

**Ref: S&C-01-20**

**DATE:** July 5, 2001

**FROM:** Director  
Survey and Certification Group  
Center for Medicaid and State Operations

**SUBJECT:** Clarification of Nurse Aide Training Requirements with Regard to Transporting versus Transferring Nursing Home Residents

**TO:** Associate Regional Administrator, DMSO  
State Survey Agency Directors

Due to the shortage of nurse aides, we are evaluating various alternatives that may help alleviate that shortage. We have identified transporting residents as the only nursing home service that does not require the use of nurse aides with 75 hours of training so that those with training are available for resident care that requires their training. The purpose of this memo is to distinguish between the need for trained nurse aide assistance in transporting residents and in transferring residents. It was never our intent that transporting residents by driving a van or pushing a wheelchair would require 75 hours of nurse aide training. However, transferring residents, for example, from bed to wheelchair, from wheelchair to the toilet or the bath does require the services of a nurse aide who has completed the nurse aide training and competency evaluation program.

**Effective Date:** This guidance is effective immediately.

**Training:** These policies should be shared with all survey and certification staff, their managers, legal counsel and the state/regional office training coordinator. We are making changes to Chapter 4 of the State Operations Manual to reflect these policies.

/s/  
Steven A. Pelovitz