

ALABAMA QUALITY ASSURANCE FOUNDATION
Medical Quality Assurance

GENERAL MEMORANDUM NO. 93/96-17

**FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION TO YOUR MEDICAL STAFF AND
UTILIZATION REVIEW - QUALITY ASSURANCE DEPARTMENTS**

**TO: ADMINISTRATORS AND CHIEFS OF STAFF - ALL ALABAMA
HOSPITALS AND AMBULATORY SURGERY CENTERS**

**FROM: H. TERRELL LINDSEY
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

DATE: MAY 17, 1994

SUBJECT: ANNUAL PHYSICIAN ACKNOWLEDGMENT STATEMENT

- I. This General Memorandum provides Practitioners and Providers the revisions concerning the requirement for **Annual Physician Acknowledgment Statements** in PPS hospitals. Specialty or Exempt Hospitals and Units are not included in this requirement.
- II. Federal Register, Volume 59, Number 46, Wednesday, March 9, 1994 provides the latest ruling from the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA). HCFA notified Peer Review Organizations (PROs) via Directed Change Order (DCO) 94-10 to stop the present monitoring system requiring physicians to sign an **Annual** statement acknowledging the penalties attached to misrepresentations, falsifications, and concealment of information required for payment of Federal funds.
- III. Effectively **immediately**, hospitals are asked to maintain Acknowledgment Statements presently on file for physicians with current admitting privileges. These current Statements will remain in effect for as long as the physician has admitting privileges at that particular hospital. Physicians newly to the staff are to complete the Acknowledgment Statement.
 - at the time the physician is granted admitting privileges at a particular hospital, or

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- before or at the time the physician admits his or her first patient to a particular hospital, or
- prior to the submission of the Medicare billing form.

IV. PRO's are no longer required to annually review Physician Acknowledgment Statements. Rather, each hospital is now responsible for submitting a copy of the signed Acknowledgment Statement to the PRO each time a new physician is granted admitting privileges. The Foundation requests the hospital submit a copy of each newly signed Acknowledgment Statement along with the attached form indicating the name and UPIN number of the new physician. This will enable the Foundation to fulfill monitoring requirements.

V. If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Ms. Becky Hollingsworth RN, at (205) 970-1600, Extension 3203.

rf:jd

cc. Provider Contact Person; AQAF Board of Directors; J. Barnett and Robert Turkel, MD/FMQAI; Juanita Dixon, PO/DHHS; Robert Toomey, RN, MR/DHHS; J. Michael Horsley/ALAHA; Lon Conner/MASA; Frazer Rolen/ALAHA-B'ham; Jane M. Cottos/OIG/DHHS; Lynda Northcutt/BCBS; Donna Stanley