January 9, 2015

Guidance for Licensed Professionals Individually Providing Substance Use Disorder Services in relation to the requirement for Facility Licensure for Outpatient Treatment

The Department of State Health Services (Department), Division for Regulatory Services, has been frequently asked about facility licensing requirements under Health & Safety Code (HSC) Chapter 464, as it pertains to multiple licensed professionals who each individually provide substance use disorder services to clients under their individual professional licenses at a common workplace or physical location.

If multiple licensed professionals practice in the same workplace or physical location serving clients on an outpatient basis, the workplace or physical location at which these individual professional services are provided, and the professionals individually providing those services, are not required to be licensed as an outpatient treatment program if:

- each professional acts individually and within the scope of the professional’s own license to provide professional substance use disorder services to that professional’s clients, and
- the individual professional, the workplace, or the group of professionals acting together, do not provide a structured or coordinated substance use disorder treatment program.

Please note that this guidance does not constitute a change to, or limitation on, any applicable statute, rule, or other legal requirement, nor does it prohibit any person from applying for licensure under HSC Chapter 464 and its rules in 25 TAC Chapter 448. Each licensure or compliance evaluation and decision will be specific to the facts and circumstances of the particular case, as provided to the Department at the time.

If you have further questions regarding this matter, please contact Charlotte Sullivan, Regulatory Licensing Unit Manager, at (512) 834-6730 or via e-mail at: Charlotte Sullivan@dshs.state.tx.us

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