STATE DOH REGULATORY UPDATE

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Everything You've Always Wanted To Know About State Rules But Was Afraid to Ask

• N.J.A.C. 8:34...Nursing Home Administrators Licensing Board

• Adopted......05/16/2011

• Expiration date......05/15/2018

Scope of Administrative Responsibility

• The licensed nursing home administrator is responsible for the administrative functions of a nursing home to assure that the nursing home is operated at all times in compliance with N.J.A.C. 8:39 and all other applicable State and federal rules, regulations and laws

Scope of Individual Practice

• The licensed nursing home administrator oversees the provision of physical and emotional health services for persons who require various therapeutic and protective measures in a supervised environment in which the persons resides (N.J.A.C. 8:34-1.3(a))

What does Ownership of my NHA Professional License Mean?

- A "license" bestows certain *legal ownership* rights, responsibilities and obligations on its holder
- Subject to sanction
- Comes with the piece of paper
- Carries over to the title "administrator of record"
- "Own up" to an error

- Admit and acknowledge something went wrong
- Admit and acknowledge responsibility for the matter at hand
- Do not shift blame
- Be responsive to the NHALB inquiry in a manner documenting what you, as the administrator of record did

Important "New" Regulation that Effects a NHA License

- N.J.A.C. 8:34-7.2 (f) requires as a condition of license renewal, each licensee shall complete four (4) CEU hours on the subject of professional ethics relevant to the practice of long-term care administration
- This is the first license renewal period that administrators must comply with this regulation since promulgation in 2011

- By June 30, 2014, each NJ administrator must have complied
- Prior to 2011, there were few states with this requirements
- Subsequent to that date more and more LNHA Boards are requiring courses of this nature
- The importance of ethical issues in nursing homes cannot be overlooked.
- It is the LNHA who sets the ethical culture of the Facility

- The NHALB saw it in repeated deficiencies of both federal and state tags linked to ethical violations
- Serious ethical violations negatively impacts the vulnerable residents of long-term care facilities

Understanding the Ethical Principles Necessary to Protect Your License

- Ethics...The rules governing the conduct, transactions and relationships within a profession
- Ethical principles guide personal conduct in the practice of nursing home administration
- Inquiry into good and evil; right and wrong
- What is good behavior? What ought one to do?
- What is your moral obligation to do?

- Ethical considerations are impacted by many factors:
- Culture, religion, individual values
- Dynamic situations, advancing technologies, fluctuating economic environment, increasing personal stresses on staff, all lead to ethical dilemmas requiring ethical decisions
- Ethical issues are numerous

- End of life decisions
- Quality versus quantity of life
- Competence and decision making capacity
- Resident abuse
- Chemical and mechanical restraints
- Autonomy and independence
- Privacy and protection

- Incompetent professionals
- Staffing
- Striving to treat all residents the same
- Fiduciary responsibilities
- The impaired healthcare professional
- Protection of personal health information

- Personal Integrity
- Professional boundaries
- Respect for individuals reflected in day to day relationships
- Prevent and do no harm
- The resident comes first

Overriding Tenets of Ethical Practice

- Facility policies & procedures should be in place and implemented
- Consistent application of facility policies and applicable laws to avoid unequal treatment to residents is vital
- The best way to deal with an ethical dilemma is to try to avoid it from happening

- The resident comes first
- Prevent and do no harm
- Anticipate a situation that may evolve into an ethical dilemma and work to prevent that dilemma from happening
- It is harder to un-ring the bell; to close the barn door after all the cows are gone; then to not ring that bell or not open that door at all

Code of Ethics

 NJ moving forward with adopting a Code of Ethics based on the American College of Health Care Administrators

Long-Term/Acute Care License Update

- N.J.A.C. 8:36...Assisted Living Residences,
 Comprehensive Personal Care Homes and Assisted Living Programs (236)
- Readopted with tech changes, only...12/23/2013
- Anticipated clarification and substantive amendments in 2015 to focus on the certified medication aide subchapter
- Assisted Living Disclosure Form as a regulation not accepted by Governor's Office. Encourage its use as a Best Practice

• N.J.A.C. 8:39...Long-Term Care Facilities (370)

- Readopted with tech changes, only......12/23/2013

• DOH staff are working on clarification and substantive amendments for promulgation in 2015

• N.J.A.C. 8:42...Licensure of Home Health Agencies (47)

• N.J.A.C. 8:42C...Licensure of Hospice Services (56 Programs/18 Branches)

- N.J.A.C. 8:42C-11 Hospice Licensing Standards (New)
- In-Patient Hospice Licensing Standards... submitted Fall 2013 for approval

- N.J.A.C. 8: 43...Residential Health Care Facilities, attached (15)
- DCA responsible for rulemaking activity for free-standing RHCFs. New regulations were adopted by DCA couple of years ago under Chapter 10

• N.J.A.C. 8:43A...Licensure of Ambulatory Care Facilities (666)

• Staff working on amendments with stakeholders. Readoption with technical amendments only, this Fall, will extend the life of the Chapter for 7 years

• N.J.A.C. 8:43C...Registration Standards for Surgical Practices (176)

• N.J.A.C. 8: 43D... Pediatric Community Transitional Homes (3)

• Expiration date4/16/2016

- N.J.A.C. 8:43E Enforcement of Licensure Regulations
- UTF rule operative October 2011Staff working on patient safety amendments.
- "Cullen "Amendments submitted November 2012 for approval
- "Generator" Rules submitted September 2013 for approval
- Anticipated Fall, 2014 completion
- "POLST" law effective May 1, 2014

• N.J.A.C. 8:43F... Standards for Licensure of Adult Day Facilities (133)

- Readopted with tech change only......1/30/2014

 N.J.A.C. 8:43J...Standards for Licensure of Pediatric Medical Day Care Facilities (16)

• Expiration date......11/16/2014

 Proposal to Readopt without change has been submitted for approval and is under review

- N.J.A.C. 8:43G...Licensure of General Hospitals (71)
- Staff working on amendments and repeals to Subchapter 7
 (Cardiac Services) and amendments to Subchapter 7A
 (Stroke Services) in separate proposals. The former is linked to Cardiac Service CN rule changes in
 Chapter 33 E

 N.J.A.C. 8:43I...Criminal Background Investigation: Nurse Aides, Personal Care Assistants, & Nursing Home Administrators

• Expiration date......5/13/2017

• N.J.A.C. 8:43H.... Licensure of Rehabilitation Hospitals (14)

Draft new rules under review in the Legal Office.
 Anticipate return to stakeholders when the review is complete

Certificate of Need Rules

Administrative Rule

• N.J.A.C. 8:31AAmbulatory Care Facility Assessment	
Expiration date	
N.J.A.C. 8:31BHospital Financing Reporting	
Expiration date	
• N.J.A.C. 8:33CN Application & Review Process	
Expiration date	
Readoption with tech change only, later this year	

Certificate of Need Rules (continue)

 N.J.A.C. 8:33C...CN: Perinatal Centers and MCH Consortia

Expiration date.......8/16/2014

Staff in process of readoption without change while working with stakeholders for future amendments

 N.J.A.C. 8:33E....CN: Cardiac Diagnostic Facilities & Cardiac Surgery Centers

Staff preparing amendments/new rules for elective PCI and other cardiac service changes

Certificate of Need Rules (continue)

• <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:33FCN: Long	Term Acute Care Hospital
Expiration date	6/19/2015