



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Aging and Long-Term Support Administration
PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504-5600

April 22, 2022

AL TSA: NH #2022-024
QSO 22-15-NH & NLTC & LSC, PHYSICIAN VISITS AND DELEGATION TO PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS AND NURSE PRACTITIONERS

Dear Nursing Home Administrator,

On April 7, 2022, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released [QSO-22-15-NH & NLTC & LSC](#), announcing the ending of certain 1135 waivers. One waiver addressed is the waiver for [42 CFR 483.30\(c\)\(3\) and \(e\)\(4\)](#), physician visits and delegation in skilled nursing facilities and nursing facilities. This waiver will expire May 6, 2022, 30 days from the date the memo was released.

The Department of Social and Health Services (the department) is aware that facilities have been operating under the waiver to provide telehealth services in place of in-person visits and to delegate responsibilities to physician assistants and nurse practitioners during the public health emergency. In order to understand how the end of this waiver may impact facilities, it would be helpful to hear from you.

If you may be impacted, please submit responses to the questions below to the RCSPolicy@dshs.wa.gov:

1. Does your nursing home have physicians that will be impacted by the lapse of the CMS 1135 waiver related to in-person physician visits and delegation of tasks to a registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant per 42 CFR 483.30?
2. If there are physicians that are no longer able to provide services due to the end of the waiver, are you able to find a replacement physician by May 6, 2022?

The department will review the responses to determine whether further consultation with CMS is necessary.

Thank you for your continued commitment to resident health and safety. If you have any questions, please contact Molly McClintock, Nursing Home Policy Program Manager, at (360) 742-6966 or molly.mcclintock@dshs.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Mike Anbesse, Director
Residential Care Services

DSHS: "Transforming Lives"