### GeoSTATE OF WASHINGTON

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

## Aging and Long-Term Support Administration

## Home and Community Services Division

PO Box 45600, Olympia, WA 98504-5600

**HCS MANAGEMENT BULLETIN**

**H20-041 –** Information

**~~May 12, 2020~~**

**~~Amended August 21, 2020~~**

**~~Amended March 17, 2021~~**

**~~Amended August 3, 2021~~**

**Amended September 27, 2021**

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| **TO:** | Home and Community Services (HCS) Division Regional Administrators  Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Regional Administrators  Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Directors |
| **FROM:** | Bea Rector, Director, Home and Community Services Division |
| **SUBJECT:** | **Temporary Emergency Rule Changes Regarding Nurse Delegation** |
| **PURPOSE:** | To inform staff of temporary changes to nurse delegation rules during the COVID-19 emergency |
| **BACKGROUND:** | The Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (NCQAC) has adopted emergency rules in response to the stresses placed on the health care system related to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19). |
| WHAT’S NEW, CHANGED, OR CLARIFIED: | In summary, significant temporary rule changes include:   1. Core competencies training (the core basic training) of the seventy-hour long-term care worker basic training waived for people who will be nurse delegated. Normally, to be delegated the caregiver must be currently registered or certified as a nursing assistant or home care aide (HCA) in Washington state without restriction. 2. With the emergency rule change, the person must be nursing assistant registered (NAR) AND completed the 9-hour Nurse Delegation Core Training and the 3-hour Special Focus on Diabetes to be delegated. 3. Clarification of the credential HCA means the nursing assistant has taken the Prometric test and is certified. During COVID 19 pandemic this level of certification is not required for delegation. Only a NAR is required during this time of COVID 19. Please see The Nurse Delegation Chapter 13, of the Long-Term Care Manual for assisting a caregiver in obtaining the NAR if needed. 4. Written, verbal or electronic consent is an acceptable format for nurse delegation. The 30-day rule is removed until emergency rules expire on ~~8/22/2020~~ ~~10/24/2020~~ ~~5/20/2021~~ ~~09/17/2021~~ 01/15/2022. 5. Supervision, documentation and reevaluation must occur at least every 120 days increased from 90 days until emergency rules expire on 6. ~~8/22/202 10/24/2020~~ ~~5/20/2021~~ ~~09/17/2021~~ 01/15/2022. 7. With delegation of insulin injections, after initial training on the task that the registered nurse considers appropriate, the registered nurse will assess the competence of the NAR and determine further supervision needs as appropriate until emergency rule expires on ~~8/22/2020~~ ~~10/24/2020~~ ~~5/20/2021 09/17/2021~~ 01/15/2022. 8. Removal of the in-home care setting delegation decision tree per emergency rules was included in the Governor’s proclamation 20-32. There are no changes to the prohibited tasks. |
| **ACTION:** | For information only. |
| **RELATED REFERENCES:** | [COVID19 Nursing WAC Temporary Changes](https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/WADOH/2020/04/24/file_attachments/1436016/Chapter%20246-840%20WAC%20COVID-19.pdf)  [Waivers and Modifications](https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/WADOH/2020/04/24/file_attachments/1436018/NCQAC%20Current%20Waivers%20and%20Modifications.pdf) |
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