

Oregon Health Authority

Public Health Division Health Care Regulation & Quality Improvement 800 NE Oregon Street Portland, OR 97232 Voice: 971-673-0540 Fax: 971-673-0556 TTY: (971) 673-0372

November 16, 2010

Re: Summary of Nurse Staffing Audits for 2009

As part of its efforts to ensure that Oregonians have wide access to the health care they need and that it will be safe and of high quality, the Public Health Division, Health Care Regulation and Quality Improvement Program has completed its findings for the 2009 Hospital Nurse Staffing Audit in accordance with ORS 441.170(3).

In an effort to streamline the process for these reviews, nurse staffing surveys were integrated into routine, onsite survey work evaluating compliance with state licensure rules and federal Medicare conditions of participation and coverage, or during complaint investigations.

Significant improvements in compliance with nurse staffing laws have been observed since 2005 with fewer and less serious citations being issued. Seventeen percent of the licensed facilities in Oregon were audited (12 hospitals) with only three facilities having deficiencies cited and no civil penalties assessed. Of the 12 audits performed, six audits were specifically for nurse staffing complaints received in 2009. The common deficiencies cited included failure to document according to administrative rules and failure to ensure that the nurse staffing committee monitored, evaluated, modified and re-approved a nurse staffing plan.

For 2010, we will continue to integrate nurse staffing surveys with our other hospital survey activities and perform full nurse staffing audits in response to nurse staffing complaints.

Please see attached table for a complete summary.

Summary of Nurse Staffing Audits for 2009

	Facility Name	Survey Date	Survey Type	Findings	Outcomes (e.g. plan of correction submitted and approved, civil penalty, follow-up etc.)
1.	Cottage Grove Hospital	01/26/2009	Recertification for Critical Access Hospital	 Deficiencies at: 333-510-0045(2): failure of staffing committee to document process; 333-510-0045(7)(a): failure of staffing committee to document a schedule for the nurse staffing committee to monitor, evaluate, modify, and re-approve the nurse staffing plan 	Plan of Correction submitted and accepted on 3/2/2009
2.	Kaiser Sunnyside Medical Center	02/04/2009	Complaint: Nursing Services, Nurse Staffing	No Deficiencies Identified	
3.	Santiam Memorial Hospital	03/16/2009	Validation of Accreditation	No Deficiencies Identified	
4.	Cedar Hills Hospital (Inpatient Psych)	03/25/2009	Initial Licensure	 Deficiencies at: 333-510-0045(3)(g): written staffing plan failed to identify process for limitation of admissions; 333-510-0045(11)(a): failed to identify that no nurse would work beyond agreed upon shift; 333-510-0045(11)(b): failed to identify that nurse would not be required to work more than 48 hours in work week; 333-510-0045(11)(c): failed to identify that nurse would not work more than 12 consecutive hours in 24 hr. period; 	Plan of Correction submitted and accepted on 4/20/2009

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				 333-510-0045(12): the written staffing plan failed to identify a system to document mandatory overtime; and 333-510-0045(16): the hospital failed to post the required notice with provisions of ORS 441.162, 441.166, 441.168, 441.174, 441.176, 441.178, 441.192 pertaining to nurse staffing. 	
5.	Kaiser Sunnyside Medical Center	04/07/2009	Complaint and Staffing Audit	No Deficiencies Identified	
6.	Columbia Memorial Hospital	04/27/2009	Complaint: Nurse Staffing	 Deficiencies at: 333-510-0045(2)(a): the staffing committee charter failed to identify the committee's plan for how it would monitor, evaluate, and modify the nurse staffing plan over time; 333-510-0045(3)(a):failed to ensure the written staffing plan for the Emergency Department (ED) was based on an accurate description of individual and aggregate patient needs and requirements for nursing care; and 333-510-0045(7)(a): failed to ensure the nurse staffing committee monitored, evaluated, modified, and re-approved the nurse staffing plan. 	Plan of Correction submitted and accepted on 5/21/2009

7.	Vibra Specialty Hospital of Portland (Long Term Acute Care Hospital)	04/30/2009	Complaint: Nurse Staffing	No Deficiencies Identified
8.	OHSU Hospitals and Clinics	05/18/2009	Complaint: Nurse Staffing	No Deficiencies Identified
9.	Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital	09/14/2009	Validation of Accreditation	No Deficiencies Identified
10.	Rogue Valley Medical Center	10/26/2009	Validation of Accreditation	No Deficiencies Identified
11.	Salem Hospital	11/09/2009	Complaint: Nursing Services	No Deficiencies Identified
12.	Providence St. Vincent Medical Center	11/30/2009	Full Certification Survey	No Deficiencies Identified