

290-5-8-.05 Professional Service.

(1) There shall be an organized professional staff, with one physician designated as chief of staff. The professional staff shall consist of at least one physician, one dentist and one registered nurse. Other professional personnel such as the dietitian, social worker, physical therapist, pharmacist, etc. may be included on the professional staff. This organization shall function under appropriate bylaws and shall meet at regularly scheduled intervals not less than semiannually. It shall be the responsibility of this staff to develop and review patient care policies and to advise administration on matters pertaining to patient care. The minutes of the meetings of this staff shall be available for inspection by the Department.

(2) Patients shall be admitted only on referral of a physician.

(3) Each patient shall be under the continuing care of a physician who sees the patient at least once every thirty (30) days following admission. The patient's total program of care (including medications and treatments) is reviewed during a visit by the attending physician at least once every thirty (30) days for the first ninety (90) days, and revised as necessary. A progress note is written and signed by the physician at the time of each visit and he signs all his orders. Subsequent to the ninetieth day following admission, an alternate schedule for physician visits may be adopted where the attending physician determines and so justifies in the patient's medical record that the patient's condition does not necessitate visits at thirty-day intervals.

(4) A home shall admit only those patients for which it can provide needed care and only if the home has a permit covering that type of care. When a patient develops a condition requiring care of a level or type not provided at that home, the administration shall arrange for transfer of the patient to another home, hospital or home health agency which has a permit or is certified to provide such care or shall make satisfactory arrangements for the needed care if the condition is to be of short duration.

Authority Ga. L. 1964, pp. 507, 612, as amended by Ga. L. 1969, p. 715 et seq; and Ga. L. 1972, p. 1015 et seq. **Administrative History.** Original Rule was filed on October 26, 1976; effective November 15, 1976.