



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

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### Memorandum

June 28, 2013

**TO: Trainers of Staff at Facilities Licensed by DBHDS  
Providers of Services Licensed by DBHDS**

**FR: Les Saltzberg, Ph.D., Director Office of Licensing** *Les Saltzberg, Ph. D.*

**RE: Changes effective July 1, 2013 to the training and provision of medications via percutaneous gastrostomy tubes process and the use of epi-pens and glucagon.**

#### **I. Medication Administration via percutaneous gastrostomy tube (g-tube)**

The 2013 General Assembly of Virginia passed House Bill 1759 which amended § 54.1-3408.L. of the Code of Virginia with the following paragraph:

*In addition, this section shall not prevent a person who has successfully completed a training program for the administration of drugs via percutaneous gastrostomy tube approved by the Board of Nursing and been evaluated by a registered nurse as having demonstrated competency in administration of drugs via percutaneous gastrostomy tube from administering drugs to a person receiving services from a program licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to such person via percutaneous gastrostomy tube. The continued competency of a person to administer drugs via percutaneous gastrostomy tube shall be evaluated semiannually by a registered nurse.*

The effective date of this legislation is July 1, 2013. The legislation included an enactment clause requiring the Board of Nursing to promulgate regulations to implement the provisions within 280 days of its enactment. **A committee of Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) staff and representatives of the provider community developed the attached curriculum which fulfills the requirement of the new language.** This training module is a 6-hour addition to the 32-hour medication administration program currently approved in nursing regulations and used by DBHDS for training staff.

The draft regulations are in process to the Governor's office for review and approval. Until the regulations are signed by the Governor, individuals can receive the training but actual administration may not begin until the regulations take effect.

**Current Medication Aides who have completed certification of Medication Management for Agents authorized under the Drug Control Act shall enroll in this course to update certification if they will be providing services to individuals with percutaneous gastrostomy tubes. This module may be added onto the overall 32-hour training for a total of 38-hours, or as a stand alone 6-hour training for those who have already completed the 32-hour training, as part of the certification of Medication Management for Agents authorized under the Drug Control Act. (Per 18VAC90-20-390)**

## **II. Medication Administration of Insulin, Glucagon, and Epinephrine**

The 2013 General Assembly of Virginia passed House Bill 1444 which amended §§ 8.01-225 and 54.1-3408 of the Code of Virginia to add providers licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) to those already approved to provide the administration of insulin, glucagon, and epinephrine to individuals receiving services in an emergency situation without being liable for civil damages.

The code currently allows employees of a school board who have received appropriate training to provide these medications in an emergency situation. These amendments expand the code to cover these additional providers licensed by DBHDS.

This change must also go before the Board of Nursing for a regulatory change. It will be presented at the July 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. There is existing Board-approved curriculum available for this training.

### Curriculum Documents

Trainers may access the both curricula are on the Office of Licensing web page.

<http://www.dbhds.virginia.gov/OL-default.htm>

- Curriculum: 6-hour Training: Medication Administration via Percutaneous Gastrostomy Tube (G-Tube)
- Curriculum: Administration of Glucagon and Epinephrine
- Curriculum: Administration of Insulin

### Changes in the Training Process

Providers interested in providing the medication administration via percutaneous gastrostomy tube as part of their current service delivery, are required to have staff trained in the additional 6-hour module for medication administration via percutaneous gastrostomy tube.

Providers shall continue to place certificates of proof of training (the current 32-hour medication administration program and the additional 6-hour module) in staff's personnel files for inspection. **In addition, providers must now have available for inspection, the documentation that shows the semiannual demonstration of competency (staff person's ability to administer drugs via g-tube) to a registered nurse in the staff's personnel files.**

The Office of Licensing staff are available to address any concerns providers may have regarding these regulatory changes, (804) 786 1747 or by e-mailing your licensing specialist.