

§ 488.6

§ 488.6 Other national accreditation programs for hospitals and other providers and suppliers.

(a) In accordance with the requirements of this subpart, a national accreditation program for hospitals; psychiatric hospitals; SNFs; HHAs; ASCs; RHCs; CORFs; hospices; screening mammography services; critical access hospitals; or clinic, rehabilitation agency, or public health agency providers of outpatient physical therapy, occupational therapy or speech pathology services may provide reasonable assurance to HCFA that it requires the providers or suppliers it accredits to meet requirements that are at least as stringent as the Medicare conditions when taken as a whole. In such a case, HCFA may deem the providers or suppliers the program accredits to be in compliance with the appropriate Medicare conditions. These providers and suppliers are subject to validation surveys under § 488.7 of this subpart. HCFA will publish notices in the FEDERAL REGISTER in accordance with § 488.8(b) identifying the programs and deeming authority of any national accreditation program and the providers or suppliers it accredits. The notice will describe how the accreditation organization's accreditation program provides reasonable assurance that entities accredited by the organization meet Medicare requirements. (See § 488.5 for requirements concerning hospitals accredited by JCAHO or AOA.)

(b) Eligibility for Medicaid participation can be established through Medicare deemed status for providers and suppliers that are not required under Medicaid regulations to comply with any requirements other than Medicare participation requirements for that provider or supplier type.

(c)(1) A provider or supplier deemed to meet program requirements under paragraph (a) of this section must authorize its accreditation organization to release to HCFA and the State survey agency a copy of its most current accreditation survey, together with any information related to the survey that HCFA may require (including corrective action plans).

(2) HCFA may determine that a provider or supplier does not meet the Medicare conditions on the basis of its

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own investigation of the accreditation survey or any other information related to the survey.

(3) Upon written request, HCFA may disclose the survey and information related to the survey—

(i) Of any HHA; or

(ii) Of any other provider or supplier specified at paragraph (a) of this section if the accreditation survey and related survey information relate to an enforcement action taken by HCFA.

[58 FR 61840, Nov. 23, 1993, as amended at 62 FR 46037, Aug. 29, 1997]

§ 488.7 Validation survey.

(a) *Basis for survey.* HCFA may require a survey of an accredited provider or supplier to validate its organization's accreditation process. These surveys will be conducted on a representative sample basis, or in response to substantial allegations of non-compliance.

(1) When conducted on a representative sample basis, the survey is comprehensive and addresses all Medicare conditions or is focused on a specific condition or conditions.

(2) When conducted in response to a substantial allegation, the State survey agency surveys for any condition that HCFA determines is related to the allegations.

(3) If the State survey agency substantiates a deficiency and HCFA determines that the provider or supplier is out of compliance with any Medicare condition, the State survey agency conducts a full Medicare survey.

(b) *Effect of selection for survey.* A provider or supplier selected for a validation survey must—

(1) Authorize the validation survey to take place; and

(2) Authorize the State survey agency to monitor the correction of any deficiencies found through the validation survey.

(c) *Refusal to cooperate with survey.* If a provider or supplier selected for a validation survey fails to comply with the requirements specified in paragraph (b) of this section, it will no longer be deemed to meet the Medicare conditions but will be subject to full review by the State survey agency in accordance with § 488.11 and may be subject to termination of its provider