



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PO BOX 358
TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0358

www.nj.gov/health

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

JUDITH M. PERSICILLI, RN, BSN, MA
Commissioner

IN RE: Licensure Violation

NJ Facility ID # NJ 51806

DIRECTED PLAN OF
CORRECTION

.....

TO: Patricia Toole
Administrator
Hackensack Meridian Health Carrier Clinic
252 Route 601
Belle Mead, NJ 08502

Pursuant to Executive Order 103, Governor Philip D. Murphy declared that the spread of COVID-19, which is a novel coronavirus, within New Jersey constitutes an imminent public health hazard that threatens and presently endangers the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of one or more municipalities or counties of the State. As such, Governor Murphy declared the existence of a Public Health Emergency, pursuant to the Emergency Health Powers Act, N.J.S.A. 26:13-1 to -31, and a State of Emergency, pursuant to the Disaster Control Act, N.J.S.A. App.A:9-45 & App. A:9-47. These emergency declarations were thereafter continued by Executive Orders No. 119, 138, 151, 162, 171, 181, 186 and 191.

Under the declared health emergency, the Commissioner is empowered, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:13-12, to "[t]ake all reasonable and necessary measures to prevent the transmission of infectious disease or exposure to toxins or chemicals and apply

proper controls and treatment for infectious disease or exposure to toxins or chemicals.

Pursuant to this authority, the Department of Health (Department), hereby directs the following plan of correction:

I. DIRECTED PLAN OF CORRECTION

LICENSURE VIOLATIONS:

On November 12, 2020, and November 13, 2020 a State Licensure and Federal Allegation Survey was conducted at your Facility by the New Jersey Department of Health (Department). The survey was conducted to determine if your Facility followed the Federal requirements related to implementing proper infection prevention and control practices to prevent the development and transmission of COVID-19, along with other regulatory requirements to maintain compliance. The survey revealed that your Facility is not in compliance with the Federal requirements and that corrections must be made for your Facility to continue to participate in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. A CMS-2567 specifying the deficiencies cited will be emailed to you at the e-mail address on file with the Department.

Specifically, Survey found that the Facility failed to ensure the implementation of infection control practices and the proper use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and handwashing/hand hygiene to prevent the spread of infection during an identified outbreak of Coronavirus (COVID-19) at the Facility.

The Facility's failures violate 42 CFR §483.80 (a)(1)(2)(4)(e)(f) that requires the Facility to establish and maintain an infection prevention and control program designed to provide a safe, sanitary, and comfortable environment and to help prevent the development and transmission of communicable diseases and infections. Additionally, the Facility failed to establish an infection prevention and control program (IPCP) that included:

- A system for preventing, identifying, reporting, investigating, and controlling infections and communicable diseases for all residents, staff, volunteers, visitors and other individuals;
- Written standards, policies, and practices and procedures for the program;

DIRECTED PLAN OF CORRECTION (POC)

The Department is ordering a Directed Plan of Correction (DPOC) in accordance with N.J.A.C. 8:43E-2.4 be imposed on the Facility. As part of the DPOC the Facility must retain the full-time, on-site services of a Certified Infection Control (ICP) consultant. The Facility shall provide the Department with the name and resume of the ICP consultant no

Hackensack Meridian Health Carrier Clinic
Directed Plan of Correction
November 16, 2020
Page 3

later than end of business day of **November 19, 2020**. The ICP consultant shall begin providing services to the Facility no later than **November 23, 2020**. The resume of the ICP consultant shall be provided to Denise.Gorski-Galla@doh.nj.gov and Lisa.King@doh.nj.gov.

You may contact the Association of Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (apic.org) to obtain the names of ICPs in your area. The organization is located at 1400 Crystal Drive, Suite 900, Arlington, VA 22202, and can be reached at: Main number: 202-789-1890, Toll free numbers: 1-800-650-9570 or 1-800-650-9883, Fax: 202-789-1899; info@apic.org; info@apicconsulting.com. The ICP consultant shall be board certified and possess training and experience in surveillance, prevention, and control of infectious diseases.

The ICP consultant shall have no previous or current ties to the Facility's principals, management and/or employers or other related individuals of any kind, including, but not limited to employment, business or personal ties. The ICP consultant shall be completely independent of Hackensack Meridian Health Carrier Clinic and any parent entity.

The ICP consultant is to begin providing services to the Facility upon approval of the Department. The ICP consultant shall be on-site for no less than 40 hours per week, until further notice from the Department. The Facility shall send weekly reports every Friday by 1:00 P.M. to the Communicable Disease Services (CDS) Healthcare Associated Infections Coordinator, Jason Mehr, MPH, CIC, at Jason.Mehr@doh.nj.gov with a copy to Denise.Gorski-Galla@doh.nj.gov. These weekly reports shall include timely updates regarding the outbreak investigation, identified cases, and the progress of infection prevention. In addition, the Facility is directed to maintain timely communication with the Department, including both the facility's infection prevention team and the consultant.

The Department will review the weekly progress reports and determine whether the number of hours the ICP Consultant is required to be on-site may be reduced.

OTHER REMEDIES:

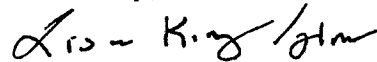
Failure to comply with this Emergency Order may result in the imposition of penalties and/or other applicable remedies.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your anticipated cooperation. If you have any questions regarding this Directed Plan of Correction, please contact Lisa King in the Office of Program Compliance at Lisa.King@doh.nj.gov. For other questions, please contact the New Jersey Coronavirus and Poison Center Hotline at (800) 222-1222. For COVID-19 updates,

Hackensack Meridian Health Carrier Clinic
Directed Plan of Correction
November 16, 2020
Page 4

please continue to check the Department's website for routinely updated information at <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>.

Sincerely,



Lisa King, Regulatory Officer
Office of Program Compliance
Division of Certificate of Need
and Licensing
New Jersey Department of Health

LK:mdj:dj

Via Regular Mail and E-Mail (patricia.toole@hmhn.org)

c. Stefanie Mozgai
Denise Gorski-Galla
Anna Sousa, Anna
Lisa Kiernan
Rachelle Reyes
Sophie Xyloportas

Control #AX2005/Event ID #EJQZ11 and TCVX11