

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

January 17, 2023

## ALTSA: NH #2023-003 TENTH CR-103E EXTENSION FILED FOR EMERGENCY RULES AMENDING OR SUSPENDING SOME NURSING HOME REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO PASRR

Dear Nursing Facility/Home Administrator:

Due to the significant impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE), the Department of Social and Health Services (department) filed emergency rules (CR-103E) on April 13, 2020, for some nursing home requirements. The rules were amended and temporarily repealed in response to the lasting effects of COVID-19 on nursing homes, and to continue to align state nursing home rules with federal rules. The rules related to Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) were consecutively extended with the last extension (WSR 22-19-023) that was effective September 14, 2022.

The department filed an emergency rule with WSR 23-03-048, effective January 11, 2023. The emergency rules related to PASRR that are temporarily amended or repealed include:

- WAC 388-97-1915 and -1975: Emergency rules permit the level I PASRR screening, and if needed, the level II evaluation to occur up to 30 days after admission.
- Are set to expire May 10, 2023.

Additionally, the department filed a CR-101 on August 5, 2020, to begin permanent rule making on WACs 388-97-1915, and WAC 388-97-1975. The CR-101 document is available on Aging and Long Term Support Administration's (ALTSA) Information for <u>Nursing Home Professionals</u> web page, under "NH Rule Filings". The department remains in discussion about adding language to the rules to explain the circumstances and times under which suspension of the rules was necessary due to COVID-19.

If you have any questions, please contact Molly McClintock, Nursing Home Policy Program Manager, at (360) 742-6966 or <u>molly.mcclintock@dshs.wa.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

amy ablott

Amy Abbott, Director Residential Care Services

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