



## **Collaborative Practice Agreement-Protocols**

It is the intent of this document to authorize \_\_\_\_\_, NP/PA practicing at skilled nursing rehab facilities and/or LTAC hospitals, to perform medical acts in accordance with the Nurse Practice Act, 301.152 and to practice under these protocols without direct supervision, as specified in the Medical Practice Act, Texas Civil Statutes, Article 4495b, section 3.06(d)(5) and (6). This document sets forth guidelines for collaboration between \_\_\_\_\_, the supervising physician, and co-collaborative physicians, and the NP/PA, \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Development, Revision and Review**

The protocols are developed collaboratively by the nurse practitioner and delegating physician(s). These protocols will be reviewed annually and revised as necessary.

### **Approval**

The protocols will be approved annually on the initial approval date by the nurse practitioner and supervising physician(s). The Statement of Approval will be signed by all of the above parties recognizing the collegial relationship between the parties and their intention to follow these protocols. Signature on the Statement of Approval implies approval of all of the policies, protocols and procedures in this document. It is the task of both the nurse practitioner and collaborating physician to see that the written approval of all the above parties is obtained.

### **Setting**

The nurse practitioner will operate under these protocols at Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation facilities (SNF) and/or Long Term Acute Care hospitals (LTAC) in the Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX, area receiving PM&R services through Legacy Physicians Group.

### **Supervision**

The nurse practitioner is authorized to practice under the protocols established in this document without the direct (on-site) supervision or approval of the supervising physician. Consultation with the supervising physician(s) or their designated backup is available at all times, either on-site or by telephone when consultation is needed for any reason.

### **Functions**

Consistent with the scope of practice as outlined by the Texas Board of Nursing, the Nurse Practitioner (NP) is authorized to provide the medical functions identified below. These functions are not intended as an exhaustive description of the NP's practice but rather illustrative of the types of medical functions the NP will perform. These medical functions shall be in addition to any functions the NP is authorized to perform under her professional nursing license and as authorized by the credentialing process at each facility.

The nurse practitioner is responsible for providing health services to patients being screened, evaluated and/or treated by physical, occupational and/or speech rehabilitation therapy. As a consulting provider, the NP will focus on health issues that interfere with a patient's participation in a rehabilitation program, including but not limited to pain, insomnia, bowel and bladder issues, emotion and nutrition.

The functions include ordering and interpreting diagnostic studies, diagnosing, prescribing treatment, including medications within the legalities of the state of Texas for an APN, performing those procedures

that are within the scope of practice of this NP and for which the NP has been credentialed to perform, and requesting specialty consultations.

### **Consultation**

Consultations and referrals will be made, as needed, to the primary care provider and to other health care providers. Physician consultation will be sought for all of the following situations and any others deemed appropriate. Whenever a physician is consulted, a notation to that effect, including the physician's name will be recorded in the patient's medical record. Consultation will occur:

- Whenever a situation arises that goes beyond the intent of the protocols or the competence, scope of practice, or experience of the nurse practitioner
- Whenever a patient requests
- For all emergency situations after initial stabilizing care has been initiated

### **Medical Records**

The nurse practitioner is responsible for the complete, legible documentation of all patient encounters, using the SOAP format, including initial consultations, team conferences and progress notes.

### **Education and Training**

The nurse practitioner must possess a valid Texas license as a Registered Nurse and be recognized by the Texas Board of Nursing as a Nurse Practitioner with prescriptive authority.

### **Evaluation of Clinical Care**

Evaluation of the nurse practitioner will be provided in the following ways:

- Review of entries in the patient medical records by the supervising physician(s)
- Annual evaluation by the supervising physician(s) based on written criteria
- Informal evaluation during consultations and case reviews

### **Quality Assurance**

The nurse practitioner will participate in quality assurance through the facility's quality assurance process.

### **Drug Prescriptions**

The NP/PA at these facilities shall be authorized to prescribe dangerous drugs (excluding, controlled substances schedule I-11) as authorized by the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) under Rule 222, Advanced Practice Nurses Limited Prescriptive Authority and the Texas Board of Medical Examiners (BME) under Rules 193.2-193.4 and 193.8, Delegation of Prescriptive Authority. Authority shall be delegated by the collaborating physician(s) and supervision of prescribing activity shall be conducted by the collaborating physician(s) as indicated in the Rules. It is the responsibility of the nurse practitioner to obtain prescription ID numbers from the appropriate Boards. References for prescriptions will be the current Physician's Desk Reference, Epocrates and/or consultations with physicians and or pharmacists.

### **Collaborating Parties: Statement of Approval**

We, the undersigned, agree to the terms of this Collaborative Practice Agreement as set forth in this document.

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Approval Date\_\_\_\_\_

Renewal Date\_\_\_\_\_

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