of the patient's condition requires, but at least once every 62 days. Agency professional staff promptly alert the physician to any changes that suggest a need to alter the plan of care.

(c) *Standard: Conformance with physician orders.* Drugs and treatments are administered by agency staff only as ordered by the physician. Verbal orders are put in writing and signed and dated with the date of receipt by the registered nurse or qualified therapist (as defined in §484.4 of this chapter) responsible for furnishing or supervising the ordered services. Verbal orders are only accepted by personnel authorized to do so by applicable State and Fed-

eral laws and regulations as well as by the HHA's internal policies.

[54 FR 33367, August 14, 1989, as amended at 56 FR 32974, July 18, 1991; 64 FR 3784, Jan. 25, 1999]

**§ 484.20 Condition of participation: Reporting OASIS information.**

HHAs must electronically report all OASIS data collected in accordance with §484.55.

(a) *Standard: Encoding OASIS data.* The HHA must encode and be capable of transmitting OASIS data for each agency patient within 7 days of completing an OASIS data set.

(b) *Standard: Accuracy of encoded OASIS data.* The encoded OASIS data must accurately reflect the patient's status at the time of assessment.

(c) *Standard: Transmittal of OASIS data.* The HHA must—

(1) Electronically transmit accurate, completed, encoded and locked OASIS data for each patient to the State agency or HCFA OASIS contractor at least monthly;

(2) For all assessments completed in the previous month, transmit OASIS data in a format that meets the requirements of paragraph (d) of this section;

(3) Successfully transmit test data to the State agency or HCFA OASIS contractor beginning March 26, 1999, and no later than April 26, 1999; and

(4) Transmit data using electronic communications software that provides a direct telephone connection from the HHA to the State agency or HCFA OASIS contractor.

(d) *Standard: Data Format.* The HHA must encode and transmit data using the software available from HCFA or software that conforms to HCFA standard electronic record layout, edit specifications, and data dictionary, and that includes the required OASIS data set.

[64 FR 3763, Jan. 25, 1999]

**Subpart C—Furnishing of Services**

**§ 484.30 Condition of participation: Skilled nursing services.**

The HHA furnishes skilled nursing services by or under the supervision of a registered nurse and in accordance with the plan of care.

**§ 484.32**

(a) *Standard: Duties of the registered nurse.* The registered nurse makes the initial evaluation visit, regularly re-evaluates the patient's nursing needs, initiates the plan of care and necessary revisions, furnishes those services requiring substantial and specialized nursing skill, initiates appropriate preventive and rehabilitative nursing procedures, prepares clinical and progress notes, coordinates services, informs the physician and other personnel of changes in the patient's condition and needs, counsels the patient and family in meeting nursing and related needs, participates in in-service programs, and supervises and teaches other nursing personnel.

(b) *Standard: Duties of the licensed practical nurse.* The licensed practical nurse furnishes services in accordance with agency policies, prepares clinical and progress notes, assists the physician and registered nurse in performing specialized procedures, prepares equipment and materials for treatments observing aseptic technique as required, and assists the patient in learning appropriate self-care techniques.

[54 FR 33367, August 14, 1989, as amended at 56 FR 32974, July 18, 1991]

**§ 484.32 Condition of participation: Therapy services.**

Any therapy services offered by the HHA directly or under arrangement are given by a qualified therapist or by a qualified therapy assistant under the supervision of a qualified therapist and in accordance with the plan of care. The qualified therapist assists the physician in evaluating level of function, helps develop the plan of care (revising it as necessary), prepares clinical and progress notes, advises and consults with the family and other agency personnel, and participates in in-service programs.

(a) *Standard: Supervision of physical therapy assistant and occupational therapy assistant.* Services furnished by a qualified physical therapy assistant or qualified occupational therapy assistant may be furnished under the supervision of a qualified physical or occupational therapist. A physical therapy assistant or occupational therapy assistant performs services planned, delegated, and supervised by the therapist,

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assists in preparing clinical notes and progress reports, and participates in educating the patient and family, and in in-service programs.

(b) *Standard: Supervision of speech therapy services.* Speech therapy services are furnished only by or under supervision of a qualified speech pathologist or audiologist.

[54 FR 33367, August 14, 1989, as amended at 56 FR 32974, July 18, 1991]

**§ 484.34 Condition of participation: Medical social services.**

If the agency furnishes medical social services, those services are given by a qualified social worker or by a qualified social work assistant under the supervision of a qualified social worker, and in accordance with the plan of care. The social worker assists the physician and other team members in understanding the significant social and emotional factors related to the health problems, participates in the development of the plan of care, prepares clinical and progress notes, works with the family, uses appropriate community resources, participates in discharge planning and in-service programs, and acts as a consultant to other agency personnel.

**§ 484.36 Condition of participation: Home health aide services.**

Home health aides are selected on the basis of such factors as a sympathetic attitude toward the care of the sick, ability to read, write, and carry out directions, and maturity and ability to deal effectively with the demands of the job. They are closely supervised to ensure their competence in providing care. For home health services furnished (either directly or through arrangements with other organizations) after August 14, 1990, the HHA must use individuals who meet the personnel qualifications specified in § 484.4 for "home health aide".

(a) *Standard: Home health aide training—(1) Content and duration of training.* The aide training program must address each of the following subject areas through classroom and supervised practical training totalling at least 75 hours, with at least 16 hours devoted to supervised practical training. The individual being trained must