

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE**  
**BUREAU OF HUMAN SERVICES LICENSING**  
**Community Residential Rehabilitation Services for the Mentally III**  
(55 Pa.Code Chapter 5310)

**Q/A - Regulatory Clarifications – June 2015**

*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: § 5310.14(e)(1) – Personnel Management**

*§ 5310.14(e) - Each staff member is required to have a physical examination within 6 months prior to employment and every 2 years thereafter.*

*(1) The examination report must include screening for tuberculosis and other communicable diseases, a statement from the physician that the staff member has no contagious diseases, and information on any medical problems which might interfere with the health of the clients.*

**Question:** Does each staff member need to be checked for Hepatitis A, B, & C?

**ANSWER:** No, not unless a physician orders it. Otherwise, Hepatitis is not specifically mentioned in the regulation. As per the regulation, staff members shall have an examination report that includes screening for tuberculosis and other communicable diseases, a statement from the physician that the staff member has no contagious diseases, and information on any medical problems which might interfere with the health of the clients.

**Regulation: § 5310.72(d)(2) – Safety Procedures**

*§ 5310.72(d) - Fire drills at each CRRS site must be:*

*(1) Held every 2 months.*

*(2) Held during the night at least semiannually.*

*(3) Recorded, including date, time, time required for evacuation, and number of persons taking part.*

**Question:** How does the Department define the term "semiannually" relating to fire drills held during the night?

**ANSWER:** Fire drills that are held during the night should be held at least every 6 months.

**Regulation: § 5310.162(6) – Host Homes**

*§ 5310.162(6) - The following requirements apply to host homes:*

*(6) The CRRS must provide fire extinguishers and smoke detectors for use in host homes and ensure that the surrogate parent receives instruction in the proper use of this equipment.*

**Question:** Must the instruction in the operation of the fire extinguishers be done in person or by a fire safety expert?

**ANSWER:** The instruction is not required to be given by a fire safety expert. Instruction in the operation of the fire extinguishers can be given by a representative of the facility or someone trained by a fire safety expert. However, instruction must be completed in person and must also include equipment-specific instructions.