

INSPECTIONS AND APPEALS DEPARTMENT[481]

Adopted and Filed

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code sections 10A.104(5) and 135C.14, the Department of Inspections and Appeals hereby amends Chapter 58, "Nursing Facilities," Iowa Administrative Code.

Effective with services furnished on or after January 1, 2011, Section 1814(a)(2) of the federal Social Security Act, which was amended by Section 3108 of the federal Affordable Care Act, authorizes physician assistants who are not employed by the facility to perform skilled nursing facility level of care certifications and recertifications. This rule making adopts the federal law in order to maintain consistency between federal regulations and state rules.

The Department does not believe that this amendment imposes any financial hardship on any regulated entity, body, or individual.

The State Board of Health initially reviewed the proposed amendment at its July 10, 2013, meeting, and subsequently approved the rule making at its September 11, 2013, meeting.

Notice of Intended Action was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on August 7, 2013, as **ARC 0923C**. The only comment received on the proposed amendment voiced support for the rule making. No changes were made to the amendment published under Notice of Intended Action.

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

This amendment is intended to implement Iowa Code section 135C.14.

This amendment shall become effective November 6, 2013.

The following amendment is adopted.

Amend subrule 58.14(8) as follows:

58.14(8) Physician delegation of tasks. Each resident shall be visited by or shall visit the resident's physician at least twice a year. The year period shall be measured from the date of admission and is not to include preadmission physicals.

a. For a skilled nursing patient, the resident must be seen by a physician for the initial comprehensive visit. Additional visits are required at least once every 30 days for 90 days after admission and at least once every 60 days thereafter. After the initial comprehensive visit, alternate required visits may be performed by an advanced registered nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist or physician assistant who is working in collaboration with a physician, as outlined in Table 1. (III)

b. Notwithstanding the provisions of 42 CFR 483.40, any required physician task or visit in a nursing facility may also be performed by an advanced registered nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, or physician assistant who is working in collaboration with a physician, as outlined in Table 1. (III)

c. In dually certified skilled nursing/nursing facilities, the advanced registered nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, and physician assistant must follow the skilled nursing facility requirements for services for skilled nursing facility stays. For nursing facility stays in skilled nursing/nursing facilities, any required physician task or visit may be performed by an advanced registered nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, or physician assistant working in collaboration with the physician. (III)

d. Nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, and physician assistants may perform other tasks that are not reserved to the physician such as visits outside the normal schedule needed to address new symptoms or other changes in medical status. (III)

Table 1: Authority for non-physician practitioners to perform visits, sign orders, and sign certifications/recertifications when permitted by state law*

	Initial Comprehensive Visit/Orders	Other Required Visits ¹	Other Medically Necessary Visits and Orders ²	Certification/Recertification
Skilled Nursing Facilities				
Nurse Physician assistant, nurse practitioner and clinical nurse specialist employed by the facility	May not perform/May not sign	May perform <u>alternate visits</u>	May perform and sign	May not sign
Nurse Physician assistant, nurse practitioner and clinical nurse specialist not a facility employee	May not perform/May not sign	May perform <u>alternate visits</u>	May perform and sign	May sign subject to state requirements
Physician assistant regardless of employer	May not perform/May not sign	May perform	May perform and sign	May not sign
Nursing Facilities				
Nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, and physician assistant employed by the facility	May not perform/May not sign	May not perform	May perform and sign	May sign subject to state requirements Not applicable ⁺
Nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, and physician assistant not a facility employee	May perform/May sign	May perform	May perform and sign	May sign subject to state requirements Not applicable ⁺

*As permitted by state law governing the scope and practice of nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, and physician assistants.

¹ Other required visits include the skilled nursing resident monthly visits that may be alternated between physician and advanced registered nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, or physician assistants after the initial comprehensive visit is completed.

² Medically necessary visits may be performed prior to the initial comprehensive visit.

⁺This requirement relates specifically to coverage of Part A Medicare stays, which can take place only in a Medicare-certified skilled nursing facility.

[Filed 9/11/13, effective 11/6/13]

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EDITOR'S NOTE: For replacement pages for IAC, see IAC Supplement 10/2/13.