

Cooper, Kathy

2860

From: Kate Peires [wee_irish_lass@comcast.net]
Sent: Saturday, August 28, 2010 3:30 PM
To: IRRC
Subject: CRNP notes at SNF

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2010 AUG 30 A 9 58

Dear Mr. Coccodrille:

I am writing to ask that the current requirement that CRNP notes on patients at skilled nursing facilities be cosigned by physicians be rescinded.

Nurse Practitioners are specially trained to evaluate, diagnose and treat patients. We see patients in all settings including hospitals, office and nursing facilities. Requiring that our notes in skilled nursing facilities be cosigned by the physician does not serve much purpose in providing care to the residents of nursing facilities. By lifting that requirement, residents may be better served as a Nurse Practitioner may be able/willing to get to the facility to see the resident on a more frequent basis than currently required.

Removal of the cosignature in skilled nursing facilities will enable Nurse Practitioners to see more residents and potentially prevent hospitalizations or illnesses of the residents. Requiring the cosignature in no way provides for better care or more frequent visits by physicians. Easing restrictions of CRNP practice in skilled nursing facilities will only serve to provide better care for the residents of those facilities.

I encourage you to support removal of the cosignature on CRNP nursing facility notes.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Kate Peires, MSN, ACNP-BC
Reading, PA