SECTION 13.0 MEDICAL DIRECTOR AND ATTENDING PHYSICIANS

13.1 The governing body or other legal authority shall designate a physician to serve as medical director. The medical director shall be a physician licensed to practice in Rhode Island in accordance with the provisions of reference 27 herein. Upon appointment, the name of the medical director shall be submitted to the Department. Each time a new medical director is appointed, the name of said physician shall be reported promptly to the Department. The medical director’s Rhode Island medical license number, medical office address, telephone number, emergency telephone number, hospital affiliation and other credentialing information shall be maintained on file at the facility and updated as needed.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR

13.2 Responsibilities of the medical director shall include, but not be limited to:

a) coordination of medical care in the facility, b) ensuring completion of employee health screening and immunization requirements contained in sections 14.11 and 14.12 herein. c) the implementation of facility policies and procedures related to the medical care delivered in the facility; d) physician and advanced practice practitioner credentialing; e) practitioner performance reviews; f) employee health including infection control measures; g) evaluation of health care delivery, including oversight of medical records and participation in quality improvement; h) provision of staff education on medical issues; i) participation in state survey process, including the resolution of deficiencies, as needed.

13.3 The medical director, charged with the aforementioned duties and responsibilities for the delivery of medical care in the nursing facility, shall be immune from civil or criminal prosecution for reporting to the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline the unprofessional conduct, incompetence or negligence of a nursing facility physician or limited registrant; provided, that the report, testimony, or other communication was made in good faith and while acting within the scope of authority conferred by this section.

13.4 The administrator shall notify the medical director immediately when any enforcement order as described in section 9.0 herein is issued by the Department or when the administrator is notified of any Medicare/Medicaid certification enforcement action. The administrator shall provide copies of all statements of deficiencies and related plans of correction to the medical director in a timely fashion.

13.5 The medical director shall attend the quarterly quality assurance/improvement meetings, as required in section 10.7 (d) herein. The administrator, or his/her designee, shall provide the medical director with adequate notice of the quarterly quality assurance/improvement meeting.