



Central Coast Home Health, Inc.
Physician Rights and Responsibilities

Physician Rights

The physician has a right to:

- A. Be an active participant in the development and revision of the plan of care, including the provision of therapeutic/diagnostic orders.
- B. Be provided with timely information regarding his/her patient. Notification and contact will occur with, but will not be limited to, the following:
 - 1. Changes in the patient's condition
 - 2. Changes in the patient's psychosocial status
 - 3. Changes in the patient's home environment
 - 4. Lack of achievement of goals within the defined time frame
 - 5. Changes and/or lack of patient's response to care
 - 6. Changes needed regarding diagnoses, treatments, medications, precautions, and limitations
- C. Have organization personnel available to respond to questions regarding patients. When the clinician is not available, another clinician familiar with the patient will answer questions.
- D. Information to assist in continuity of care, including ongoing updates, written summaries at least every 60 days, and phone consultation.
- E. Refer patients to specialty physicians and make appropriate referrals to other organizations.
- F. Confidentiality of information and communication to the physician by organization personnel.
- G. Legible, complete, and accurate information regarding the patient.
- H. Participation in the consideration and resolution of ethical issues related to home health patients.



Central Coast Home Health, Inc. **Physician Rights and Responsibilities**

Physician Responsibilities

The physician has a responsibility to:

- A. Be an active participant in the development and revision of the plan of care, including the provision of therapeutic/diagnostic orders.
- B. Provide the organization with timely information regarding his/her patient. Notification and contact should occur when there are changes of which the home health organization may not be aware, including, but not limited to:
 1. Changes in the patient's condition
 2. Changes in the patient's psychosocial status
 3. Changes in the patient's home environment
 4. Lack of achievement of goals within the defined time frame
 5. Changes and/or lack of patient response to care
 6. Changes needed regarding diagnoses, treatment, medications, precautions, and limitations
- C. Be available to respond to questions regarding the patient. When the primary physician is not available, another physician who is familiar with the patient should be designated to provide alternate coverage.
- D. Provide legible, complete, and accurate information including treatment orders for his/her patient.
- E. Designate the hospital to which the patient should be sent for alternate medical coverage and consultative referrals that relate to the patient's care. In emergencies, the patient will be transported via ambulance to the nearest hospital.
- F. To see his/her patients at least annually.
- G. Sign and return therapeutic/diagnostic orders within the time frame specified in organization policy and in accordance with applicable law and regulation.
- H. Participate in the consideration and resolution of ethical issues related to home health patients.
- I. Comply with Central Coast Home Health, Inc.'s referral, admission, and discharge policies. A copy of applicable policy will be forwarded to the physician upon request.