



STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

433 River Street, Suite 303

Troy, New York 12180-2299

Antonia C. Novello, M.D., M.P.H., Dr.P.H.
Commissioner

Dennis P. Whalen
Executive Deputy Commissioner

April 21, 2006

Dear Chief Executive Officer:

The purpose of this letter is to remind hospitals of the importance of screening individuals with a mental disability such as mental illness, mental retardation, or developmental disabilities, who reside in or are seeking admission to a residential nursing facility. The federal Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) requirements are set forth in statute at 42 USC 1396r (e) and in regulation at 42 CFR 483.100-138.

Federal law requires hospitals to conduct a Level 1 Screen on all persons, with limited exceptions¹, who are seeking admission to nursing facilities to determine whether they have a mental disability. If the nursing services applicant appears to have such a disability, the hospital must ensure that the appropriate State PASRR agency is contacted to conduct a further assessment of the patient.

Nursing facilities are prohibited to admit persons with mental disabilities unless the appropriate State PASRR agency determines whether the person requires the level of services provided in a nursing facility and whether the applicant requires "specialized services" or "services of a lesser intensity" to address the disability. No individual, unless he/she meets a limited exception¹, may be admitted to a nursing facility unless the PASRR process has been completed. The hospital, as the referring provider, must complete the Level 1 Screen, contact the appropriate State PASRR agency, and receive the agency's determination for placement, prior to discharge to a nursing facility.

Island Peer Review Organization (IPRO) has been awarded the New York State Department of Health contract to conduct the PASRR assessments for individuals with mental illness seeking nursing home placement. Level II referrals for such persons should

¹ The only applicants exempt from PASRR screening are:

- (1) Exempted hospital discharge - individuals discharged from the hospital to a nursing facility for the condition for which he or she received care in the hospital and whose attending physician has certified that the individual is likely to require less than 30 days of nursing facility care.
- (2) Readmissions - individuals readmitted to a nursing facility from a hospital to which he or she was transferred for the purpose of receiving care.

be made to IPRO's Psychiatric Review Services Department at (800) 633-9441 or (516) 326-2110.

Likewise, the Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (OMRDD) is responsible for conducting PASRR Level II Screens for nursing facility applicants with mental retardation or developmental disabilities. Each local OMRDD Developmental Disabilities Service Office (DDSO) conducts its own PASRR reviews. Referrals of persons with mental retardation or developmental disabilities should be directed to the local DDSO PASRR Coordinator listed in Attachment 1. Please contact OMRDD at (518) 473-6255 with any questions.

The Department of Health will continue to review compliance with the PASRR requirements to ensure that appropriate assessments are being conducted and that necessary services are being delivered. Non-compliance with the PASRR requirements will result in citation by the Department of Health.

Reporting this information will help ensure that persons with mental illness, mental retardation or developmental disabilities are discharged from the hospital to a nursing facility that can meet their specialized needs. Should you have any questions regarding compliance with PASRR requirements, please contact the Bureau of Hospital and Primary Care Services at (518) 402-1003.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Martin J. Conroy".

Martin J. Conroy
Director
Bureau of Hospital & Primary Care Services

Attachment

New York State Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities

DDSO NURSING FACILITY PRE-ADMISSION SCREEN AND RESIDENT REVIEW (PASRR) COORDINATORS

<p align="center"><u>BERNARD FINESON DDSO</u> <i>Queens</i></p> <p>Shiny Sajan 80-45 Winchester Blvd. Queens Village, NY 11428-0507 (718) 217-5767 Fax: (718) 217-4009</p>	<p align="center"><u>FINGER LAKES DDSO</u> <i>Chemung, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Schuyler, Steuben, Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming and Yates</i></p> <p>Kathleen C. Dillon 620 Westfall Road, Suite 101 Rochester, NY 14620 (585) 241-5741 Fax (585) 241-5733</p>	<p align="center"><u>SUNMOUNT DDSO</u> <i>Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson and St. Lawrence</i></p> <p>Patricia A. Bedore, R.N. 2445 State Rt. 30 Tupper Lake, NY 12986 (518) 359-3311 Fax: (518) 359-4132</p>
<p align="center"><u>BROOKLYN DDSO</u> <i>Kings</i></p> <p>Ellen Marshall, R.N. 888 Fountain Avenue Bldg. 1, Wing 121 Brooklyn, NY 11208 (718) 642-8624 Fax: (718) 642-8683</p>	<p align="center"><u>HUDSON VALLEY DDSO</u> <i>Orange, Rockland, Sullivan and Westchester</i></p> <p>Richard Gordon, M.S.W. Sullivan Co. Office P.O. Box 823, Main Street So. Fallsburg, NY 12779 (845) 434-3190 Fax: (845) 434-3141</p>	<p align="center"><u>TACONIC DDSO</u> <i>Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Putnam and Ulster</i></p> <p>Sue Dean, R.N. 38 Firemen's Way Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 (845) 473-5050, ext. 108 Fax: (845) 473-7198</p>
<p align="center"><u>BROOME DDSO</u> <i>Broome, Chenango, Delaware, Otsego, Tioga, and Tompkins</i></p> <p>Linda J. Smith, R.N. Broome Developmental Center 249 Glenwood Road Binghamton, NY 13905 (607) 770-0255 Fax: (607) 770-8037</p>	<p align="center"><u>LONG ISLAND DDSO</u> <i>Nassau, Suffolk</i></p> <p>Patricia Weber, B.A. 45 Mall Drive Commack, NY 11725 (631) 493-1819 Fax: (631) 543-7216</p>	<p align="center"><u>WESTERN NY DDSO</u> <i>Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara and Orleans</i></p> <p>Nancy Doyle, S.W. 1200 East & West Road West Seneca, NY 14224 (716) 517-2165 Fax: (716) 674-7488</p>
<p align="center"><u>CAPITAL DISTRICT DDSO</u> <i>Albany, Fulton, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren and Washington</i></p> <p>Julie Gorman 500 Balltown Road Schenectady, NY 12304 (518) 370-7339 Beeper: (518) 748-6029 Fax: (518) 370-7368</p>	<p align="center"><u>METRO NEW YORK DDSO</u> <i>Bronx and New York Bronx / Manhattan Office</i></p> <p>Ana Garcia 2400 Halsey Street Bronx, NY 10961 (718) 430-0752 Fax: (718) 430-0866</p>	<p align="center"><u>NYS OMRDD – Central Office</u></p> <p>Sharon Bradbury, M.S.P.A. Upstate Regional Office 44 Holland Avenue Albany, NY 12229 (518) 473-6255 Fax: (518) 473-9695</p>
<p align="center"><u>CENTRAL NEW YORK DDSO</u> <i>Cayuga, Cortland, Herkimer, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga and Oswego</i></p> <p>Tom Ayotte, M.S.W. P.O. Box 550 Rome, NY 13440 (315) 336-2300 ext. 433 Fax: (315) 339-5456</p>	<p align="center"><u>STATEN ISLAND DDSO</u> <i>Richmond</i></p> <p>Jose Abraham 1150 Forest Hill Road, Building 12 G Staten Island, NY 10314 (718) 983-5279 Fax (718) 983-5302</p>	<p align="right">February 7, 2006</p>