

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**  
**BUREAU OF HUMAN SERVICES LICENSING**  
**Assisted Living Residences** (55 Pa.Code Chapter 2800)

**Q/A - Regulatory Clarifications – January 2019**

*The clarifications and interpretations below will remain on the Department's web site until the information is included in the next updated Regulatory Compliance Guide (RCG).*

**Regulation: § 2800.141 (a) (11) - Resident medical evaluation and health care.**

**§ 2800.141 (a)** *A resident shall have a medical evaluation by a physician, physician's assistant or certified registered nurse practitioner documented on a form specified by the Department, subject to the provisions of § 2800.22 (relating to application and admission). The evaluation must include the following:*

**(11)** *An indication that a tuberculin skin test has been administered with negative results within 2 years; or if the tuberculin skin test is positive, the result of a chest X-ray. In the event a tuberculin skin test has not been administered, the test shall be administered within 15 days after admission.*

**Question:** Do residents need to get TB testing every two years or just once within 15 days after admission?

**Answer:** Yes, the tuberculin skin test is required every two years. Regulation § 2800.141 (a) (11) requires that the annual medical examination includes an indication that a tuberculin skin test has been administered with negative results within 2 years; or if the tuberculin skin test is positive, the result of a chest X-ray.

**Regulation: § 2800.224 - Initial assessment and preliminary support plan.**

**§ 2800.224 (a)** *Initial assessment.*

*(1) The administrator, administrator designee, or LPN, under the supervision of an RN, or an RN shall complete the initial assessment.*

*(2) An individual shall have a written initial assessment that is documented on the Department's assessment form within 30 days prior to admission unless one of the conditions contained in paragraph (3) apply.*

*(3) A resident shall have a written initial assessment that is documented on the Department's assessment form within 15 days after admission if one of the following conditions applies:*

- (i) *The resident is being admitted directly to the residence from an acute care hospital.*
- (ii) *The resident is being admitted to escape from an abusive situation.*
- (iii) *The resident has no alternative living arrangement.*

**§ 2800.224 (c) - Preliminary support plan.**

*(1) An individual requiring services shall have a written preliminary support plan developed within 30 days prior to admission to the residence unless one of the conditions contained in paragraph (2) applies.*

*(2) A resident requiring services shall have a written preliminary support plan developed within 15 days after admission if one of the following conditions applies:*

- (i) The resident is being admitted directly to the residence from an acute care hospital.*
- (ii) The resident is being admitted to escape from an abusive situation.*
- (iii) Any other situation where the resident has no alternative living arrangement.*

**Question:** Are initial assessments and preliminary support plans due within 15 days after admission?

**Answer:** Initial assessments and preliminary support plans take the place of preadmission screenings. They are both due within 30 days prior to admission unless the resident is being admitted directly to the residence from an acute care hospital, the resident is being admitted to escape from an abusive situation, or any other situation where the resident has no alternative living arrangement. If one of these conditions applies, then the initial assessment and preliminary support plan are due within 15 days after admission. If the initial assessment and preliminary support plan are completed within 15 days after admission, documentation demonstrating that one of the conditions applies must be maintained.

**Regulation: § 2800.234 - Resident care.**

**§ 2800.234 (a) Support or rehabilitation plan.**

*(1) Within 72 hours after the admission, or within 72 hours prior to the resident's admission to the special care unit, a support plan shall be developed, implemented and documented in each resident's record.*

**Question:** Are residences required to complete an additional support plan for a resident who is being admitted to the special care unit in addition to the requirement under § 2800.224 (c) *Preliminary support plan*. For instance, if an initial support plan was completed for potential resident 15

days prior to admission, is an additional support plan due within 72 hours after the admission or within 72 hours prior to the resident's admission to the special care unit?

**Answer:** Yes, the requirement for a support plan within 72 hours of the admission or within 72 hours prior to the resident's admission to the special care unit is in addition to the requirement of § 2800.224 (c) *Preliminary support plan*.