COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES BUREAU OF HUMAN SERVICES LICENSING

Child Residential and Day Treatment Facilities (55 Pa.Code Chapter 3800)

Q/A - Regulatory Clarifications - January 2016

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: § 3800.91 – Emergency Telephone Numbers § 3800.91 - Telephone numbers for the nearest hospital, police department, fire department, ambulance and poison control center shall be posted on or by each telephone with an outside line.

Question: If a home has 911 posted on or by each telephone, is this sufficient for the poison control center?

ANSWER: No; not all situations regarding poisons may require emergency services. Poison control centers offer free, confidential medical advice 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Poison control centers provide immediate, free and expert treatment advice and referral over the telephone in case of exposure to poisonous or toxic substances. They provide helpful information and may help to reduce unnecessary hospital visits. Therefore, the poison control center phone number must be posted on or by each telephone with an outside line.

Regulation: § 3800.183 – Use of Prescription Medications § 3800.183 - Prescription medications shall be used only by the child for whom the medication was prescribed.

Question: Is a home permitted to use stock prescription medications for multiple children in the home?

ANSWER: Yes; homes may keep stock bottles of OTC and prescription medications for ad-hoc administration to children, but homes are responsible for ensuring that children may take OTC and/or prescription medications without causing allergic reactions or impacting other prescription medications prescribed to the child.