

MEMORANDUM

Texas Department of Human Services * Long Term Care/Policy

TO: LTC-R Regional Directors
Section/Unit Managers

FROM: Marc Gold
Section Manager
Long Term Care-Policy
State Office MC: W-519

SUBJECT: Regional Survey & Certification Letter #99-05

DATE: February 5, 1999

The attached RS&C Letter is being provided to you for information purposes and should be shared with all professional staff.

- RS&C Letter No. 99-05 -- Discontinuance of Surveys of Physical and Occupational Therapists in an Independent Practice (PTIPs/OTIPs); Call Beverly Tucker, Section Manager, Professional Services, at (512) 438-2631.

If you have any questions, please direct inquiries to the individuals or sections listed above.

~Original Signature on File~

Marc Gold

Attachment

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Health Care Financing Administration

Region VI
1301 Young Street, Room 833
Dallas, Texas 75202

January 5, 1999

REGIONAL SURVEY AND CERTIFICATION LETTER NO: 99-05

To: All State Survey Agencies (Action)
All Title XIX Single State Agencies (Information)

Subject: Discontinuance of Surveys of Physical and Occupational Therapists in an Independent Practice (PTIPs/OTIPs)

Effective January 1, 1999, PTIPs and OTIPs will no longer be surveyed for compliance with the Conditions for Coverage at 42 CFR 486.150(ff). Beginning January 1, 1999, PTIPs/ OTIPs will be approved for Medicare by the insurance carriers through the enrollment process. This change resulted from the publication in final of the Physician Fee Schedule Regulation (HCFA 1006-FC), which was published in the Federal Register on November 2, 1998 (attached). This regulation replaced the Conditions for Coverage: Outpatient Physical Therapy Services Furnished by Physical Therapists in Independent Practice (Part 486, Subpart D). The PTIP/OTIP will now obtain the enrollment form from the carriers rather than the State agencies.

You should continue to survey and resurvey clinics, rehabilitation agencies, and public health agencies as providers of outpatient physical therapy and speech language pathology services in accordance with 42 CFR 485.701(ff). You should complete any work that remains to be done on PTIPs/OTIPs that have already been surveyed, prior to the January 1, 1999 effective date.

Existing PTIP/OTIP records should be maintained in accordance with the policies and procedures outlined in State Operations Manual 4800 - 4801. You may assist carriers in their new role by providing information they request about the existing PTIPs/OTIPs that were approved through the survey process to the extent you have such information. Attached are several pages from the November 2, 1998 Federal Register for your information that relate to the change in how PTIPs/OTIPs will be approved beginning January 1, 1999.

This regulation also made change to the regulations at 42 CFR 485.705 *Personnel Qualifications* for clinics, rehabilitation agencies and public health agencies as providers of outpatient physical therapy. There were no changes to 42 CFR 485.711. The regulation is 373 pages in the Federal Register and there may be other changes that affect survey and certification that we are not aware of at this time. If we identify such changes we will notify you promptly.

If you have questions, please call Rachel McCarty at (214) 767-2082 or Sam Wynn at (214) 767-4413.

Sincerely,

~Signature on File~

Calvin Cline
Chief, Survey and Certification Operations