



# RULE-MAKING ORDER EMERGENCY RULE ONLY

## CR-103E (December 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.350 and 34.05.360)

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
FILED

DATE: February 24, 2022

TIME: 9:45 AM

WSR 22-06-042

**Agency:** Department of Social and Health Services

**Effective date of rule:**

**Emergency Rules**

- Immediately upon filing.
- Later (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?**

- Yes
- No
- If Yes, explain:

**Purpose:** Because of the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency, on January 18, 2022, Home and Community Services (HCS) temporarily suspended conducting ongoing assessments for HCS clients living in adult family homes, assisted living facilities, and enhanced services facilities. The intent of this suspension is to allow HCS staff to focus on conducting assessments for patients staying in hospitals, which will facilitate their discharge to long-term care facilities and improve the current surge capacity in hospitals. This emergency rule suspends the regulatory requirement for these facilities to complete assessments for HCS clients while the HCS assessors are not available. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved this flexibility for Medicaid beneficiaries needing specific Long-Term Care Services and Supports whose assessments meet the requirements under 42 CFR 441.720. The emergency rule will be effective retroactively to match the suspension effective date by HCS.

**Citation of rules affected by this order:**

- New:
- Repealed:
- Amended: WAC 388-76-10350, 388-78A-2100, 388-107-0080
- Suspended:

**Statutory authority for adoption:** RCW 18.20.090, RCW 70.97.230, 70.128.040(1)

**Other authority:**

**EMERGENCY RULE**

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds:

- That immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.
- That state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

**Reasons for this finding:** Many hospitals in this state are currently at or over capacity, leading them to re-direct patients who are needing emergency care and delaying procedures that are necessary but non-emergent. This puts the health of all residents of Washington at risk if they are not able to get the care they need at their local hospital. By temporarily suspending assessment requirements for residents living in adult family homes, assisted living facilities, and enhanced services facilities, HCS can focus personnel resources on assessing patients in hospitals, which will speed admissions to long-term care facilities and increase the bed availability in hospitals.

**Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero.  
No descriptive text.**

**Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note.  
A section may be counted in more than one category.**

**The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:**

Federal statute:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Federal rules or standards:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Recently enacted state statutes:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____

**The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:**

New \_\_\_\_ Amended \_\_\_\_ Repealed \_\_\_\_

**The number of sections adopted on the agency's own initiative:**

New \_\_\_\_ Amended 3 Repealed \_\_\_\_

**The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:**

New \_\_\_\_ Amended \_\_\_\_ Repealed \_\_\_\_

**The number of sections adopted using:**

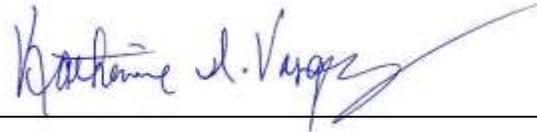
Negotiated rule making:	New ____	Amended ____	Repealed ____
Pilot rule making:	New ____	Amended ____	Repealed ____
Other alternative rule making:	New ____	Amended <u>3</u>	Repealed ____

**Date Adopted:** February 24, 2022

**Name:** Katherine I. Vasquez

**Title:** DSHS Rules Coordinator

**Signature:**



AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 07-21-080, filed 10/16/07, effective 1/1/08)

**WAC 388-76-10350 Assessment—Updates required.** The adult family home must ensure each resident's assessment is reviewed and updated to document the resident's ongoing needs and preferences as follows:

(1) When there is a significant change in the resident's physical or mental condition;

(2) When the resident's negotiated care plan no longer reflects the resident's current status, needs, and preferences;

(3) At the resident's request or at the request of the resident's representative; or

(4) At least every ~~((twelve))~~ 12 months, except beginning January 18, 2022, assessments for residents whose care is state funded may be extended an additional 12 months during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 13-13-063, filed 6/18/13, effective 7/19/13)

**WAC 388-78A-2100 On-going assessments.** The assisted living facility must:

(1) Complete a full assessment addressing the elements set forth in WAC 388-78A-2090 for each resident at least annually, except beginning January 18, 2022, assessments for residents whose care is state funded may be extended an additional 12 months during the COVID-19 public health emergency;

(2) Complete an assessment specifically focused on a resident's identified problems and related issues:

(a) Consistent with the resident's change of condition as specified in WAC 388-78A-2120;

(b) When the resident's negotiated service agreement no longer addresses the resident's current needs and preferences;

(c) When the resident has an injury requiring the intervention of a practitioner.

(3) Ensure the staff person performing the on-going assessments is qualified to perform them.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 16-14-078, filed 7/1/16, effective 8/1/16)

**WAC 388-107-0080 Ongoing comprehensive assessments.** The enhanced services facility must:

(1) Complete a comprehensive assessment, addressing the elements set forth in WAC 388-107-0070 ~~((7))~~ on the following timelines:

(a) Upon a significant change in the resident's condition; or

(b) ~~((or))~~ At least every 180 days if there is no significant change in condition, except beginning January 18, 2022, assessments

for residents whose care is state funded may be extended an additional 12 months during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

(2) Complete an assessment specifically focused on a resident's identified strengths, preferences, limitations, and related issues:

(a) Consistent with the resident's change of condition as specified in WAC 388-107-0060;

(b) When the resident's person-centered service plan no longer addresses the resident's current needs and preferences; and

(c) When the resident has an injury requiring the intervention of a practitioner((†)).

(3) Review each resident's needs to evaluate discharge or transfer options when the resident:

(a) No longer needs the level of behavioral support provided by the facility; or

(b) Expresses the desire to move to a different type of community based setting((†)).

(4) Ensure that the person-centered service planning team discusses all available placement options; and

(5) Ensure the staff person performing the ongoing assessments is a qualified assessor.