



PUBLIC HEALTH

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Medical Assistant Rules Hearing
May 7, 2013

Topics

- Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill (ESSB) 6237
- Rule making process
- Communications/stakeholder involvement
- Frequently asked questions
- Outline of proposed rules

ESSB 6237

- Creates four medical assistant credentials in Washington State: medical assistant (MA)-certified, MA-registered, MA-phlebotomist, and MA-hemodialysis technician
- Transitions health care assistants (HCAs) who hold credentials on July 1, 2013 to a new category of MA
- Effective July 1, 2013
- Directs the Department of Health (department) to adopt rules necessary to implement the law

Rule making process

- July 2012 – Notice to the public of intent to develop rules (CR101)
- October thru December 2012 – rules workshops
- April 2013 – Notice to the public of proposed rules (CR102)
- May 7, 2013 – Hearing to solicit comment from the public on the proposed rules
- June 1, 2013 – Notice to the public that the department is adopting rules (CR103)
- July 1, 2013 – Rules effective

Communications/stakeholder involvement

- July thru August 2012 – workshops to solicit input from stakeholders for career ladder report
- August 2012 informational postcard sent to supervising health care practitioners
- October thru November 2012 – rules workshops held in Tumwater and Renton and rules webinar
- Two drafts of rules sent for public review/comment
- FAQ updates, listserv notices, & newsletter message

Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

- Q: Who will transition to MA-registered?
- A: No categories of HCA will transition to MA-registered
- Q: I hold multiple HCA categories. Will I receive multiple MA credentials?
- A: Next slide...



HCA TO MA Transition

Common

HCA Designation

HCA Credential Transitioned To

Category C, D, E, or F

MA-Certified

Category A or B

MA-Phlebotomist

Category G

MA-Hemodialysis technician

Category C, D, E, or F **AND** A

MA-Certified

Category C, D, E, or F **AND** B

MA-Certified **AND** MA-Phlebotomist

Uncommon

Category C, D, E, or F **AND** G

MA-Certified **AND** MA-Hemodialysis technician

Category C, D, E, or F **AND** A **AND** G

MA-Certified **AND** MA-Hemodialysis technician

Category A or B **AND** G

MA-Phlebotomy **AND** MA-Hemodialysis technician

FAQs (cont'd)

- Q: Will my expiration date stay the same?
- A: No, your new expiration date will be on your birthday
- Q: Will HCAs who transition to MA-certified be required to take an exam?
- A: No
- Q: When can I apply for an MA credential?
- A: The MA applications will be available June 1, 2013

FAQs (cont'd)

- Q: My HCA credential expires after July. Do I need to renew it? Do I need to apply for an MA credential?
- A: You do not need to renew your HCA if it expires on or after July 1, 2013, no application is necessary
- Q: Will Engrossed Substitute House Bill (ESHB) 1515 affect the MA law?
- A: Yes, ESHB will amend the MA law and will be effective July 1, 2013

Proposed rules

WAC 246-827-0010 Definitions

WAC 246-827-0100 Applicability

- Addresses when an MA credential is required
- Personnel performing only administrative tasks do not need an MA credential

WAC 246-827-0110 Delegation and supervision

- Clarifies the MA's responsibilities related to accepting delegated tasks

Proposed rules (cont'd)

WAC 246-827-0120 General standards

- Standard that apply to all MA categories

WAC 246-827-0130 U.S. armed forces equivalency

Proposed rules (cont'd)

WAC 246-827-0200 Medical assistant-certified --
Training and examination

- Complete MA training program
 - 4 proposed options
- Pass an exam within 3 years prior to submission of initial application
 - 4 proposed exams



Proposed rules (cont'd)

WAC 246-827-0220 Medical assistant-certified --
Application -- Interim certification

WAC 246-827-0230 Medical assistant-certified --
Activities allowed or prohibited

Proposed rules (cont'd)

WAC 246-827-0240 Medical assistant-certified --
Administering medications and injections

- Medication administration orders must be in written form or contained in the patient's electronic health record
- MA-certified is prohibited from administering schedule II controlled substances, chemotherapy agents, or experimental drugs

Drug Category	Routes Permitted	Level of Supervision Required
Controlled Substances, schedule III, IV, and V	Oral, topical, rectal, otic, ophthalmic, or inhaled routes	Immediate supervision
	Subcutaneous, intradermal, intramuscular, or peripheral intravenous injections	Direct visual supervision
Other legend drugs	Intravenous injections	Direct visual supervision
	All other routes	Immediate supervision

Proposed rules (cont'd)

WAC 246-827-0300 Medical assistant-registered --
Application

WAC 246-827-0310 Medical assistant-registered --
Endorsement

- Attestation of endorsement form required

WAC 246-827-0320 Medical assistant-registered --
credential termination

WAC 246-827-0330 Medical assistant-registered --
collection of specimens

Proposed rules (cont'd)

WAC 246-827-0400 Medical assistant-phlebotomist --
Certification and training

- Phlebotomy program through a postsecondary school or college
- Phlebotomy training program

WAC 246-827-0410 Medical assistant-phlebotomist --
Application

WAC 246-827-0420 Medical assistant-phlebotomist --
Supervision -- Requirements for performing arterial
invasive procedures and line draws

Proposed rules (cont'd)

WAC 246-827-0500 Medical assistant-hemodialysis technician -- Qualifications and training

- Complete a hemodialysis training program
- Hold a national credential as a hemodialysis technician

WAC 246-827-0510 Medical assistant-hemodialysis technician -- Application

WAC 246-827-0520 Conditions for performing hemodialysis

Proposed rules (cont'd)

WAC 246-827-0600 Credential renewal

- Renewed every two years on MA's birthday

WAC 246-827-0610 Expired credential -- Return to active status

- Exam or training required when expired for 3+ years

WAC 246-827-0620 Inactive status

WAC 246-827-0630 Retired volunteer medical worker credential

Proposed rules (cont'd)

Amending WAC 246-826-990

- Necessary to facilitate transition of HCA to MA on July 1, 2013

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