



ALABAMA QUALITY ASSURANCE FOUNDATION, INC.

Medical Quality Assurance

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PRO GENERAL MEMORANDUM NO. 99/02-05

TO: ADMINISTRATORS with enclosures AND CHIEFS OF STAFF
All Alabama Hospitals

FROM: H. Terrell Lindsey
President and Chief Executive Officer

DATE: March 31, 2000

SUBJECT: PRO-Hospital Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)

Section 1866(a)(1)(F)(i) and (ii) of the Social Security Act, as amended, requires hospitals to maintain an "Agreement" with the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) designated state Peer Review Organization (PRO) as a requirement of the Medicare Provider Conditions of Participation. To assist your hospital in fulfilling this obligation, we have enclosed two signed copies of the PRO-Hospital Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) which covers the time period of November 1, 1999 through October 31, 2002, and coincides with the HCFA-PRO Medicare Review Contract for the state of Alabama. A signed MOA with a hospital is also called for in the PRO Medicare Manual (HCFA-Pub.19).

This revised MOA replaces the previous MOA which covered the period of September 26, 1996 through September 25, 1999. The previous MOA self-renewed on September 26, 1999, and will remain in effect until the new MOA is signed. The new agreement also includes requirements for the Payment Error Prevention Program (PEPP).

We were delayed in forwarding this document to you due to revisions called for by provisions of the Balanced Budget Act (BBA) which recently became effective. Also, we delayed finalizing the MOA in order to review the revised Medicare Provider Conditions of Participation. Additionally, we asked the Alabama Hospital Association (AlaHA) to review and comment on the MOA as part of our development process.

Please be certain to complete the hospital specific information on **Pages 13 and 14**, and sign the MOA on **Page 15**. Also, you should identify a PRO Contact on **Page 13** if you want that individual, instead of yourself, to receive routine PRO correspondence. The attachment page allows the hospital to identify individuals by name and position with whom the PRO can contact directly when necessary. One copy of the signed MOA should be returned to my attention, and the second copy is for your hospital files.



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If you have any questions regarding the MOA, please contact my office directly. We look forward to continuing our work with hospitals to maintain and improve the quality of health care services provided to Medicare beneficiaries in Alabama.

CC: AQAF Board of Directors; F.Richards, MD, FMQAI; S. McMillan, PO/DHHS; M.Horsley, ALaHA-Montgomery; F. Rolen, ALaHA-Birmingham; C.Kuhlman, MASA; L.Northcutt, BCBS; T.Myler, MoO.