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Governor Dave Freudenthal

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVE

Date: August 6, 2009

To: All Home & Community Based Waiver Providers

From: Cliff Mikesell, Administrator, Developmental Disabilities Division

Subject: Medication Assistance Standards and Policy

REF: 09-128-CM

In the Adult Developmental Disabilities (DD) and Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver renewal process, the Division addressed the need for medication safeguards for waiver participants, who need assistance in this area. Starting July 2009, the Division began implementing Medication Assistance Standards and policy. These standards are applicable to **all** waiver providers for the ABI, Adult DD, and Children's DD waivers who assist participants with medications and will be promulgated into rule in the coming months. In the interim, the Division implementation plan has been approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and has been reviewed by the Wyoming Board of Nursing. These standards do not apply to medical professionals who are licensed to administer medications.

The purpose of the standards is to ensure the health and safety of waiver participants. Participant's medication regimens shall receive assistance, management and monitoring by providers in accordance with the Division's standards. All home and community based waiver providers, who assist participants with medications, shall develop and implement policies and procedures in accordance to the standards as posted by the Division and adhere to the specified timelines for compliance.

Providers, who do not assist participants with medications or do not plan to assist with medications, shall sign a "No Medication Assistance Verification Form", which acknowledges that the provider is aware of the standards and Division requirements to assist and chooses not to assist participants in any way with medications.

The Medication Assistance standards, policy, and timelines are posted to the Division's website at http://wdh.state.wy.us/ddd/index.html. To request a hard copy of the standards, please contact our office at 307.777.7115. Also, check the Medication Assistance Training schedule and plan to attend a class in your area, if you wish to become a Medication Assistant.

If you have questions regarding this directive, please contact Chris Newman, Deputy Administrator at (307) 777-7115.