



Jim Doyle
Governor

Kevin R. Hayden
Secretary

State of Wisconsin
Department of Health and Family Services

DIVISION OF QUALITY ASSURANCE
1 WEST WILSON STREET
P O BOX 2969
MADISON WI 53701-2969

Telephone: 608-266-8481
FAX: 608-267-0352
TTY: 888-241-9432
dhfs.wisconsin.gov

Date: August 2, 2007

DQA Memo 07-013

To: Hospitals

Hosp 08

From: Otis Woods, Administrator
Division of Quality Assurance

Interim Guidance Regarding Authentication of Physician Orders Memo

On March 13, 2007 the Division of Quality Assurance (DQA) issued memo 07-004, Authentication of Physician Orders in Hospitals. Page three, paragraph two of that memo discussed advance practice nurse prescribers (APNPs) and restrictions on verbal orders.

This paragraph was not intended to indicate that an APNP could not give verbal orders in all cases. Unfortunately that paragraph has been interpreted that APNPs cannot issue verbal orders.

DQA is seeking further clarification from the Board of Nursing and intends to issue a clarification of the paragraph in question as soon as possible.

In the interim please disregard the following paragraph on APNP verbal orders in memo OQA 07-004 http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/rl_DSL/Publications/07-004.htm until further notice.

In Wisconsin, the only registered nurses who may write hospital orders are advanced practice nurse prescribers (APNP). The Department of Regulation and Licensing interpretation of the authority of APNPs is that such individuals may issue an order for medications verbally or in writing directly to the hospital pharmacy. The APNP may not give the order verbally to an RN, LPN, ward clerk, or administrative assistant to either call the order in to the pharmacy or write the order in the medical record for conveyance to the pharmacy.

If you have additional questions or concerns please contact Doug Englebert, Pharmacy Consultant at 608 266-5388.