



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D., Secretary

Developmental Disabilities Administration

Bernard Simons, Executive Director

To: Registered Nurse Case Manager/Delegating Nurses

From: Regional Nurses, the Developmental Disabilities Administration

Date: April 22, 2014

Re: Clarification from the Maryland Board of Nursing

The purpose of this alert is to clarify some specific frequently asked questions related to delegation of oxygen and nutritional supplements/modifications. These questions have been addressed with the Maryland Board of Nursing (MBON) and the resulting clarifications are below.

1. In the day program setting, if an individual arrives at the day program utilizing oxygen and the day program staff has no responsibilities related to the oxygen other than to ensure that the individual keeps the nasal catheter in place, then this does not require 45 day nursing assessments. It does require a Nursing Care Plan (NCP) and the nurse to assess the individual on a regular basis the frequency of which will be determined by the nurse.
2. If an individual only receives nutritional supplements and no medications, then 45 day nursing assessments would not be required. A NCP would be required related to his nutritional status. Administration of the supplement would not require a Certified Medication Technician (CMT) and documentation of the administration would be on a form other than the Medication Administration Record (MAR) (as only CMTs may document on the MAR).
3. If an individual is ordered a modified texture diet or the use of a thickening agent, a CMT is not required to prepare or administer. A NCP would be required but 45 day assessments would not be required. Follow up assessments would be done regularly at a frequency determined by the Registered Nurse Case Manager/Delegating Nurse

If you have questions regarding the clarification, please contact your Regional Nurse.

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